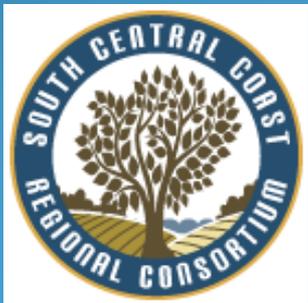


Career Exploration in Health Care Fields of Study

John Cordova, RN
Deputy Sector Navigator – Health
Health Workforce Initiative
South Central Coast Region
Hosted at College of the Canyons



Is a health career right for you?

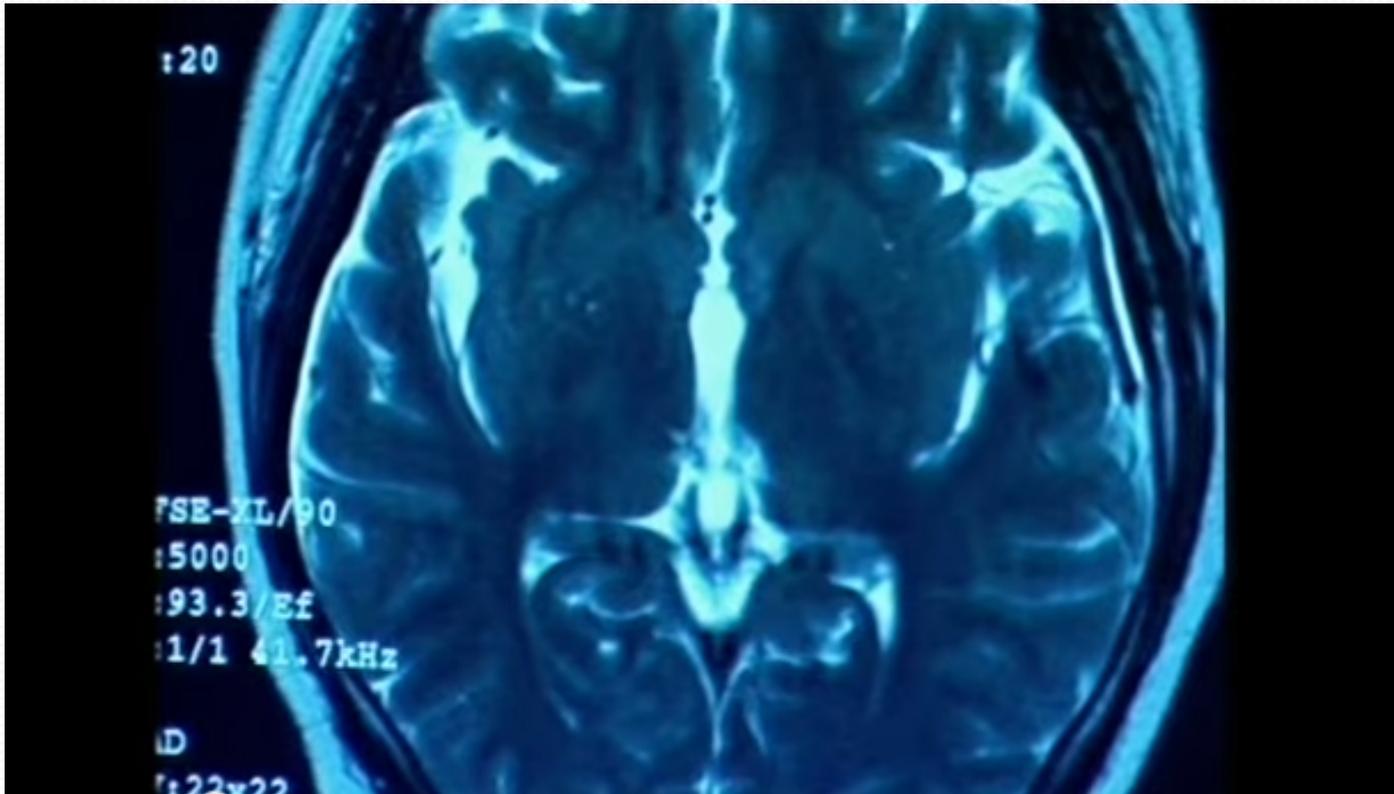
- The healthcare profession is one of the fastest growing economic industry sectors.
- Health careers range from entry level to management including both patient care and administrative jobs.
- Students commonly need a science and math background for health careers.

