



Eastern International College

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A JOB WELL DONE! NEW GRADUATES CELEBRATING THEIR ACADEMIC SUCCESS!

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CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2025!

Eastern International College's Pinning Ceremony and Commencement was held on June 5, 2025, starting the semester off on a joyous and productive note! Graduates were excited about this event, highlighting all their hard work and achievement. Read along to hear more about the exciting events that occurred on campus this semester!





DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY NEWS

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN HEALTH DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING INFO SESSION

On Friday, June 13, 2025 Hackensack Meridian Health (HMH) hosted a Virtual Information Session for our Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Students. The virtual session was led by HMH Talent Acquisition Partners, Anna Miraglia and Brian Tortorella. During the information session, HMH's talent acquisition team started with an overview of Hackensack Meridian Health's company history, diving deeper into their mission statement, workplace culture, and various locations within several areas of New Jersey.

The information session was presented virtually to a combination of DMS courses as well as DMS alumni who joined virtually through the Google Meets call. The event served as an important career preparation for the DMS students, many of whom are a few semesters away from entering the career field themselves. The event gave valuable insight on the hiring process at HMH and how to best prepare for job application and interviewing at HMH.

IN CASE YOU MISSED THE SESSION...

TO RECAP:

The Info Session started with basic information about HMH and their locations.

The official careers website for HMH is:
<https://jobs.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/>

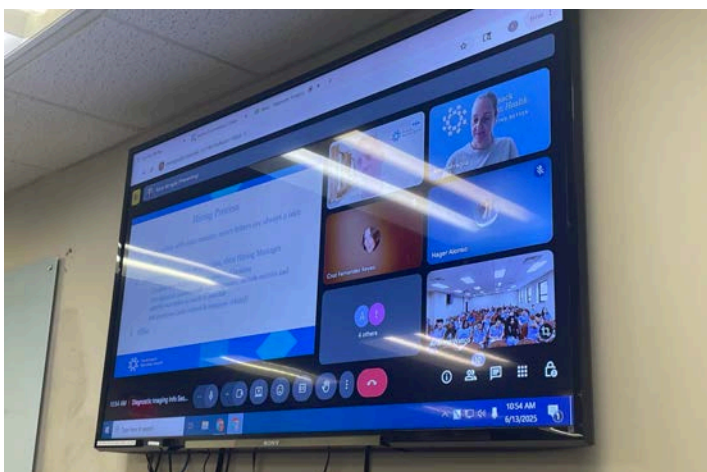
If you've applied for a position, you can reach out to HMH recruiters: anna.miraglia@hmn.org or brian.tortorella@hmn.org if you have any questions about the application process.

HIRING PROCESS

1. Apply online with your resume; cover letters are always a nice touch!
2. Interview with Talent Acquisition, then Hiring Manager
 - a. Conduct due diligence of company and location
 - b. Give detailed answers with your responses; include metrics and specific examples as much as possible.
 - c. Ask questions (role related and company related)
3. If selected, then there would be an official Job Offer.

ONBOARDING PROCESS

1. College/Education verification
2. Work Clearance (Background Check, Physical/Medical)
3. New Hire onboarding Paperwork
4. Virtual Orientation



DMS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: JHOANA MARIE BLAS, BSDMS '25



The combination of strong academic preparation and outstanding mentorship played a crucial role in my success.

After passing the registry exam, I was officially offered a position and joined Weill Cornell Medicine as a cardiac sonographer. Starting this new chapter was a proud and emotional moment. It felt surreal to walk back into the same department, not as a student, but as a professional. I felt excited, nervous, and incredibly grateful. It's a powerful feeling to know that your hard work, consistency, and professionalism were recognized and rewarded. I'm now in training, working alongside an amazing team, many of whom are fellow Eastern International College alumni. Being part of such a high-caliber and collaborative environment inspires me every day to keep learning and growing.

FROM STUDENT TO CARDIAC SONOGRAPHER: MY JOURNEY FROM EIC TO WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE

From the moment I began my studies at Eastern International College, I was determined to build a meaningful and impactful career in cardiac sonography. One of the most pivotal and truly rewarding experiences during my journey was my clinical externship at Weill Cornell Medicine. There, I had the privilege of learning from exceptionally skilled cardiac sonographers who not only exemplified clinical excellence but also generously shared their knowledge and guidance.

I was fortunate to be surrounded by a supportive and welcoming team. Every sonographer I encountered, along with our supervisor, was kind, encouraging, and genuinely invested in helping me grow both technically and professionally.

