KAJO Radio
Sept. 9, 2026

RCC Awarded $150,000 to Develop Accelerated Workforce Credentials

Rogue Community College has been awarded two grants totaling $150,000 from the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission to develop short-term, stackable credentials in healthcare and electric vehicle safety.

According to a release, the accelerated programs will prepare students for immediate employment while creating pathways to advanced certificates and degrees.

Each $75,000 award supports the development of programs designed in partnership with regional employers and workforce organizations. Curriculum development, equipment purchases, faculty preparation and institutional approvals will take place during the 2026-27 academic year, with the new credentials scheduled to launch in September 2027.

One grant will support the redesign of three existing programs in dental assisting, emergency medical services and medical assisting. The second grant will support development of a new electric vehicle safety credential that will stack into RCC's quick lube training and broader Transportation Technology pathways.

Both initiatives will incorporate the Oregon Employability Skills identified by regional employers as essential to workplace success, including adaptability, communication, collaboration, digital literacy and safety-focused problem-solving.

Development activities will be completed by June 30th, 2027, with the first students expected to begin the new programs in fall 2027.

Posted on 9/9/26 10:42AM by Alex Bauer