

Occupation	Approx. Salary Range <sup>1</sup>	Description of Work	Preparation and/or Training <sup>2</sup>	Training Institutions <sup>3</sup>	Credentials Offered
<b>1 Year or Less of Education</b>					
<b>Billing Technician</b>	\$26,000-\$38,000	Reviews records of newly admitted patients to determine insurance coverage. Verifies hospitalization coverage of insurance companies and computes hospital bill showing charges. Contacts company by phone or letter to confirm coverage and to obtain information.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 16-week training program; beginning typing skills	5, 8, 31	Certificate of completion
<b>Dental Assistant</b>	\$17,000-\$28,000	Serves as chair side assistant, office assistant, and/or receptionist. Sterilizes and prepares dental instruments, performs lab work, and assists the dentist in treating patients.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program through examination	8, 10, 12, 24, 31	Certificate of completion and national certification
<b>Dietary Assistant</b>	\$27,000-\$41,000	Performs diversified duties in diet office, e.g., write menu/diet requisitions. Consults with and instructs patients concerning diets. Assists dietician. Follows standard practices and complies with regulatory requirements.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	12	Certificate of completion
<b>Direct Care Worker</b>	\$23,000-\$33,000	Takes and records patient temperature, pulse, respiration and blood pressure. Tests urine as directed. Gives enemas as directed. Assists with physical examinations. Provides post-mortem care. Assists patient with personal hygiene.	Completion of 16-week training program	5, 7, 10, 15	Certificate of completion
<b>Electroencephalographic Technologist</b>	\$39,000-\$58,000	Repairs, calibrates and tests all types of electrical and electronic equipment and devices. Performs safety and performance tests according to departmental policy on a routine basis. Repairs defective devices to meet manufacturer's operating specification.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 15-month training program	14	Certificate of completion
<b>Emergency Medical Technician</b>	\$22,000-\$32,000	Provides pre-hospital emergency medical care to the critically ill or traumatized. Administers CPR, controls bleeding, treats shock and burns, and monitors patient's condition en route to the hospital emergency room.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of training program; must be at least 18 years old	10	Certificate of completion and state and national certification through examination
<b>Medical Assistant</b>	\$24,000-\$36,000	Under the supervision of a registered nurse, administers individualized care to the patient, assists the physician, performs diagnostic tests and instructs the patient.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	7, 10, 12, 15, 16	Certificate of completion
<b>Medical Office Management Assistant</b>	\$20,000-\$26,000	Fulfills a variety of non-clinical administrative/support roles in medical offices, nursing homes, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	7, 10, 38, 48	Certificate of completion
<b>Medical Records Coder</b>	\$33,000-\$51,000	Reviews entire current medical record of patient. Assigns diagnostic and procedure codes to records of discharged patients and forwards reports as required. Determines and records other required data items such as attending physician, use of intensive care.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year degree program	8, 10, 16, 31, 48	Certificate of completion and national certification through examination
<b>Medical Transcriptionist</b>	\$26,000-\$38,000	Prepares and transcribes dictation from physicians and other health care professionals regarding patient assessment, workup, therapeutic procedures, clinical course, diagnosis, and prognosis. Excellent typing skills and knowledge of medical terminology.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of training program	7, 10, 16	Certificate of completion and national certification through examination available after 3 years of hospital experience
<b>Nurse, Licensed Practical (LPN)</b>	\$30,000-\$44,000	Gives nursing care under direct supervision of registered nursing staff and physicians. Performs basic nursing duties independently, assists registered nurses or physicians in more complicated nursing situations.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	5, 7, 42	Certificate of completion and state licensure through examination
<b>Ophthalmic Assistant</b>	\$20,000-\$29,000	Assists ophthalmologist with treating diseases and disorders of the eye and with legal and administrative duties.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 10-week training program	10	Certificate of completion and certification through examination
<b>Pharmacy Technician</b>	\$25,000-\$37,000	Performs a variety of duties associated with the procurement, preparation, distribution, and storage of pharmaceutical. Demonstrates knowledge of drug entities, classification, nomenclature, routes of administration.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	7, 8, 38	Certificate of completion and voluntary national certification through examination