Is a health career right for you?

- Compassion, commitment and a caring attitude contribute to the delivery of safe and effective health care.
- Students can "Earn while they Learn" as they move through the multiple levels of education.

Basic Skills required

teamwork customer service **critical thinking**
good language skills **work ethic**
ability to learn math & science
problem solving **asking questions**



Is a Health Career Right for You?

- **Do You Like to Deal With People?**
- **Are You Comfortable With Science?**
- **Are You Prepared to Keep Up with Developments in Your Field?**
- **Are You Comfortable in a Health Care Setting?**
- **Are You a Team Player?**
- **What Lifestyle Do You Envision?**

Do You Like to Deal With People?

- Before embarking on a health career path, let's take a few minutes to think about your own abilities, needs and hopes.

**Here are
some
useful
questions
to ask
yourself:**



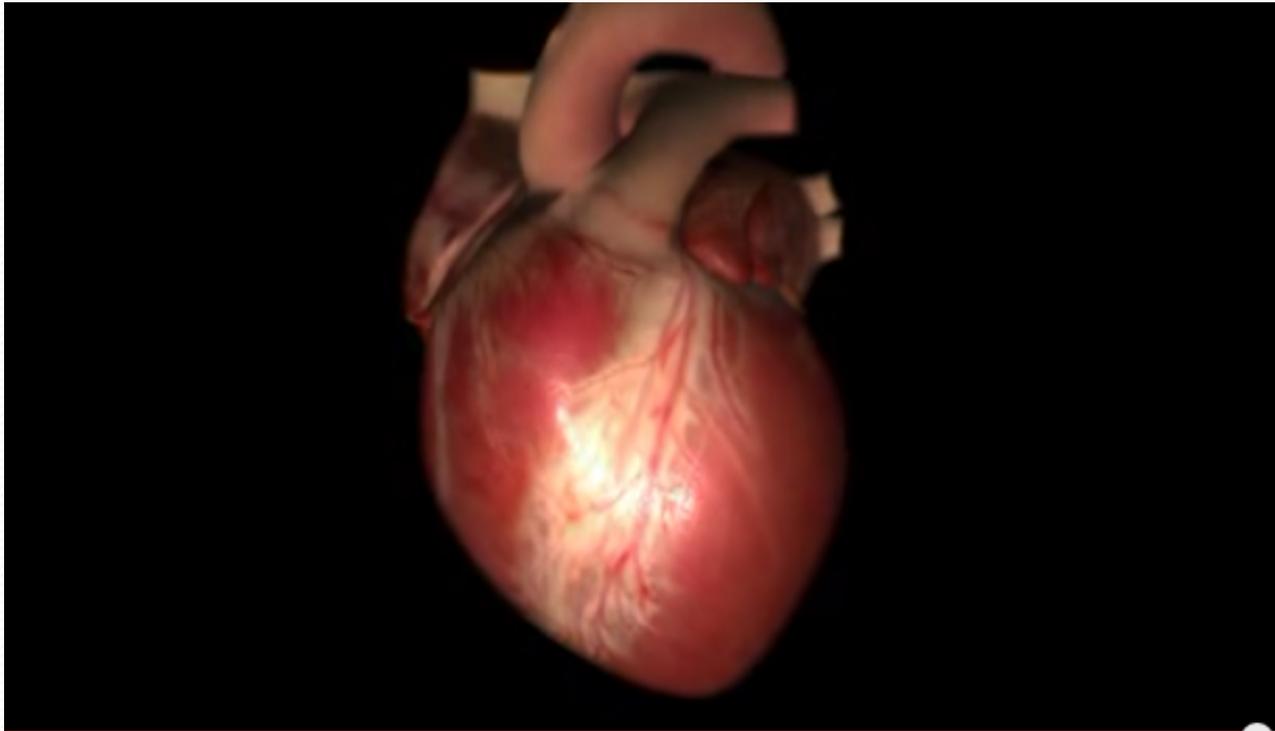
Do You Like to Deal With People?



Do You Like to Deal With People?

- One of the first questions you should ask yourself is how much you want to deal with people.
- For instance, it is important for Nurses, Pediatricians and Occupational Therapists to have a warm and caring personality.
- By contrast, other health careers (like clinical laboratory scientist, pathologist or medical illustrator) involve little or no personal contact with patients.

Are You Comfortable With Science?



Are You Comfortable With Science?

