The Psychiatric Nursing Assistant training course is designed to prepare students to work in the field of mental health/mental retardation as an entry level Technician. After successfully completing the course students will have to meet the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) requirements for the position of Psychiatric Nursing Assistant. The course is preparation for the position of Psychiatric Nursing Assistant at the North Texas State Hospital (NTSH) although graduates are also qualified to apply for positions in other mental health organizations.

Topics covered will be the philosophy, goals and organizational practices of the Texas DSHS system; client rights; behavior identification; personal safety; prevention of abuse and neglect and more. Outline history and development of Texas DSHS system; list and define at least five principles of ethics as related to mental health and mental retardation; and relate procedures related to abuse and neglect.

Requirements:

- Minimum age 18
- High school diploma or GED
- Good communication skills/Instruction provided in English
- Must dress appropriately (business casual)
- Must attend all classes (no exceptions)
- Forms must be signed at the first class meeting regarding confidentiality and a general release from liability

An applicant may not be employed at the North Texas State Hospital if he or she has a conviction which constitutes a bar to employment or is a contraindication to employment, is listed as revoked in the Nurse Aide Registry, is listed as unemployable in the Employee Misconduct Registry, has been terminated for client abuse or neglect, or has a confirmed Class I Abuse. If an applicant has been convicted of a felony that is not a bar or a contraindication, then it is possible to hire with approval from the Superintendent.

** IMPORTANT **

Registration is preferred at least two working days prior to the start of class. Tuition must be paid in full at time of registration prior to start of class. Students must be registered in order to attend class.