New Allied Health course to begin

Beaufort County Community College has been approved to offer course work in the field of Speech Language Pathology Assistant, a high demand field that will provide many job opportunities for area residents, college officials announced this week.

Courses in the Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program are scheduled to begin in the Fall 2013 Semester in cooperation with Fayetteville Technical Community College.

“This agreement between Beaufort County Community College and FTCCC will provide a new career path for area residents who are interested in a health services career,” said Dr. Barbara Tansey, BCCC president. “As in other health services careers, jobs are in high demand for speech language pathology assistants in several settings.”

“BCCC is proud to offer this course of study for residents of northeastern North Carolina,” she said.

The Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program will be part of the Allied Health curriculum at BCCC that includes Associate Degree and Practical Nursing and Medical Laboratory Technology. BCCC also offers Emergency Medical Technician basic through paramedic, Health Unit Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage, Pharmacy Technician and Nurse Aide courses through its Division of Continuing Education.

As with other Allied Health curriculum programs offered at BCCC and FTCC, students must apply for admission.

The deadline for applications to health programs is Wednesday, Jan. 30. However, FTCC will accept applications to the Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program from BCCC-based students after that date, according to Charisse Gainey, department chair at FTCC.

Once under way, the BCCC-based program will be the only Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program in northeastern North Carolina, according to Wesley Beddard, dean of instruction at BCCC.

A Speech Language Pathology Assistant helps a licensed Speech Language Pathologist provide services to clients who need speech therapy. Assistants usually see NEW ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM, PAGE 6