- Many (but not all) health careers require you to be a strong science student.
- All health careers involve some laboratory science, and some programs demand intensive work in the hard sciences (i.e., chemistry, physics, biology).

Are You Prepared to Keep Up with Developments in Your Field?



Are You Prepared to Keep Up with Developments in Your Field?

- Good health care practitioners are committed to giving their patients the best care available.
- That means, in order to keep up with the latest developments in your field, you'll need to continue studying and learning throughout your career.
- Education never stops in health, you must continue to learn...

Are You Comfortable in a Health Care Setting?



Are You Comfortable in a Health Care Setting?

- In many (but not all) health careers, you may spend much of your time in the company of sick, disabled or dying people.
- You might work in a hospital, community health center, mobile clinic, long-term care facility, private practice office, a health maintenance organization (HMO) or even a patient's home.

Are You Comfortable in a Health Care Setting?

- There's an urgent need for health practitioners in medically under-served areas, which often are in far-flung rural communities or inner-city neighborhoods.

Are You Comfortable in a Health Care Setting?

- There are numerous other health-related work settings -- including pharmacies; laboratories; medical libraries; and corporate, nonprofit or government offices, to name just a few.

Are You a Team Player?



Are You a Team Player?

- Health care is increasingly becoming a group activity
 - patient's recovery depends on how well each member of the health care team performs his or her specific function
- Even dentists – 70% of whom work in a solo private practice –
 - supervise and work closely with several staff members.

What Lifestyle Do You Envision?



What Lifestyle Do You Envision?

- How do you feel about facing life-and-death situations on a daily basis?
- Some (though not all) health careers involve coping with emergencies, working extremely long hours and shouldering heavy responsibility.

What Lifestyle Do You Envision?

- What kind of lifestyle do you envision? How much time do you hope to spend at work, versus at home?

What Lifestyle Do You Envision?

- You need to be realistic with yourself: If you don't mind long workdays and are good at handling stress, go ahead and pursue a career that will demand that of you.
- But if you'd rather have a job with regular hours and fewer medical crises, there are plenty of other fulfilling health careers.

Lets look at Health Care Delivery

Five Areas of Health Delivery Sectors

Health Delivery Sectors



- Direct Patient Care
- Imaging & Diagnostics
- Health Care Facility Support
- Health Informatics/Business
- Research & Development

Direct Patient Care

- Do you enjoy working directly with patients and providing face to face, hands-on care?
- Involve a high level of patient interaction.
- Maintaining or improving the health of patients over a period of time
- Careers include those such as home health, nursing, rehabilitation and therapy, care management, emergency services and so many more.
 - All of these careers involve direct patient contact and care on a daily basis.

Direct Patient Care

- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Anesthesia Technician / Technologist
- Anesthesiologist Assistant
- Art Therapist
- Athletic Trainer
- Audiologist
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Chiropractor
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Dentist (DDS)
- EMT / Paramedic
- Forensic Nurse
- Genetic Counselor
- Geriatric Care Manager
- Health Psychologist
- Hemodialysis Technician
- Industrial-Organizational Psychologist
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Life Care Planner
- Medical Assistant
- Nutritionist/Dietician
- Nurse Manager
- Occupational Therapist (OT)
- Occupational Therapy (OT) Assistant
- Ophthalmic Medical Assistant
- Ophthalmologist
- Perfusionist
- Personal Trainer
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Physician
- Physician Assistant (PA)
- Psychiatric Technician
- Psychologist
- Public Health Nurse
- Radiation Therapist
- Recreational Therapist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Social Worker
- Speech Pathologist
- Surgical Technologist
- Vocational Rehab Counselor

Imaging and Diagnostics

- A rapidly growing and extremely significant sector of the health care umbrella.
- Most careers that fall into this pathway do not involve day to day direct patient interaction.
 - They involve the use of diagnostic imaging technology.
- Play a significant role in determining patient diagnosis earlier than previously possible, thus making it much easier to determine what type of care a patient should receive far earlier than before.
- Careers include those such as an ultrasound technicians, cardiovascular technologists, medical laboratory technologists, radiology technicians, and even radiologists.