<b>Physical Therapist Aide</b>	\$33,000-\$49,000	Under supervision of Physical Therapist, performs corrective exercise, instruction and treatment for patients, as determined by evaluation performed by Physical Therapist.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 10-week training program	8	Certificate of completion
<b>Surgical Technologist</b>	\$31,000-\$44,000	The Surgical Center Technician works under the direction of the Nurse Manager. This employee will provide adequate supplies for the Surgical Center. The Surgical Center Technician will also review daily surgical schedule to determine anesthesia equipment. This employee will be a team player and will demonstrate good rapport and cooperative relationships with all members of the Surgical Center team.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 1-year training program	10, 15, 33	Certificate of completion and national certification through examination
<b>2 Years of Education</b>					
<b>Cardiovascular Technologist</b>	\$38,000-\$59,000	Conducts cardiology, vascular and pulmonary tests to provide diagnostic information for heart, vascular and lung diseases using equipment such as oscilloscope, vasograph and spirometer. Positions patient, attaches recording and monitoring devices. This position is different/less than Vascular Tech (RT)	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program; knowledge of CPR	23, 48	Associate's degree
<b>Certified Respiratory Therapist</b>	\$37,000-\$55,000	Performs substantially the same duties but at a lower level and under greater supervision. Certified by American Registry of Inhalation Therapists (ARIT).	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	10, 12, 15, 16	Associate's degree and state and national certification through examination
<b>Dental Hygienist</b>	\$44,000-\$56,000	Under the supervision of a dentist, cleans teeth, takes and interprets X-rays, obtains patient history, and monitors vital signs. Educates patients about oral hygiene care.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	8, 10, 12, 16, 24, 31, 33, 52	Associate's degree or bachelor's degree, and state and national licensing through examination
<b>Diagnostic Medical Sonographer</b>	\$47,000-\$63,000	Uses high-frequency sound waves to create body images that show the shape and composition of body tissues; assists physicians diagnosing disease, injury, and other physical conditions.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2- to 4-year degree program certification	14, 16, 22, 48	Associate's degree or bachelor's degree, and state and national through examination
<b>Dietetic Technician, Registered</b>	\$20,000-\$40,000	Working with a dietician, assists in shaping the public's food choices and provides nutrition counseling to patients. Identifies nutrition problems, provides education, develops menus and recipes, supervises food service personnel, purchases food, and monitors inventory and food quality.	High school diploma or GED, and completion 2-year degree program	10, 12	Associate's degree and national registration through examination
<b>Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic</b>	\$22,000-\$39,000	Provides pre-hospital emergency care at an advanced level, or care of patients in an emergency room environment. Performs basic EMT life support skills, IV therapy, drug administration, and advanced airway management.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year training program; must be at least 18 years old and have current EMT-Ambulance Certificate	10, 15, 16, 18, 49	Associate's degree, state licensure through examination, and state and national registration through examination
<b>Health Information Technician</b>	\$25,000-\$40,000	Performs tasks related to the use, analysis, validation, presentation, abstracting, coding, storage, security, retrieval, quality measurement, and control of data regardless of the physical medium in which the information is maintained. May also supervise personnel.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	8, 10, 12, 23, 24	Associate's degree and national certification through examination
<b>Health Care and Medical Office Manager</b>	\$34,000-\$49,000	Supervises administrative and secretarial employees to assure effective office support. Prepares work schedules for administrative employees and assures coverage of such critical functions as reception, telephones, mail preparation and delivery and typing.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	15, 31, 38	Associate's degree
<b>Histologic Technician</b>	\$36,000-\$51,000	Assists in the routine processing and preparation of tissue samples and various solutions and stains. Collects surgical tissue and assists pathologist in routine examination of surgical tissues. Maintains records and performs general maintenance on instruments.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	16	Associate's degree and national certification by examination
<b>Medical/Clinical Laboratory Technician</b>	\$34,000-\$50,000	Performs chemical analysis of blood serum, body fluids and tissues to identify and quantitate substances of clinical and diagnostic importance. Performs hematologic examination of blood and body fluids. Screens blood donors. Performs histologic tests.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	8, 10, 12, 18, 20, 23, 24, 33, 48	Associate's degree and voluntary national certification through examination
