

Health Care Career Pathway

21,000 Employers

445,000 Workers

\$55,513 Average Wage

What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are a sequence of training and education programs designed to develop a person's academic and technical skills. By obtaining stackable credentials and developing new skills a worker can advance over time to successively higher levels of education and employment in a given industry or occupational sector.

Why Have a Career in Health Care?

Health Care is the largest employing industry in Missouri. The Health Care target industry has over 21,000 employers that provide jobs to nearly 445,000 workers across the state, with the sector projected to grow faster than most industries. Employment in the Health Target Industry Group has increased at an annualized 2 percent per year from 2011 to 2016, and employs nearly 19 percent of all total private sector workers. Missouri's Health Care industry has particularly high employment concentrations in Skilled Nursing Care Facilities and General Medical and Surgical Hospitals. Wages in this industry averaged \$55,513 in 2016. An aging patient population and retiring Health Care workers contribute to the growing and projected need.

The Health Care industry provides a variety of work opportunities for every interest. From jobs that directly care for patients to careers that keep the whole system going, important jobs are waiting to be filled in **Patient Care**, **Diagnostic/Therapeutic** and **Business Operation**.



Patient Care

**Diagnostic/
Therapeutic**

**Business
Operations**

Who's Hiring?

Mercy Health
BJC Healthcare
Hospital Corp. of America
Truman Medical Centers
SSM Health Care

Know the Basics

Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability, are important in all industries and occupations. Health Care careers often involve interactions with patients and other team members so active listening and communication skills are also important. Health Care includes many essential occupations that need to be staffed around the clock so dependability and reliability are a must.

In addition, Health Care has a set of industry-wide technical competencies that represent the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in this industry. With the need for privacy and confidentiality prevalent in these industries, workers need to have knowledge of Health Industry ethics, laws and regulations, and be able to keep accurate and confidential documentation. Patient interaction, infection control, understanding of drugs and medications, and knowledge of diagnostic procedures, scientific methods and technology are only some of the skills needed for success in this industry.



Patient Care



Diagnostic/ Therapeutic



Business Operations

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree	Registered Nurses Entry: \$43,540 Avg.: \$60,830 Physical Therapists Entry: \$61,530 Avg.: \$78,800 Nurse Practitioners Entry: \$72,670 Avg.: \$93,140 Family & General Practitioners Entry: \$55,620 Avg.: \$170,460	Dentists Entry: \$92,380 Avg.: \$172,720 Pharmacists Entry: \$102,250 Avg.: \$120,930 Healthcare Social Workers Entry: \$29,620 Avg.: \$46,630 Mental Health Counselors Entry: \$26,970 Avg.: \$41,620 Medical Laboratory Technologists Entry: \$43,730 Avg.: \$57,990	Software Developers Entry: \$64,500 Avg.: \$95,740 Computer Systems Analysts Entry: \$58,010 Avg.: \$90,000 Medical & Health Services Managers Entry: \$59,850 Avg.: \$101,980 Accountants & Auditors Entry: \$41,970 Avg.: \$70,530
	Degrees: Nursing Science, Physical Therapy, Medicine	Degrees: Clinical Laboratory Science/Technologist, Social Work, Pharmacy, Mental Health, Dental Medicine	Degrees: Computer Science, Information Technology, Accounting, Business Administration & Management

Next

Long Term On-the-Job Training, Certificate, Associate's Degree	Nursing Assistants Entry: \$19,480 Avg.: \$24,690 Licensed Practical & Vocational Nurses Entry: \$32,500 Avg.: \$39,600 Medical Assistants Entry: \$23,790 Avg.: \$30,730 Emergency Medical Technicians Entry: \$22,460 Avg.: \$34,170	Dental Assistants Entry: \$26,830 Avg.: \$35,660 Medical Laboratory Technicians Entry: \$25,310 Avg.: \$37,610 Radiologic Technologists & Technicians Entry: \$41,070 Avg.: \$53,340 Dental Hygienists Entry: \$55,320 Avg.: \$68,990	Medical Records & Health Info. Technicians Entry: \$28,060 Avg.: \$40,920 Computer User Support Specialists Entry: \$30,400 Avg.: \$47,350
	Certificates: Nursing Assistant, Medical Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	Certificates: Dental Hygienist, Dental Assistant American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), Medical Laboratory Technician, First Aid CPR AED	Certificates: Registered Health Information Technician, Certified Professional Coder, Certified A+ Technician, Network +, Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)

Now

Short Term On-the-Job Training	Personal Care Aides Entry: \$17,740 Avg.: \$20,810 Home Health Aides Entry: \$19,480 Avg.: \$22,440	Social & Human Service Assistants Entry: \$19,380 Avg.: \$28,400 Pharmacy Technicians Entry: \$21,410 Avg.: \$29,420	Medical Secretaries Entry: \$23,780 Avg.: \$32,710 Customer Service Representatives Entry: \$23,060 Avg.: \$34,200
	Certificates: Home Health Aide, Certified Caregiver, First Aid CPR AED, Nursing Assistant	Certificates: Pharmacy Technician Certification, First Aid CPR AED	Certificates: Certified Healthcare Access Associate (CHAA), First Aid CPR AED

Sources:
 Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool
 Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse
 2016 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



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