Imaging and Diagnostics

- **Cardiovascular Technologist**
- **Clinical Laboratory Technologist**
- **Dental Laboratory Technician**
- **Diagnostic Medical Sonographer**
- **Diagnostic Molecular Scientist**
- **EKG Technician**
- **Histotechnologist**
- **Medical Laboratory Technician**
- **MRI Technologist**
- **Nuclear Medicine Technologist**
- **Pathologist**
- **Pathologist Assistant**
- **Phlebotomist**
- **Radiology Technician**

Health Care Facility Support

- Health care facility support not always thought of first when you think about "careers in health care".
 - This is, however, is a very significant branch of our health care system.
- People that work in the support sector of health care are responsible for providing and maintaining a sanitary and therapeutic environment in which health care can be appropriately delivered to individuals.
- Examples of careers in facility support include, but are not limited to biomedical equipment technicians, environmental services facilities managers, hospital maintenance engineers, and transport technicians.

Health Care Facility Support

- **Biomedical Equipment Technician**
- **Hospital Maintenance Engineer**
- **Industrial Hygienist**
- **Medical Librarian**

Health Informatics/ Business

- The field of health informatics has grown so rapidly in the past several years.
- **Do not** generally involve direct patient care.
- Instead, careers in the informatics / business pathway focus on essential everyday service needs including patient documentation services, medical records management, administration services, drug utilization review, hospital unit coordination, appointment booking, information/communication systems development, and more.
- Careers in this pathway include those such as medical billers, health information coders, reimbursement specialists, health care administrators, data analysts, risk managers, public health educators, and many more.
- These professionals work in various environments, including hospitals, mental health facilities, community health clinics, private offices, and surgery centers.

Health Informatics/ Business

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allied Health Manager• Cancer Registrar• Health Care Administrator• Health Educator• Health Information Specialist• Health Information Technician• Health Services Manager• Hospital Administrator• Medical Administrative Assistant• Medical Billing and Coding• Medical Illustrator• Medical Office Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical Secretary• Medical Transcriptionist• Nurse Manager• Public Health Educator• Social Worker |
|--|---|

Research & Development

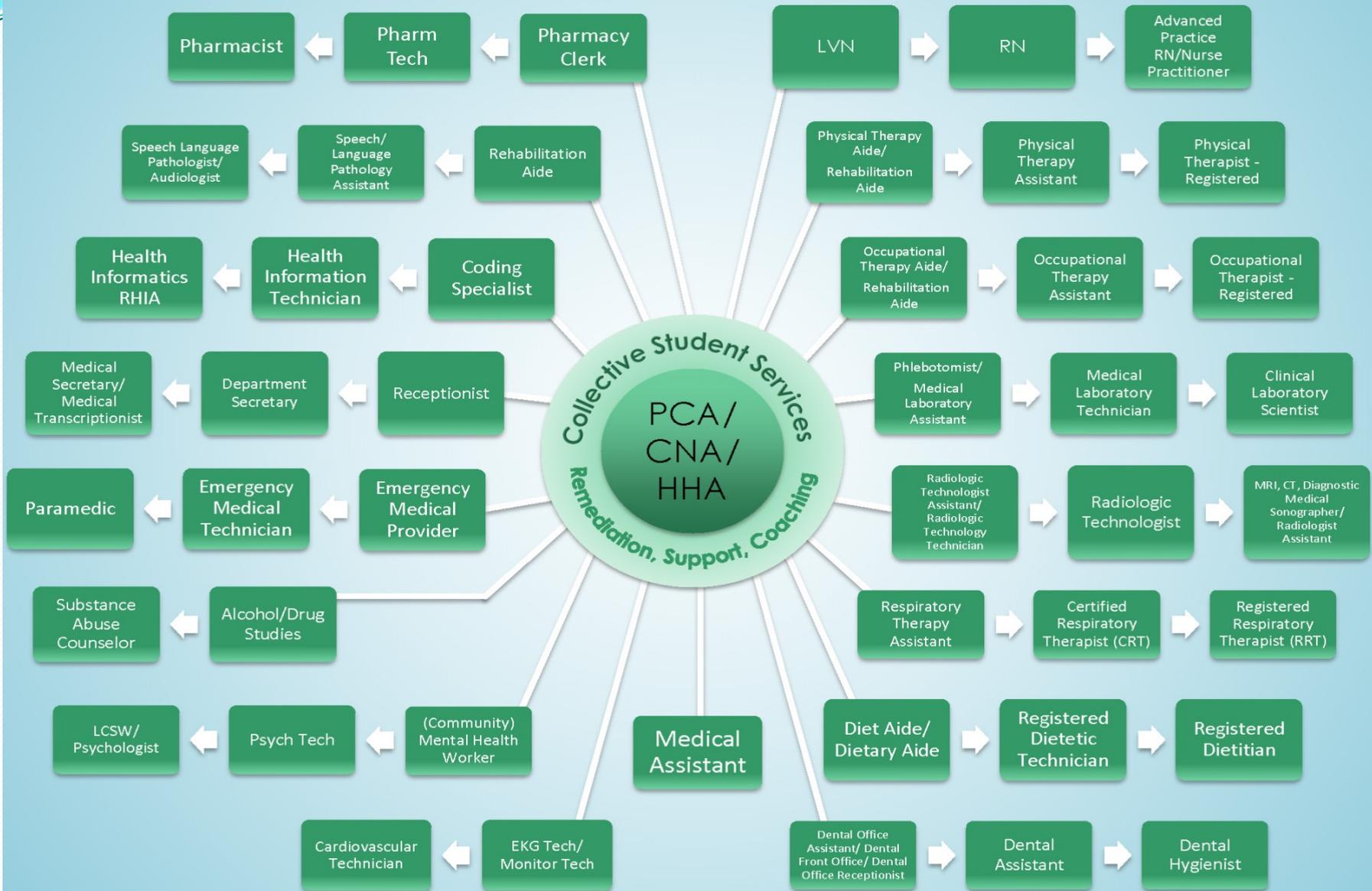
- Encompasses a broad spectrum of health care careers each of which use advancements in science and technology to improve health care.
- Careers in R&D lay the foundation for which an effective health care system is made possible.
 - Without time, money, and resources poured into this sector, health care would be at a stand still.
- Examples of jobs in this sector include, but are not limited to, biomedical engineers, biomedical chemists, lab technicians, biostatisticians, toxicologists, and pharmaceutical scientists.
- In the area of research and development, you will find that opportunities exist for individuals with all levels of education and experience.
- Whether you have or are working towards a diploma, an associate's or bachelors degree, a masters or professional degree, there is a career in R&D waiting for you.