Like many students nearing graduation, I had moments of self-doubt. I worried that I might not find a job quickly or that I might not pass my registry exam. These thoughts were stressful, especially as I watched others move forward. However, I reminded myself that it was okay to feel nervous and uncertain. What mattered most was staying committed and putting in the effort, one step at a time.

After completing my externship, I was invited to complete a scanning interview and I was honored to be told that a position would be waiting for me. Motivated by this opportunity, I focused on preparing for the registry exam. I studied on and off for a couple of months, and then intensively in the final two weeks.

TO CURRENT STUDENTS AND FUTURE SONOGRAPHERS:

If you're feeling overwhelmed or unsure, know that you're not alone. I had those same fears, but with persistence, preparation, and a positive attitude, things fell into place. Don't wait too long to take your registry exam. Stay focused, and treat your externship as more than just a requirement, it's your chance to demonstrate your professionalism, dedication, and potential. Show them you're someone they'll want as part of their team. You're not just learning, you're already building your future.





GRADUATION HIGHLIGHT: NURSING PINNING CEREMONY



Eastern International College (EIC) celebrated the accomplishments of its newest nursing graduates on Thursday, June 5th, 2025, with a traditional Nursing Pinning Ceremony. Held on the campus of William Paterson University, the event formally welcomed the 2025 nursing graduates into the esteemed profession, recognizing their dedication, and readiness to serve.

The pinning ceremony is more than just a part of the graduation process, it is a rite of passage signifying the important transition from student to professional nurse. Family, friends, faculty, and college administrators gathered to honor the nursing graduates' journey through an intensive and demanding program.



Eastern International College extends their deepest congratulations to all the nursing graduates embarking on their professional journeys. Their hard work, perseverance, and compassion has now lead up to this prestigious moment. As the nursing graduates embark on their careers, they will remember the significance of the pin they wear and commitment they made.



EIC HOLDS PIZZA PARTY FOR NURSING STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

On Friday, June 27, 2025 the Nursing Department hosted a pizza party to show appreciation to the Nursing students who volunteered for the 2025 Commencement Ceremony that took place on June 5, 2025. The volunteers were enthusiastic about participating in the graduation ceremony.

It motivated them to look forward to their graduation as well. The nursing students were awarded certifications to show their appreciation towards their participation in the ceremony.



CONGRATS TO RECENT NURSING GRADUATES FOR PASSING THE NCLEX:

ADN:

JADE BROWN
SHAKIRAH JOHNSON
ADRIAN OLBES
KESLEY RAMIREZ
QUIARA YARD

BSN:

MORIAH DESHOMMES
CHRISTINE KIM
LAURA REQUENA
TRISHANTI THOMPSON
TAMARYN TUNKEL

DENTAL HYGIENE NEWS

EASTERN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE CELEBRATES 100% PASSING RATE IN CLINICAL PATIENT TREATMENT EXAM

Compiled by Dr. Alaa Mohsen

Eastern International College proudly announces that all **Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene students** who participated in the Clinical Patient Treatment Exam on June 13, 2025, achieved a remarkable 100% passing rate. This outstanding result highlights the college's unwavering commitment to excellence in clinical training and student success.

The **Clinical Patient Treatment Exam** is a critical component of the dental hygiene licensure process. It serves as a hands-on, performance-based assessment where candidates demonstrate their ability to perform essential dental hygiene procedures on a live patient under standardized exam conditions. This exam is designed to ensure that graduates possess the clinical skills and judgment necessary to provide safe and effective care. Passing this examination is a mandatory step toward becoming a licensed dental hygienist.

Achieving a perfect pass rate not only reflects the dedication and hard work of the students but also underscores the effectiveness of Eastern International College's comprehensive curriculum, clinical preparation, and expert faculty guidance.



DH STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL OLYMPIC FAIR

Compiled by Evelyn Garcia, RDH, BS, M.ed

Eastern International College visited the special olympic fair on June 7, 2025 and June 8, 2025, where students participated with the community. Students provided personalized oral health education including brushing and flossing methods, and recommendations for oral health care products.

Students also assisted with oral screenings to check for any abnormalities and provided referrals. Students participated in fabricating mouth guards for the athletes to ensure safety for the participants.

The Special Olympics Fair is a yearly event that students can attend to help out in the community and leave a lasting good impression with valuable information and resources.



DH FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

FAREWELL TO A FRIEND, MENTOR, AND COLLEAGUE: CELEBRATING DIANNE ROMER'S RETIREMENT

Compiled by Tiffany Janajreh, RDH, MSDH

After nearly a decade of dedicated service to Eastern International College's Dental Hygiene Department, Faculty member Dianne Romer officially hung up her clinic coat and retired from teaching. A compassionate instructor, seasoned clinician, and beloved colleague, Dianne leaves behind not only a legacy of educational excellence, but also a department of colleagues who will miss her deeply, not just for her talent and mentorship, but for her warmth, humor, and generous spirit.

