There are many options to consider when looking to gain skills, training and education to be prepared to compete in the job market. One option is to consider one of the many accredited career schools as a place to get a career-focused education in many growing occupations and career fields.

One such school is Prism Career Institute with campuses in NE Phila. and Upper Darby, PA, and Cherry Hill and Egg Harbor Twp., NJ. Campuses in NE Phila. and Cherry Hill offer training in Practical Nursing, one of the most in-demand career fields according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010-11 Occupational Outlook Handbook. The handbook expects this field to grow 21% through 2018 with 155,600 jobs expected to be added during this period. Both campuses are accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) and approved by the PA and NJ Departments of Nursing.

Prism Practical Nursing students are screened into the program with a limited amount of students accepted each year. Graduates are prepared to take the NCLEX-PN exam to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and attract many employment opportunities at residential and nursing care facilities, hospitals, doctor's offices, government agencies, outpatient clinics, long term care units and private care.

Only field trained instructors with Registered Nurse (RN) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) credentials teach in the program. Mary Cooper is the Director of Nursing program at Prism’s Cherry Hill campus. Mary has 44 years experience in the Nursing Field and has her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Seton Hall University. Her areas of expertise include nursing in the hospital setting, staff education, public health, infection control, hospice, long-term care and community involvement. “When I’m asked why some one should pursue a nursing career I always answer by saying if you want to make a difference in people’s lives, then become a nurse,” said Cooper. “And Prism Career Institute is a great place to start.”

Prism Nursing graduates work in various healthcare facilities throughout the region. ACW Healthcare, a Haddonfield, NJ homecare nursing provider of services for injured and rehabilitation patients, has hired 6 Prism graduates. “I’m so impressed with the quality of Prism Practical Nursing graduates that I’ll continue to hire more as my needs continue,” said Ann Wells, manager of the company. Ann works closely with Margie Strong, Prism’s Career Services Director who is responsible for helping graduates find employment and career opportunities. Prism offers a free service for employers looking to hire qualified workers in the medical field including Nursing, Medical Assistant, Patient Care Assistant and Medical Billing and Coding.

There are many opportunities for career growth offered by accredited career schools. For more information about Prism Career Institute visit www.prismcareerinstitute.edu or call 800-644-4443. [ADV.]