Research & Development

- **Biomedical Engineer**
- **Bioinformatics Specialist**
- **Biomedical Chemist**
- **Biometrician**
- **Biostatistician**
- **Blood Bank Technology Specialist**

- **Cytotechnologist**
- **Epidemiologist**
- **Forensic Science Technician**
- **Geneticist**
- **Toxicologist**

Career Success Map



College of the Canyons

Programs offered

ALLIED HEALTH & Public Safety

Health Sciences/EMT

Patti Haley

Nursing

Tina Waller

MLT/Phlebotomy

Hencelyn Chu

Health Sciences/EMT

- The EMT program is a one-semester basic training course for emergency medical technicians performing as ambulance attendants.
- The course covers techniques of emergency medical care presently considered within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician.
- The course emphasizes the development of student skills in patient assessment and treatment of the pre-hospital patient.

Nurse Assistant Training

- Presents the fundamental nursing skills needed to care for the hospitalized patient.
- Includes clinical practice in a skilled nursing facility with emphasis on the role and responsibilities of the nurse assistant, safety principles and infection control, basic patient care skills, and emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the patient.
- Upon completion, the student will be eligible to take the California test for certification.

Home Health Aide

- Provides theory and practical application of knowledge and skills needed to function as a home health aide.
- Emphasizes interpretation of client needs, personal care services, nutrition, and cleaning and care tasks in the home.
- Upon completion, the student will be eligible for California certification.
- Units do not apply to the associate degree.

Nursing

- College of the Canyons is a well-respected two-year registered nursing program that is approved by the State Board of Registered Nurses and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN, formerly NLNAC).
- It is designed to prepare the student for the responsibilities and knowledge required for the entry-level registered nurse.
- The successful nursing program graduate will qualify to receive a certificate of completion, an Associate Degree in Nursing, and take the national licensure examination to become a registered nurse.

MLT/Phlebotomy

- A state-accredited two-year program resulting in an Associate in Science Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology.
- This program prepares students for employment in clinical laboratories, industry, and biotechnology.
- The MLT Program curriculum, an integration of classroom lectures, student laboratories, and clinical training, fosters development of analytical and problem solving skills required in this profession.
- After successful completion of the program, students may sit for the national exam.
- This new job area is experiencing increasing demand in both hospitals and biotechnical labs, particularly pharmaceutical labs conducting human research.
- A Medical Laboratory Technician earns approximately \$40,000/year.

