Thanks to the expansion of its healthcare certificate offerings, USU Eastern-Blanding is doing everything in its power to provide southeastern Utah and the Four Corners area with highly-trained healthcare professionals.

“The demand for healthcare professionals in rural areas nationwide is immense, and our region is no exception,” said Guy Denton, USU Eastern-Blanding’s Vice Chancellor. “When our students receive a certificate from one of our healthcare areas of study, they literally walk right into an excellent paying position that also provides a great service to their community.”

USU’s Blanding campus currently offers Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Medical Assistant (MA), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and certificate programs, as well as Registered Nurse (RN) and Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) applied associate’s degrees. Each program is staffed with experienced professionals and practitioners that truly care about their students and providing the highest level of training.

Additionally, Blanding students will soon have access to three new healthcare certificate programs: medical scribe, surgical technician and pharmacist technician. A medical scribe works closely with a physician, documenting visit care and gathering information in advance of patient visits. A surgical technician is trained to assist surgical teams and those undergoing surgery. A pharmacist technician assists pharmacists in duties ranging from labeling to formulating medication.

These new certificates offerings are the result of a $160,000 Utah Cluster Acceleration Partnership grant through the Utah Department of Workforce Services to the Blanding Campus. The certificates are currently being lead through the accreditation process by USU’s Nursing and Health Programs department.

“Another great thing about all of our healthcare certificates is they are stackable,” said Denton. “That means students can get certified training and begin working immediately, but can also apply those earned credits to an associate’s degree at USU if they decide to continue their education.”