To celebrate Dianne's remarkable career and wish her a joyful retirement, many members of the dental hygiene faculty came together for a weekend-long retreat in the Poconos from June 19-21. The getaway was filled with laughter, relaxation, and unforgettable memories, a true reflection of the tight-knit bond shared among the team.

The group rented a cozy cabin and enjoyed cooking meals together, attended a production of CATS, spent a lively night at Mount Airy Casino, unwound at a local vineyard, relaxed at the spa, and soaked up the sun by the pool. The weekend wasn't just a celebration, it was a reminder of how much the Dental Hygiene Department feels like family.

Dianne's journey in the dental field spans more than four decades. She began as a Certified Registered Dental Assistant, a role she held for 22 years before deciding to take the next step and pursue dental hygiene, a decision inspired by her twin sister, a hygienist herself.

Faculty having some fun in matching shoes after hours with Dianne in the center:



DENTAL HYGIENE FACULTY AT A FACULTY RETREAT

She graduated from Middlesex College and became a Registered Dental Hygienist in 2003, ultimately teaching for 13 years, with nearly 10 of those years at Eastern International College, beginning in 2016.

When asked about her fondest memories, Dianne didn't hesitate: "Working chairside with students and witnessing that 'aha' moment when it finally clicks and real learning happens, that's something I'll never forget! I also loved the more relaxed moments with the staff. Those get-togethers were always something special. The weekend we just spent in the Poconos just shows how much we all genuinely love being together." And while she'll miss her students, Dianne says what she'll miss most is the camaraderie she shared with her coworkers: "I feel I made some amazing friends over the years, and I'll miss them."

Now living in North Carolina, Dianne is embracing retirement with the same joy and energy she brought to her students. She's looking forward to peace, quiet, golf, and maybe even returning to teaching someday. Until then, you'll find her enjoying hobbies like swimming, dancing, playing poker, hiking, gardening, flower arranging, and traveling. Although she's no longer teaching at EIC, Dianne's presence will continue to be felt throughout the dental hygiene department not just in the wisdom she's shared, but the friendships she's built, and the students she's inspired.

She may be retired, but she'll always be a part of our EIC dental hygiene family. We'll miss you, Dianne, and we can't wait to visit you in North Carolina!

GRADUATION HIGHLIGHT: DENTAL HYGIENE PINNING

EASTERN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE CELEBRATES DENTAL HYGIENE CLASS OF 2025 WITH PINNING CEREMONY.



On June 5, 2025, at 9:45 a.m., Eastern International College held its annual dental hygiene pinning at William Paterson University. This significant event formally recognized the achievements of the Dental Hygiene Class of 2025 as they completed their rigorous program of study.

The Dental Hygiene pinning ceremony recognizes the accomplishments and success of the dental hygiene graduation cohort of 2025. The pinning ceremony is a revered tradition within healthcare professions, symbolizing graduates' official transition from student to professional.

For those in the Dental Hygiene field, the pinning ceremony signifies a Dental Hygienist's readiness to enter clinical practice, equipped with the knowledge, skills, and clinical competence required to provide high-quality oral healthcare.

This milestone underscores their commitment to upholding the ethical standards of the dental hygiene profession and their dedication to promoting oral health and serving their communities.



GRADUATION HIGHLIGHT: COMMENCEMENT

On June 5, 2025, Eastern International College held its annual Commencement Ceremony at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ. The ceremony honored graduates from EIC's on campus programs, including Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS), Nursing (ADN and BSN), as well as graduates from our online completion programs.



Faculty members, college administrators, student volunteers, family, and friends alike were all in attendance to witness the accomplishments of the 2025 graduates. Speeches from the valedictorian, Marianna Mills, BSDH '25 and salutatorian, Lidia Ruggio, BSDH '25 highlighted their unique journeys while emphasizing their shared commitment to excellence within the allied health field.



Congratulations to all the 2025 Graduates! Your hard work and dedication inspire us. EIC is immensely proud of your achievements and confident in the positive impact you will make in your professional journeys.



GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS



SINGER: DOMINIQUE MARTIN: BSDH '26

One of the graduation highlights was the student engagement involved during the event. Aside from student volunteers, we also had Dominique Martin, Dental Hygiene student from the 2026 cohort, volunteer her time and efforts to sing the national anthem during the graduation ceremony. Her performance was inspiring, especially in the event that brought together all our 2025 graduates.