3 points of the Community Colleges

1. California community colleges offer the best options for affordable, transferable health pathway education.
2. There are multiple entry and exit points (lots of choices).
3. Wide range of career opportunities.

Resources

Health Workforce Initiative

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Health Workforce Initiative Highlights

Is a Health Career Right for you?

Check out the [Health Pathway Guide](#).

[Click Here](#) to view New Health Care Careers eMagazine!

Medical Assistant Certification Review Course

June 2014

In this era of the Affordable Care Act, the emerging and enhanced role of the Medical assistant as part of the Health Care Team is receiving much attention. It is anticipated that many employers will be requiring both new and incumbent Medical Assistants to become certified. Therefore, HWI has produced this [MEDICAL ASSISTING CERTIFICATION REVIEW COURSE](#) in PowerPoint format.

[Medical Assistant Model Curriculum](#)

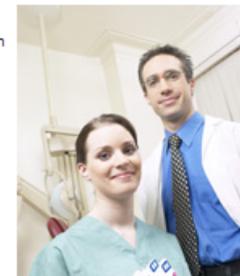
Career Spotlights

Medical Assistant, Clinical

Job Description:

Clinical Medical Assistants work in offices of doctors, dentists, optometrists, and all types of medical clinics and facilities. Medical Assistants perform a variety of tasks such as assisting physicians in treating patients, taking patient medical histories, preparing patients for examinations, arranging and caring for instruments and equipment in examination rooms. They also complete and maintain patient records, schedule appointments, and arrange for hospital admissions.

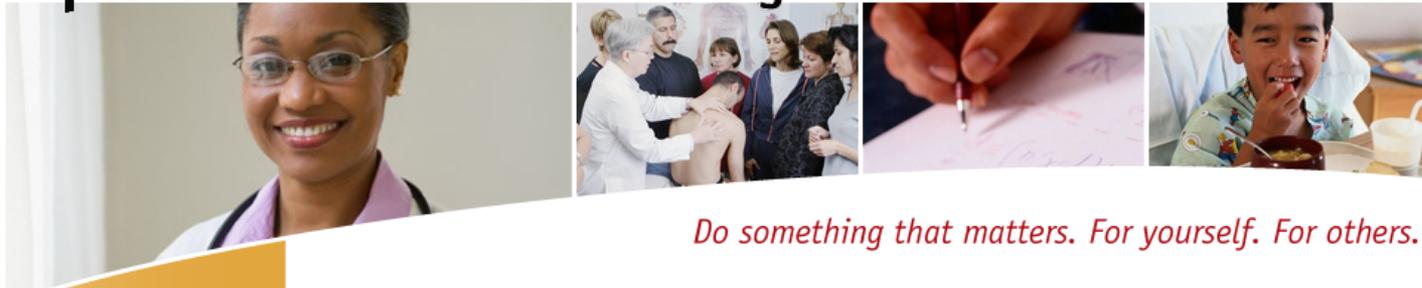
[\[More information about Medical Assistant, Clinical\]](#)



- <http://ca-hwi.org/>

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- Health Administration/Management ▶
- Informatics ▶
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[Part 3: Questions to Ask About Post-baccalaureate Programs](#)

[Changes to Repayment Plans and Forgiveness Programs](#)



CAREER SPOTLIGHT

Nurse Researcher

Nurse researchers are scientists who study various aspects of health, illness, and health care.

Salary: \$95,000 - \$100,000

Years in school: 8 - 11 (after high school graduation)

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Your questions answered!

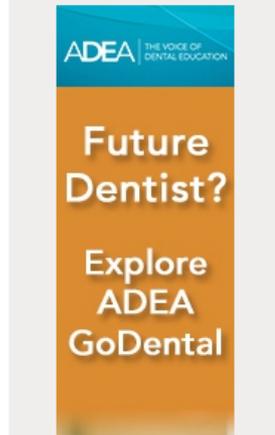
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- <http://explorehealthcareers.org/en/home>

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- <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Closer Outlooks

Professional outlooks on some of the top occupations

Physician: Cardiologist



Registered Nurse



Physical Therapist



Occupational Therapist



Speech Language Pathologist



Pharmacist



Health Information Technician



Questions?



Lets go Explore.....

- We will make our way to the computer lab to begin our searches..