<b>Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b>	\$53,000-\$76,000	Prepares radioactive isotope for administration to patient by syringe or orally as ordered by physician. Operates detection equipment to measure isotope concentrations. Operates scanners to record isotope concentrations in the body.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2- to 4-year degree program state licensure	16, 22, 48	Associate's degree or bachelor's degree, through examination, and national certification
<b>Nurse, Registered (RN)</b>	\$51,000-\$75,000	Gives general nursing care to patients. Administers prescribed medications and treatments in accordance with approved nursing techniques. Prepares equipment and aids in examination and treatment of patients.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 33, 36, 44	Certificate or associate's degree, and state licensure through examination
<b>Occupational Therapy Assistant</b>	\$33,000-\$49,000	Under supervision of Staff Occupational Therapist, administers specified evaluation, conducts general activity programs, and assists in implementing specific treatment programs for individual patients and patient groups. Must be certified.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2- to 4-year degree program	16	Associate's degree or bachelor's degree, and state licensure through examination
<b>Physical Therapist Assistant</b>	\$33,000-\$49,000	Under supervision of Physical Therapist, performs corrective exercise, instruction and treatment for patients, as determined by evaluation performed by Physical Therapist. High school diploma, with certification.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	8, 16, 24	Associate's degree and state licensure through examination
<b>Radiologic Technologist (RT)</b>	\$57,000-\$84,000	Using special radiologic equipment, positions and instructs patient. Determines proper dosage and exposure time. Determines smallest (x-ray) beam possible to cover involved area. Adjusts controls to emit proper density and concentration of rays. (Registered)	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2-year degree program	1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25, 33, 47, 48, 53	Certificate or associate's degree, state licensure through examination, and national certification through examination
<b>Registered Respiratory Therapist</b>	\$42,000-\$63,000	Administers respiratory therapy care and life support to patients as prescribed by physician. Sets up and operates equipment such as respirators, mechanical ventilators, therapeutic gas administration apparatus and aerosol generators.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 2- to 4-year degree program	10, 12, 15, 16, 22, 23, 52	Associate's degree or bachelor's degree, state certification through examination, and national registration through examination
<b>3 Years of Education</b>					
<b>Radiation Therapist</b>	\$57,000-\$79,000	Treats patients by administering radiation. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, seeing patients each day, operating sophisticated equipment, delivering a planned course of radiation therapy, and applying the rules and regulations of radiation therapy.	R.T. license and completion of 1- to 2-year training program	13, 23, 48	Certificate of completion or bachelor's degree, state licensing through examination, and national certification through examination
<b>4 Years of Education</b>					
<b>Clinical Laboratory Scientist/ Medical Technologist</b>	\$34,000-\$50,000	Performs chemical analysis of blood serum, body fluids and tissues to identify and quantitate substances of clinical and diagnostic importance. Performs hematologic examination of blood and body fluids. Screens blood donors. Performs histologic tests.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	11, 19, 23, 35, 45, 48, 50	Bachelor of Science and voluntary national certification through examination
<b>Cytotechnologist</b>	\$45,000-\$65,000	Accurately screens routine GYN and Non-GYN slides for the presence of abnormal cells. Performs fine needle aspirations including preparing and screening of the specimens. Prepares and stains slides when required.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	48	Bachelor of Science and national certification through examination
<b>Dietitian/Nutritionist</b>	\$39,000-\$58,000	Assesses the nutritional status of individuals and recommends the best nutritional care for treatment of disease or maintenance of health.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	17, 30, 52	Bachelor of Science and national registration through examination
<b>Health Information Administrator</b>	\$30,000-\$75,000	Performs tasks related to the management of health information and the systems used to collect, assess, store, process, retrieve, analyze, disseminate, and communicate that information, regardless of the physical medium in which it is maintained. Participates in the planning and designing of enterprise-wide systems.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	23, 47, 48	Bachelor's degree and national registration through examination