VALEDICTORIAN: MARIANNA MILLS, BSDH '25

Pictured on the left is our valedictorian, Marianna Mills, from the graduating Dental Hygiene cohort of 2025. She serves as an inspiration to the current graduating class as well as new and current EIC students as well. To be awarded the title of valedictorian is a great accomplishment. Her constant studies, efforts, and drive helped her achieve this prestigious accomplishment.



SALUTATORIAN: LIDIA RUGGIO, BSDH '25

Salutatorian, Lidia Ruggio, BSDH '25 shared a few words on her experience on achieving the salutatorian status at graduation:

“Being the salutatorian at graduation was an incredibly special experience. It was the perfect way to celebrate all the hard work, support, and dedication that went into this journey. I felt proud to represent my classmates and grateful for the opportunity to share a message of encouragement as we all step into our futures.”

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMER CAREER FAIR: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND EMPLOYMENT



EIC's Career Services Department actively bridges the gap to employment. A Career Fair is hosted every semester (Summer, Spring, Fall), rotating local employers to expose students and alumni to various opportunities in the Allied Health fields.

On July 17, 2025, our Summer Career Fair was pleased to feature new employers such as Hackensack Meridian Health, Peace Care NJ, Eastern Dental, Dental Search, and Dental 365, alongside returning employers Great Expressions Dental Centers and Care Point Health (now Hudson Regional Hospitals).

Why are Career Fairs so important? Engaging with employers at these fairs is crucial for exploring career paths, building professional networks, and securing employment within your chosen field. We encourage all students and alumni to participate in upcoming events, whether you are in your first semester or your last semester!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: DEFAULT MANAGER COORDINATOR, SHAMEL MATEO



Facing student loan repayment can feel overwhelming. At Eastern International College (EIC), our dedicated Default Management Coordinator is here to guide you every step of the way, ensuring a smoother journey and preventing the serious consequence of loan default. Our default management coordinator took the time to explain in more detail on the default management services she offers for our students:

Hello! My name is Shamel Mateo and I am your Default Management Coordinator. What does this mean?

When you take out loans, it's important to remember that they must be repaid. I am here to guide you through that process by helping you complete exit counseling, which is designed to clarify your responsibilities as a borrower. I will also support you in navigating post-graduation challenges related to loan repayment, helping you avoid common misunderstandings and protect your credit score.

I am available to you from 9:00am-6:00pm Monday through Thursday and 9:00am- 5:00pm on Fridays.

Shamel Mateo can be reached at 973-302-0036 or shamel.jmateo@eiccollege.edu. Shamel is looking forward to hearing from you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE ADHA EVENT FOR DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS!

Eastern International College Presents:

ADHA District II Meeting and CE Courses for Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania Hygienists and Student Dental Hygienists

Hybrid Event | Two Dynamic Speakers

Breakfast & Lunch Available



adha AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION

AGENDA

Registration - **8:30am**
AM Session - **9am to 12pm**

- Dental Hygiene Management of Persons with HIV: From Past to Present (3CE)
Presented by **Daniel J Lopez, RDH/CDHC**

Lunch - **12pm to 1:30pm**
Lunch is included for on-site attendees sponsored by VVardis.

PM Session - **1:30 to 3:30pm**

- Advancing Oral Health Through Active Prevention; Prevent and Protect Oral Health for a Lifetime (2CE)
Presented by **Christine Ochsner, RDH, MBA**

Students Attend for FREE

\$40 - ADHA Members

\$80 - Non-members

All proceeds go to the ADHA Foundation

Brought to you through a partnership with Colgate and Vvardis






Questions? Please contact Carolynn Wahl at carolynnw@adha.net

Scan QR above to learn more about this free event for dental hygiene students hosted by the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), occurring on **Saturday, August 23, 2025**. This event is brought to you through a partnership with Colgate and Vvardis. There will be two workshops occurring during this event. Lunch will be provided for those attending the event on-site. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Carolynn Wahl at carolynnw@adha.net

UPCOMING NURSING CHEW AND CHAT

EASTERN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

A CHAT AND CHEW

A chat & chew is a great way for students to ask any questions about the nursing program they may have, or discuss any range of topics with nursing administration and/or faculty. An abundance of information is discussed and we hope you will join us. All nursing students are welcome.

Refreshments will be served.

AUGUST 7, 2025

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Student Lounge

Eastern International College's Nursing Department will be hosting their Chat and Chew on **Thursday, August 7, 2025** from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. This will be a great chance for nursing students to learn more about the industry of nursing directly from the Nursing Department and its experienced faculty members.

