Alcohol and Drug Counselor
What: Counsel and advise individuals with alcohol, tobacco, drug, or other problems, such as gambling and eating disorders. May counsel individuals, families, or groups or engage in prevention programs.
When: After obtaining a bachelor’s degree; usually after obtaining a master’s. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Outpatient Care Centers; Individual and Family Services; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Residential Care Facilities; Executive, Legislative, and General Government Support; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Social Advocacy Organizations; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Vocational Rehabilitation Services; Community Food and Housing, and Emergency and Other Relief Services
Why: $35,000 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors; Mental Health Counselors; Child, Family, and School Social Workers; Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists; Social and Human Service Assistants

Athletic Trainer
What: Evaluate and advise individuals to assist recovery from or avoid athletic-related injuries or illnesses or maintain peak physical fitness. May provide first aid or emergency care.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Other Amusement and Recreation Industries; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Offices of Physicians; Spectator Sports
Why: $28,300 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Middle School Career/Technical Education Teachers; Occupational Therapists; Physical Therapists; Recreational Therapists; Registered Nurses

Cardiac Monitor Technician
What: Conduct tests on pulmonary or cardiovascular systems of patients for diagnostic purposes. May conduct or assist in electrocardiograms, cardiac catheterizations, pulmonary functions, lung capacity, and similar tests. Includes vascular technologists.
When: After obtaining a high school diploma; or after completing a short certificate program; or after obtaining an Associate’s degree; or after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree
Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Offices of Physicians; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Why: $33,600 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Radiation Therapists; Respiratory Therapists; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Nuclear Medicine Technologists; Respiratory Therapy Technicians

Certified Nursing Assistant, Hospital Aide
What: Provide basic patient care under direction of nursing staff. Perform duties such as feed, bathe, dress, groom, or move patients, or change linens. May transfer or transport patients. Includes nursing care attendants, nursing aides, and nursing attendants.
When: After completing a short certificate program; or after completing some related college course work; or after obtaining an Associate’s degree. While in an apprenticeship program. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
**Where:** Nursing Care Facilities; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Home Health Care Services; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Offices of Physicians; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Residential Care Facilities; Outpatient Care Centers; Individual and Family Services; Employment Services; Religious Organizations; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Administration of Environmental Quality Programs; Vocational Rehabilitation Services; Administration of Economic Programs

**Why:** $24,500-$28,000 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.

**Alternatively:** Psychiatric Aides; Occupational Therapy Aides; Physical Therapist Aides; Childcare Workers; Personal Care Aides

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**Chiropractor**

**What:** Assess, treat, and care for patients by manipulation of spine and musculoskeletal system. May provide spinal adjustment or address sacral or pelvic misalignment.

**When:** After obtaining a professional degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Offices of Physicians

**Why:** $52,400 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.

**Alternatively:** Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers; Naturopathic Physicians

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**Community Health Educator**

**What:** Provide and manage health education programs that help individuals, families, and their communities maximize and maintain healthy lifestyles. Collect and analyze data to identify community needs prior to planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies, and environments. May serve as a resource to assist individuals, other healthcare workers, or the community, and may administer fiscal resources for health education programs.

**When:** Usually after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; or after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Individual and Family Services; Social Advocacy Organizations; Outpatient Care Centers; Grantmaking and Giving Services; Offices of Physicians; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities

**Why:** $34,600 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.

**Alternatively:** Training and Development Specialists; Child, Family, and School Social Workers; Social and Human Service Assistants; Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education; Patient Representatives

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**Community Health Worker**

**What:** Assist individuals and communities to adopt healthy behaviors. Conduct outreach for medical personnel or health organizations to implement programs in the community that promote, maintain, and improve individual and community health. May provide information on available resources, provide social support and informal counseling, advocate for individuals and community health needs, and provide services such as first aid and blood pressure screening. May collect data to help identify community health needs.

**When:** After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining an Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Less than 5 years of related work experience is required in most cases. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Social Advocacy Organizations; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Individual and Family Services; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Residential Intellectual and
Dietitian

**What:** Plan and conduct food service or nutritional programs to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease. May supervise activities of a department providing quantity food services, counsel individuals, or conduct nutritional research.

**When:** After obtaining a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Special Food Services; Outpatient Care Centers; Nursing Care Facilities; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Offices of Physicians; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly

**Why:** $42,900 to start. An internship or residency is often provided.

**Alternatively:** Medical and Health Services Managers; Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists; Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers; Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers; Postsecondary Home Economics Teachers

Emergency Medical Technician

**What:** Assess injuries, administer emergency medical care, and extricate trapped individuals. Transport injured or sick persons to medical facilities.