<b>Health Care Administrator</b>	\$55,000-\$75,000	Manages the daily operation of a health care facility, ensuring that the health care facility has the staff, equipment, and resources necessary to provide the best-quality care possible.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	3, 19, 23, 35, 47	Bachelor's degree
<b>Music Therapist</b>	\$30,000-\$40,000	Combines understanding of psychology with a knowledge and appreciation of music to restore, maintain, and improve mental/physical health. May work with mentally retarded, blind, or physically disabled individuals.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4- to 6-year degree program	18, 47	Bachelor's degree or master's degree, and national certification through examination
<b>Nurse, Registered (BSN)</b>	\$51,000-\$80,000	Provides direct patient care, assesses patient's condition, performs treatments and procedures, administers medications, and educates patients and family members. May serve in a supervisory position.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program, or RN licensure and completion of 2-year degree program	18, 19, 23, 25, 26, 30, 35, 43, 45, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and state licensure through examination
<b>Social Worker</b>	\$34,000-\$53,000	Works on simpler aspects of cases or provides services to less complex cases, under close and regular supervision.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4-year degree program	6, 9, 30, 39, 47, 52, 53	Bachelor's degree (BSW), state licensure through examination, and national certification through examination
<b>4 Years or More of Education</b>					
<b>Clinical Nurse Specialist</b>	\$57,000-\$88,000	A registered nurse with an advanced practice degree (MSN). Responsibilities include: engaging in activities that advance the general nursing practice, educating patients, families, health professionals, and the public; providing, directing, and evaluating.	BSN, completion of 27-month training program, and RN license	18, 23, 35, 47, 48, 51, 53	Master of science in nursing (MSN) and state licensure through examination
<b>Dentist</b>	\$61,000-\$120,000	Provides direct patient care for the diagnosis and treatment of disorders affecting the teeth, gums, and other areas of the mouth. Educates patients in proper dental care.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 4-year degree program	47, 49	Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) and state licensure through examination
<b>Nurse Anesthetist</b>	\$102,000-\$153,000	Administers anesthetics to patients prior to and during surgical procedures, childbirth and other medical procedures. Must have graduated from an accredited school of nurse anesthesiology and be registered.	BSN, completion of 27-month training program, and RN license	14, 18, 30, 34, 46, 47, 51	Certificate or master of science in nursing (MSN), and state licensure through examination
<b>Nurse Midwife</b>	\$57,000-\$65,000	Administers anesthetics to patients prior to and during surgical procedures, childbirth and other medical procedures. Must have graduated from an accredited school of nurse anesthesiology and be registered.	BSN degree, completion of 1- to 2-year training program, and RN license	41, 49	Certificate or master of science in nursing (MSN), and national certification through examination
<b>Nurse Practitioner</b>	\$63,000-\$95,000	Provides direct patient care services under the direction of a physician. Elicits detailed patient histories, assesses patient medical needs, initiates appropriate diagnostic testing and/or treatment and completes appropriate medical record documentation.	BSN, completion of a 27-month training program, and RN license	23, 48, 49, 51, 53	Certificate or master of science in nursing (MSN), and national certification through examination
<b>Occupational Therapist</b>	\$45,000-\$69,000	Manages the department of occupational therapy in conjunction with the medical staff. Reports to the vice president or assistant administrator of professional services. Plans, develops and implements occupational therapy programs to meet identified patient needs.	High school diploma or GED, and master's degree required, plus six months of field experience	41, 47, 48, 50	Master's degree, state licensure through examination, and national registration through examination
<b>Optometrist</b>	\$58,000-\$88,000	Diagnoses and treats eye diseases, prescribes optical devices for vision correction, directs the pre- and post-operative care of refractive and laser surgery patients, helps children with learning disabilities through vision training, and provides vision rehabilitation services to people with severe vision impairments.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 4-year degree program	37	Doctor of Optometry (OD) and state licensure through examination
<b>Pharmacist</b>	\$71,000-\$101,000	Compounds and dispenses medications prescribed by physician. Weighs, measures and mixes drugs and other medicinal compounds and fills bottles or capsules with correct quantity and composition of prepared medication. May advise physician on possible drug interactions.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 6-year degree program	47, 48, 50	Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) and state licensure through examination
