



Employment of healthcare occupations is projected to grow 18 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 2.3 million new jobs. Healthcare occupations will add more jobs than any other group of occupations. This projected growth is mainly due to an aging population, leading to greater demand for healthcare services.

For the next few weeks, we will be featuring ...

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE

The type of work

- Record patients' medical histories and symptoms
- Administer patients' medicines and treatments
- Set up plans for patients' care or contribute to existing plans
- Observe patients and record the observations
- Consult and collaborate with doctors and other healthcare professionals
- Operate and monitor medical equipment
- Help perform diagnostic tests and analyze the results
- Teach patients and their families how to manage illnesses or injuries
- Explain what to do at home after treatment

More Facts ?

Demand for health-care services will increase because of the aging population, given that older people typically have more medical problems than younger people. Nurses also will be needed to educate and care for patients with various chronic conditions, such as arthritis, dementia, diabetes, and obesity. In addition, the number of individuals who have access to health insurance is expected to continue to increase because of federal health insurance reform. People who previously were uninsured or found treatment to be cost prohibitive will obtain health insurance and have access to primary and preventive care services. More nurses will be needed to care for these patients in offices of physicians, clinics, and other ambulatory care settings.



REGISTERED NURSES

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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.

Q. How did you become interested in your particular field?
A. After graduating high school, I became a nursing assistant at a local nursing home. After a few months, a patient on my floor suffered a cardiac arrest. I watched while the Paramedics performed CPR, intubated the patient, started intravenous lines, and successfully resuscitated the patient. I knew by the time I ended my shift that I wanted a career in emergency management.

Q. How did you get to where you are today?
A. I attended Lorain County Community College for my EMT and Paramedic training. I started my career in Emergency Medical Services by joining my local volunteer fire department. There I was able to obtain my volunteer firefighter certification. I spent the bulk of my Paramedic career working at LifeCare Ambulance in Lorain. When I heard about Lorain County Community College's Paramedic to Registered Nurse bridge program, I decided to further my career. LCCC's Paramedic to RN program allowed me to continue working my busy schedule as a paramedic, while working to obtain my Associates Degree in Nursing. After graduation, I was able to attain employment right away at Firelands Regional Medical Center's Emergency Department as a Registered Nurse. I believe my background in EMS helped me with this transition from Paramedic to R.N. This summer I was offered a faculty position at Lorain County Community College in the Health and Wellness Division instructing in the EMS programs. I still keep my R.N. License and work as Paramedic for my local EMS agency Southern Lorain County Ambulance District.

Q. What skills or certifications do you think are needed to be successful in this field?
A. The minimum requirement for Registered Nurse is an Associates Degree, and the minimum requirement for Paramedic is a state certification. I also recommend taking any continuing education courses that are offered. The healthcare field is constantly changing, and it is important to stay knowledgeable with all the new material that is introduced, and stay current with information you learned in school. Obtaining certifications with the American Heart Association such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support can help attain a career in the Emergency Department as a Registered Nurse. I have also taken various courses in trauma such as International Trauma Life Support and Trauma Nursing Core Course. Receiving my EMS Instructor certification through the state of Ohio has allowed me to teach in the EMS programs.

Q. What is the best part of your job?
A. The best part of my job is having the opportunity to help people. You have the chance to make a difference in someone's life at their most vulnerable, and sometimes the scariest, moment they will ever experience. There are people out there who are alive today because of a role I played in their care, which is an indescribable feeling. Now in education, I have the opportunity to teach others how to help patients, and possibly one day save lives. I enjoy seeing my students working out in the field, and witness the joy they experience when they have the opportunity to help someone, or perform a skill for the first time on their own.

Q. Do you have any words of advice for someone considering a career in your field?
A. It is very hard work. If you want to become a nurse or paramedic, be prepared to dedicate a lot of effort into your initial training. It can be physically and emotionally straining at times, but you forget all about that when you have the opportunity to really help someone. Never stop learning or improving yourself, so you can be a better nurse or paramedic and provide better care for your patient. Nursing and emergency medical services can be incredibly rewarding if you are up to the challenge. I always tell people that are pursuing a career in healthcare learning never stops. The healthcare field is continuously advancing, and it is important that we advance our knowledge and our way of thinking as well.

EARNINGS POTENTIAL

Annual Salary for 2016

Location	Low	Median	High
United States	\$47,120	\$68,450	\$102,990
Ohio	\$47,560	\$62,310	\$81,780
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH PMSA	\$52,280	\$65,220	\$80,050

O*Net Online, <http://online.onetcenter.org>

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

Employment of registered nurses is projected to grow 15 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth will occur for a number of reasons. Nationwide there were 2,955,200 registered nurses, and approximately 129,550 in Ohio.

Pathways to success:

In all nursing education programs, students take courses in anatomy, physiology, microbiology, chemistry, nutrition, psychology, and other social and behavioral sciences, as well as in liberal arts. BSN programs typically take 4 years to complete; ADN and diploma programs usually take 2 to 3 years to complete. All programs include supervised clinical experience. Bachelor's degree programs usually include additional education in the physical and social sciences, communication, leadership, and critical thinking. These programs also offer more clinical experience in nonhospital settings. A bachelor's degree or higher is often necessary for administrative positions, research, consulting, and teaching. Generally, licensed graduates of any of the three types of education programs (bachelor's, associate's, or diploma) qualify for entry-level positions as a staff nurse. However, employers—particularly those in hospitals—may require a bachelor's degree. Licenses, Certifications, and Registrations: In all states, registered nurses must have a nursing license. To become licensed, nurses must graduate from an approved nursing program and pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). Other requirements for licensing vary by state. Each state's board of nursing can give details. For more information on the NCLEX-RN and a list of state boards of nursing, visit the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.



What Employers look for in individuals:

- Medicine and Dentistry - information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.
- Customer and Personal Service - principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
- Psychology - human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.
- English Language - structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- Education and Training - principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.