**When:** After completing a short certificate program; or after completing some related college coursework; or after obtaining an Associate’s degree; or while completing an apprenticeship. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Ambulatory Health Care Services; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; General Medical and Surgical Hospital; Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians; Outpatient Care Centers

**Why:** $24,400 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided

**Alternatively:** Municipal Fire Fighting and Prevention Supervisors; Municipal Firefighters; Fire Inspectors; Police Patrol Officers; Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs

Endoscopy Technician

**What:** Maintain a sterile field to provide support for physicians and nurses during endoscopy procedures. Prepare and maintain instruments and equipment. May obtain specimens.

**When:** After obtaining a high school diploma; or after completing a short certificate program. Typically, little to no work experience is required.

**Where:** General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Offices of Physicians; Outpatient Care Centers; Administration of Economic Programs

**Why:** $26,500 to start. There is usually little to no on-the-job training provided.

**Alternatively:** Nuclear Medicine Technologists; Respiratory Therapy Technicians; Surgical Technologists; Neurodiagnostic Technologists; Dental Assistants
**Epidemiologist**

**What:** Investigate and describe the determinants and distribution of disease, disability, or health outcomes. May develop the means for prevention and control.

**When:** After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree, after obtaining a Master’s degree, after obtaining a Professional/Doctoral degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Scientific Research and Development Services

**Why:** $52,600 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided in most cases.

**Alternatively:** Sociologists; Anthropologists; Postsecondary Forestry and Conservation Science Teachers; Postsecondary Environmental Science Teachers; Preventive Medicine Physicians

**Exercise Physiologist**

**What:** Assess, plan, or implement fitness programs that include exercise or physical activities such as those designed to improve cardiorespiratory function, body composition, muscular strength, muscular endurance, or flexibility.

**When:** After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required in most cases.

**Where:** Offices of Other Health Practitioners; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Support Activities for Forestry

**Why:** $31,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided in most cases.

**Healthcare Social Worker**

**What:** Provide individuals, families, and groups with the psychosocial support needed to cope with chronic, acute, or terminal illnesses. Services include advising family care givers, providing patient education and counseling, and making referrals for other services. May also provide care and case management or interventions designed to promote health, prevent disease, and address barriers to access to healthcare.

**When:** After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required.

**Where:** General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Nursing Care Facilities; Individual and Family Services; Outpatient Care Centers; Home Health Care Services; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Offices of Physicians; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly; Social Advocacy Organizations Other Residential Care Facilities; Vocational Rehabilitation Services; Community Food and Housing, and Emergency and Other Relief Services

**Why:** $36,600 to start. On-the-job training is provided in the form of an internship/residency.

**Alternatively:** Counseling Psychologists; Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists; Mental Health Counselors; Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers

**Health Educator**

**What:** Provide and manage health education programs that help individuals, families, and their communities maximize and maintain healthy lifestyles. Collect and analyze data to identify community needs prior to planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies, and environments. May serve as a resource to assist individuals, other healthcare workers, or the community, and may administer fiscal resources for health education programs.

**When:** After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Executive,
Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Individual and Family Services; Social Advocacy
Organizations; Outpatient Care Centers; Grantmaking and Giving Services; Offices of Physicians; Residential
Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities
Why: $34,600 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided in most cases.
Alternatively: Training and Development Specialists; Child, Family, and School Social Workers; Social and
Human Service Assistants; Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education; Patient
Representatives

Licensed Practical Nurse (Visiting)
What: Care for ill, injured, or convalescing patients or persons with disabilities in hospitals, nursing homes,
clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions. May work under the supervision of a registered
nurse. Licensing required.
When: After completing a short certificate program; or after completing some related college classes; or after
obtaining an Associate’s degree; or while completing an apprenticeship. Often, little to no work experience is
required.
Where: Nursing Care Facilities; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Offices of Physicians; Continuing Care
Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly; Residential Intellectual and
Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Home Health Care Services; Colleges,
Universities, and Professional Schools; Outpatient Care Centers; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Executive,
Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Employment Services; Residential Care Facilities;
Individual and Family Services; Religious Organizations; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Administration of
Economic Programs; Administration of Environmental Quality Programs
Why: $37,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Acute Care Nurses; Psychiatric Technicians; Respiratory Therapy Technicians; Physical Therapist
Assistants; Medical Assistants

Massage Therapist
What: Perform therapeutic massages of soft tissues and joints. May assist in the assessment of range of
motion and muscle strength, or propose client therapy plans.
When: After completing a short certificate program; or after taking some related college classes; or after
obtaining an Associate’s degree; or after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree. Usually, little to no work experience is
required.
Where: Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Personal Care Services; Traveler Accommodation; Other
Amusement and Recreation Industries
Why: $28,800 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Self-Enrichment Education Teachers; Barbers; Skincare Specialists; Fitness Trainers and Aerobics
Instructors; File Clerks