<b>Pharmacy Administrator</b>	\$75,000-\$153,000	Holds leadership positions in research and/or management in universities, pharmaceutical firms, managed care organizations, health insurance companies, and professional societies, as well as governmental and international agencies.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 1-year degree program	50	Master's degree
<b>Physical Therapist</b>	\$48,000-\$83,000	Manages the department of physical therapy in conjunction with the medical staff for the treatment of patients. Usually reports to the vice president or assistant administrator of professional services.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 4- or 5-year degree program	3, 18, 35, 45, 47, 48, 50, 53	Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) and state licensure through examination
<b>Physician (MD, DO)</b>	\$90,000-\$175,000 (higher for specialists)	Treats and prevents human illness, disease, and injury, and practices medicine and surgery, utilizing all modern diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 4-year degree program, plus 1- to 3-year residency	17, 40, 47, 48, 49	Doctor of Medicine (MD), Doctor of Osteopathy (DO), and state licensure through examination
<b>Physician Assistant</b>	\$62,000-\$92,000	Provides specific medical services under direct supervision and responsibility of a physician. Elicits detailed patient histories and may assist in physical examinations. May order appropriate laboratory tests. Sutures minor wounds, applies and removes.	High school diploma or GED, and completion of 5-year degree program, or bachelor's degree and completion of 27-month degree program	3, 18, 40, 41, 47, 48, 50	Master's degree and national certification through examination
<b>Podiatrist</b>	\$61,000-\$88,000	Focuses on prevention, diagnosis, and management of diseases and injuries of the foot and ankle and their integration with all other body systems.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 4-year degree program	47	Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) and state licensure through examination
<b>Public Health Practitioner</b>	\$35,000-\$100,000	Serves in a large variety of roles in health care, insurance, government, and education. Assesses population health; ensures appropriate services through programmatic, educational, economic, and organizational interventions; and develops and evaluates policy interventions. Integrates the traditional public health disciplines of epidemiology, biostatistics, community health and prevention, environmental and occupational health, and management and health policy.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 2-year degree program	3, 18, 47, 48, 50, 52	Master of Public Health (MPH)
<b>Senior Health Care Administrator</b>	\$65,000-\$100,000	Manages the daily operation of a health care facility, ensuring that it has the staff, equipment, and resources necessary to provide the best-quality care possible.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 1- to 2-year degree program	3, 41, 46, 51, 52, 53	Master's degree or MBA
<b>Senior Social Worker</b>	\$39,000-\$60,000	Interviews patients and family members to obtain information about the home environment, family relationships, patient personality traits and medical history. Participates as a member of the health care team in consultation with other hospital personnel.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 2-year degree program	6, 47, 49, 52, 53	Master's degree (MSW), state licensure through examination, and national certification through examination
<b>Speech Pathologist/Audiologist</b>	\$49,000-\$73,000	Identifies, evaluates, and provides remedial services to children and adults with a wide variety of speech, language, hearing and swallowing disorders. Documents all examinations, evaluation, treatment, progress and discharge notes. Masters degree required.	Bachelor's degree and completion of 2-year degree program, plus completion of 1 clinical fellowship year	30, 37, 47, 52	Master's degree and national certification through examination

<sup>1</sup>Please note that the salary information listed below has been gathered from a number of different sources, all of which use different samples and data of different ages. Therefore, the amounts should be used only as rough guides. Contact individual employers for up-to-date salary information.

<sup>2</sup>Most of these programs that train for clinical occupations require math and science classes in high school and/or college.

<sup>3</sup>Jobs are categorized according to the minimum number of years of training required after completion of a high school diploma or GED. However, some training institutions offer programs that are longer than the basic program because they include advanced skills and/or access to higher-level positions. Some training institutions also offer accelerated training programs for students who already have an advanced degree or college credits.

<sup>4</sup>This list was compiled from publicly available sources, and it may not be exhaustive. Please contact the Life Science Career Alliance to update future versions of this guide.