CAAHEP Joins the Medical and Public Health Laboratory Workforce Coalition

July 28, 2023, Seminole, Florida. The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) announces that it has joined the Medical and Public Health Laboratory Workforce Coalition (MPHLC) to support the MPHLC in identifying and implementing strategies which address the personnel shortage in medical and public health laboratory professionals.

The newly established Medical and Public Health Laboratory Workforce Coalition will work to draw attention to laboratory testing occupations and encourage individuals to consider careers in laboratory medicine, according to Bianca Frogner, PhD, Director of the University of Washington Center for Health Workforce Studies (UW CHWS). “Laboratory professionals serve critical roles in our nation’s health systems as highlighted during this pandemic. These can be excellent career opportunities, but we need to ensure these opportunities are known and accessible for all individuals, and that we support career progression to ensure diversity across the skill spectrum,” Dr. Frogner says.

CAAHEP President Donald A. Balasa, JD, MBA, notes that, “CAAHEP’s mission to provide value to stakeholders by setting standards for quality assurance in health professions accreditation aligns well with the coalition’s purpose. CAAHEP looks forward to engaging with the coalition members and contributing to the achievement of its goal to increase the number of qualified members of the laboratory workforce.”

As the Coalition embarks on this new task, we welcome those interested in joining the effort to address laboratory personnel shortages. Learn more about the Coalition at www.MPHLcoalition.org.

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs is the largest programmatic accreditor of allied health education programs. With more than 2500 accredited programs in 1359 institutions in the U.S. and internationally, CAAHEP has established Standards for 31 different allied health professions and works with its Committees on Accreditation to assess and accredit post-secondary education programs. Visit the CAAHEP website for additional information www.caahep.org.