Medical Laboratory Technician
What: Perform routine medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. May
work under the supervision of a medical technologist.
When: After completing a short certificate program; or after completing some relevant college classes; or after
obtaining an Associate’s degree; or after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; or while completing an
apprenticeship. Little to no work experience is usually required.
Where: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Offices of
Physicians; Scientific Research and Development Services; Outpatient Care Centers
Why: $34,200 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists; Histotechnologists and Histologic Technicians; Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Respiratory Therapy Technicians

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Worker**
What: Assess and treat individuals with mental, emotional, or substance abuse problems, including abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drugs. Activities may include individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, case management, client advocacy, prevention, and education.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree; after obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required.
Where: Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Outpatient Care Centers; Individual and Family Services; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Other Residential Care Facilities; Community Food and Housing, and Emergency and Other Relief Services; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Social Advocacy Organizations Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools Offices of Physicians; Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Why: $35,600 to start. On-the-job training is provided in the form of an internship/residency.
Alternatively: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors; Marriage and Family Therapists; Mental Health Counselor; Child, Family, and School Social Workers; Healthcare Social Workers

**Neurodiagnostic Technologist-EEG**
What: Conduct electroneurodiagnostic (END) tests such as electroencephalograms, evoked potentials, polysomnograms, or electronystagmograms. May perform nerve conduction studies.
When: After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining an Associate’s degree; after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Outpatient Care Centers; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians
Why: $29,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Respiratory Therapy Technicians; Medical Assistants; Endoscopy Technicians

**Nurse- Maternity/Delivery, Operating Room, Oncology**
What: Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree*. Little to no work experience is required in most cases. *It is possible to be licensed and registered as a nurse with an Associate’s degree, but not preferred by employers.
Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians; Nursing Care Facilities; Outpatient Care Centers; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Home Health Care Services; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Employment Services; Individual and Family Services; Administration of Economic Programs; Residential Care Facilities; Administration of Environmental Quality Programs; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Ambulatory Health Care Services; Management of Companies and Enterprises; Scientific Research and Development Services; Religious Organizations; Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities; Vocational Rehabilitation Services; Social Advocacy Organizations
Nurse Practitioner
What: Diagnose and treat acute, episodic, or chronic illness, independently or as part of a healthcare team. May focus on health promotion and disease prevention. May order, perform, or interpret diagnostic tests such as lab work and x-rays. May prescribe medication. Must be registered nurses who have specialized graduate education.
When: After obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Outpatient Care Centers; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support
Why: $45,200 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided. Alternatively: Nurse Midwives; Acute Care Nurses; Critical Care Nurses; Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses

Occupational Therapist
What: Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills, as well as general independence, to persons with disabilities or developmental delays.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree or a Master’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Offices of Other Health Practitioners; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Nursing Care Facilities; Home Health Care Services; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians; Outpatient Care Centers; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Individual and Family Services; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly
Why: $49,100 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided. Alternatively: Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Physical Therapists, Recreational Therapists

Pharmacist
What: Dispense drugs prescribed by physicians and other health practitioners and provide information to patients about medications and their use. May advise physicians and other health practitioners on the selection, dosage, interactions, and side effects of medications.
When: After obtaining a Professional/Doctoral degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Health and Personal Care Stores; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Grocery Stores; General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Department Stores; Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses; Offices of Physicians; Outpatient Care Centers
Why: $71,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided. Alternatively: Medical Scientists, Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers
Pharmacy Technician
What: Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist. May measure, mix, count out, label, and record amounts and dosages of medications according to prescription orders.
When: After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining an Associate’s degree. While in an apprenticeship program. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Health and Personal Care Stores; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Grocery Stores; General Merchandise Stores, including Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters; Department Stores; Outpatient Care Centers; Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses; Offices of Physicians; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Why: $22,700 to start. Moderate on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Dispensing Opticians, Physical Therapist Assistants, Dental Assistants, Medical Assistants, Pharmacy Aides

Physical Therapist
What: Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that improve mobility, relieve pain, increase strength, and improve or correct disabling conditions resulting from disease or injury.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree, after obtaining a Master’s degree, after obtaining a Professional/Doctoral degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Offices of Other Health Practitioners; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Nursing Care Facilities; Home Health Care Services; Offices of Physicians; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Outpatient Care Centers; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Continuing Care Retirement Communities and Assisted Living Facilities for the Elderly
Why: $66,00 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided in most cases.
Alternatively: Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Occupational Therapists

