



BLESSING CAHILL



CUYUNA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, CROSBY, MN

DUAL TRAINEE SUCCESS

MN DUAL TRAINING
GRANT PROGRAM

LICENSED PRACTICAL
NURSE

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Minnesota Dual Training Grant awards up to \$150,000 in grants to employers utilizing dual-training models. The grant reimburses employers for costs associated with related instruction resulting in industry-recognized degrees, certificates, or credentials. The dual-training model pairs on-the-job training with formal related instruction to foster skilled employees and enhance company culture.

Dual trainees may benefit from up to \$6,000 a year from the Dual Training Grant. Dual trainees can participate in dual-training programs for up to four years through the grant.

- ✓ Work Full-Time
- ✓ Care for Toddler
- ✓ Graduate with Associates Degree

Blessing Cahill, 28, from Brainerd was encouraged by a coworker to participate in the Minnesota Dual Training Grant. With support from her employer and family, Blessing was able to attend Central Lakes College to complete her degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Blessing recalled minimal challenges as she reflected on her experiences about the dual-training program. Despite balancing college courses, work schedules, and caring for a toddler, Blessing was able to persevere through the program.

“The support I got from my husband was out of this world. In addition, my work family was an amazing support. I could count on them for answering any questions I had about homework assignments or even covering shifts for me when I had finals or had to study,” stated Blessing.

The financial support of the Dual Training Grant had a positive impact on Blessing’s career. She was able to focus on her college coursework and practice skills through on-the-job training, instead of worrying about how to pay for her degree. “The grant took away that financial burden for me. Also, right when I was done with school, I was offered a job as a LPN by my employer which made my career change an easy transition,” said Blessing.

Blessing enjoys being a Licensed Practical Nurse for the Spine Surgery Clinic at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, and she is excited to further her education to become a Registered Nurse. The continuous learning environment of her occupation reassures Blessing of her positive choice to work in health care industry.

“I would recommend the MN Dual Training Grant to anyone. I wouldn’t be where I am today, if it wasn’t for this grant,” exclaimed Blessing.