

## **Institutional Profile for Essential Healthcare Academy**

**Background** The Essential Healthcare Academy began operating in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 2021, with Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) approval. The institution received authorization from the Indiana Office for Career and Technical Schools (OCTS) in 2023. Board for Proprietary Education (BPE) Authorization was granted in December 2024.

Ms. Epperson is the founder and Program Director of Essential Healthcare Academy. She recently completed a Family Nurse Practitioner Program after earning a Master of Science (M.S.) in Nursing Leadership and Management and a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Nursing.

Essential Healthcare Academy began in 2021 by offering Certified Nurse Aide, and Qualified Medication Aide programs, in addition to, a short-term American Heart Association BLS/CPR training course. In 2023 the institution added Certified Phlebotomy Technician and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant programs.

**Institutional Control** Private, for-profit institution.

**Institutional Accreditation** A plan for seeking institutional accreditation through the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) was submitted with the application. The outline proposes submitting a self-study to ACEN in January 2025 to determine if the program is eligible for ACEN accreditation. The ACEN accreditation eligibility process includes a self-examination and evaluation followed by a Candidacy Eligibility Application.

**Participation in NC-SARA** Essential Healthcare Academy does not participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).

**Participation in Student Financial Aid** Essential Healthcare Academy does not participate in Title IV federal financial aid. The institution does not participate in State Financial Aid (SFA). Students may be eligible for the Next Level Jobs Workforce Ready Grant or WIOA Grant provided by IMPACT or WorkOne.

**Enrollment** Essential Healthcare Academy does not currently submit data to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The institution self-reported an overall enrollment of 156 students in 2023, 100 in 2022, and 58 students in 2021. The institution reported an enrollment headcount of 208 as of December 2024.

**Programs** The institution offers programs at the certificate level. The institution currently offers Certified Nurse Aide, Qualified Medication Aide, Certified Phlebotomy Technician, and Certified Clinical Medical Assistant programs.

**Financial Responsibility Composite Score (FRCS)** Essential Healthcare Academy does not currently submit audited financials to the U.S. DOE and thus does not have an FRCS.