Physician Assistant
What: Provide healthcare services typically performed by a physician, under the supervision of a physician. Conduct complete physicals, provide treatment, and counsel patients. May, in some cases, prescribe medication. Must graduate from an accredited educational program for physician assistants.
When: After obtaining a Master’s degree; or after obtaining a Professional/Doctoral degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Offices of Physicians; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Outpatient Care Centers
Why: $79,800. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers; Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers; Clinical Nurse Specialists; Nurse Midwives; Nurse Practitioners

Psychiatric Technician
What: Care for individuals with mental or emotional conditions or disabilities, following the instructions of physicians or other health practitioners. Monitor patients' physical and emotional well-being and report to medical staff. May participate in rehabilitation and treatment programs, help with personal hygiene, and administer oral or injectable medications.
When: After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining an Associate’s degree. Less than 5 years of related work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Why: $26,600 to start. Short-term on-the-job training is provided in most cases.
Alternatively: Social and Human Service Assistants; Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses; Occupational Therapy Assistants; Physical Therapist Assistants; Correctional Officers and Jailers

Preventative Medicine Physician
What: Apply knowledge of general preventive medicine and public health issues to promote health care to groups or individuals, and aid in the prevention or reduction of risk of disease, injury, disability, or death. May practice population-based medicine or diagnose and treat patients in the context of clinical health promotion and disease prevention.
When: After obtaining a Professional/Doctoral degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Outpatient Care Centers; Scientific Research and Development Services; Administration of Economic Program; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support; Administration of Environmental Quality Programs; Offices of Other Health Practitioners

Why: $115,500 to start. On-the-job training in the form of an internship or residency is provided in most cases.
Alternatively: Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Dietitians and Nutritionists, Hospitalists, Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurses

Radiation Therapist
What: Provide radiation therapy to patients as prescribed by a radiologist according to established practices and standards. Duties may include reviewing prescription and diagnosis; acting as liaison with physician and supportive care personnel; preparing equipment, such as immobilization, treatment, and protection devices; and maintaining records, reports, and files. May assist in dosimetry procedures and tumor localization.
When: After obtaining an Associate’s degree, after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Offices of Physicians

Why: $54,700 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Respiratory Therapists; Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Respiratory Therapy Technicians; Radiologic Technicians

Radiologic Technician
What: Maintain and use equipment and supplies necessary to demonstrate portions of the human body on x-ray film or fluoroscopic screen for diagnostic purposes.
When: After completing a short certificate program; after completing some related college courses; after obtaining an Associate’s degree; after obtaining an Bachelor’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Outpatient Care Centers; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Offices of Physicians

Why: $29,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.
Alternatively: Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Nuclear Medicine Technologists; Radiologic Technologists; Respiratory Therapy Technicians

Recreational Therapist
What: Plan, direct, or coordinate medically-approved recreation programs for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, or other institutions. Activities include sports, trips, dramatics, social activities, and arts and crafts. May assess a patient condition and recommend appropriate recreational activity.
When: After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree. Little to no work experience is required in most cases.
Respiratory Therapist

What: Assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders. Assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision of respiratory therapy technicians. Initiate and conduct therapeutic procedures; maintain patient records; and select, assemble, check, and operate equipment.

When: After obtaining an Associate’s degree; after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required in most cases.

Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Nursing Care Facilities

Why: $47,500 to start. Little to no on-the-job training is provided.

Alternatively: Radiation Therapists; Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians; Diagnostic Medical Sonographers; Respiratory Therapy Technicians; Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses

Speech Therapist

What: Assess and treat persons with speech, language, voice, and fluency disorders. May select alternative communication systems and teach their use. May perform research related to speech and language problems.

When: After obtaining a Master’s degree. Little to no previous work experience is required in most cases.

Where: Elementary and Secondary Schools; Offices of Other Health Practitioners; General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Nursing Care Facilities; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Home Health Care Services; Individual and Family Services; Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Facilities; Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support

Why: $46,400 to start. On-the-job training is provided in the form of an internship/residency.

Alternatively: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors; Healthcare Social Workers; Postsecondary Health Specialties Teachers; Postsecondary Nursing Instructors and Teachers; Postsecondary Home Economics Teachers

Sterile Processing Department Assistant

What: Prepare, sterilize, install, or clean laboratory or healthcare equipment. May perform routine laboratory tasks and operate or inspect equipment.

When: After obtaining a high school diploma or equivalent; after completing a short certificate program; or after completing some related college course work. While in an apprenticeship program. Little to no previous work experience is provided.

Where: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; Outpatient Care Centers Offices of Dentists

Why: $35,500 to start. Moderate on-the-job training is provided.

Alternatively: Histotechnologists and Histologic Technicians; Endoscopy Technicians; Crushing, Grinding, and Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders; Dental Laboratory Technicians; Semiconductor Processors