Career schools often partner with colleges and universities to offer additional training seminars and exercises to help students gain knowledge and expertise in their chosen field of study. One example occurs right here in our area. Students at Prism Career Institute’s Northeast Philadelphia campus take part in a unique training partnership with Drexel University called the Patient Simulation Experience.

Prism students have participated in the Patient Simulation Experience at Drexel for several years. Over 300 Prism Medical Assistant and Practical Nursing students have attended a three day training program that meets three times per year. The program allows students to take part in a “live” simulation.

The simulation team consists of a Medical Doctor, Drexel Nurse, Drexel Medical students and Prism students. The simulation labs are located at Hahnemann Hospital in center city Philadelphia. Each student is assigned by an instructor to a simulation team. Each simulation team conducts two to three medical experiences each day over the training period.

Prism students benefit as the Patient Simulation Experience provides the opportunity to train without risk to patients. A simulated environment is safe and risk free for trainees and helps build their competence and confidence.

“Incorporating the Prism Career Institute students into simulation with nursing students has raised the level of education for both sets of students,” said Linda Wilson, RN, PhD, CPAN, CAP, BC, CNE, Assistant Dean for Special Projects, Simulation and CNE Accreditation, Drexel University, College of Nursing and Health Professions. “We hope to continue to build simulation experiences. That leads to more effective team efforts on behalf of patients” she added.

In addition to the NE Philadelphia campus, Prism Career Institute has locations in Upper Darby, Cherry Hill and Egg Harbor Twp., NJ. Programs in Medical, Practical Nursing, Paralegal, Accounting and Early Childhood Education are offered at selected campuses. For more information, call 800-644-4443 or visit www.prismcareerinstitute.edu. [ADV]