Jefferson College and Virginia Western are building a partnership

This morning the presidents of Jefferson College of Health Sciences and Virginia Western Community College were filled with praise for each other as they spoke of a joint effort to meet the region’s demand for a trained health care workforce.

N.L. Bishop, who took over as Jefferson College’s third president two years ago, said Virginia Western President Robert Sandel has been a mentor to him. And Sandel said Bishop is bringing Jefferson College to “the next level” in meeting the educational needs of students pursuing health care careers.

The two publicly solidified the colleges’ relationship Wednesday by signing documents that will allow students who graduate with associate degree in health care management from Virginia Western to apply those credits toward bachelor’s degree in the field at Jefferson College.

Both say, that they hope this is indicative of future agreements that allow for a similar relationship for students studying in other health care fields. Already, an agreement is in place for Virginia Western
students who have earned associate degrees in nursing to apply those credits toward bachelor of nursing degrees at Jefferson College.

Read more about the effort in a story that published Sunday.

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Med Beat covers medical issues, research and the business side of the health care industry, as reported by Sarah Bruyn Jones, who covers the business of medicine in Southwest Virginia for The Roanoke Times.