

OCCUPATION	JOB SUMMARY	ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATION	2015 MEDIAN PAY
Accountants and Auditors	Accountants and auditors examine financial statements for accuracy and conformance with laws. They ensure that financial records are accurate and that taxes are paid properly and on time. Accountants and auditors assess financial operations and work to help ensure that organizations run efficiently.	Bachelor's degree	\$57,399
Athletic Trainers	Athletic trainers specialize in preventing, diagnosing, and treating muscle and bone injuries and illnesses.	Bachelor's degree	\$23,664
Carpenters	Carpenters typically do the following: Follow blueprints and building plans to meet the needs of clients. Install structures and fixtures, such as windows and molding. Measure, cut, or shape wood, plastic, fiberglass, drywall, and other materials.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$43,280
Chiropractors	Chiropractors treat patients with health problems of the neuromusculoskeletal system, which includes nerves, bones, muscles, ligaments, and tendons. They use spinal adjustments and manipulation, and other techniques to manage patients' health concerns, such as back and neck pain.	Doctoral or professional degree	\$86,041
Computer and Information Systems Managers	Computer and information systems managers oversee other IT professionals, such as computer systems analysts, software developers, information security analysts, and computer support specialists. Information systems managers also negotiate with technology vendors.	Bachelor's degree	\$85,208
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers and Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians, Including Vascular Technologists	Diagnostic medical sonographers and cardiovascular technologists and technicians, including vascular technologists, operate special imaging equipment to create images or to conduct tests. The images and test results help physicians assess and diagnose medical conditions. Some technologists assist physicians and surgeons during surgical procedures.	Associate's degree	\$45,782
Dietitians and Nutritionists	Dietitians and nutritionists are experts in the use of food and nutrition to promote health and manage disease. They advise people on what to eat in order to lead a healthy lifestyle or achieve a specific health-related goal.	Bachelor's degree	\$46,059
Electricians	Electricians typically read blueprints or technical diagrams. Install and maintain wiring, control, and lighting systems. Inspect electrical components, such as transformers and circuit breakers. Identify electrical problems with a variety of testing devices.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$48,907
Food Service Managers	Food service managers manage the inventory and order food and beverages, equipment, and supplies. Oversee food preparation, portion sizes, and the overall presentation of food.	Bachelor's degree	\$56,729

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Home Health Aides	Home health aides help people with disabilities, chronic illness, or cognitive impairment with activities of daily living. They often help older adults who need assistance. In some states, home health aides may be able to give a client medication or check the client's vital signs under the direction of a nurse or other healthcare practitioner.	No formal educational credential	\$19,693
Human Resource Managers	Human resource managers can perform a variety of tasks in fulfilling their main responsibility, which is leading an organization's HR programs and policies as they apply to employee relations, compensation, benefits, safety, performance and staffing levels.	Bachelor's degree	\$75,753
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) provide basic nursing care. They work under the direction of registered nurses and doctors.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$36,312
Marketing Managers	Marketing managers are responsible for developing, implementing and executing strategic marketing plans for an entire organization (or lines of business and brands within an organization) in order to attract potential customers and retain existing ones.	Bachelor's degree	\$88,361
Massage Therapists	Massage therapists treat clients by using touch to manipulate the muscles and other soft tissues of the body. With their touch, therapists relieve pain, help heal injuries, improve circulation, relieve stress, increase relaxation, and aid in the general wellness of clients.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$23,814
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	Medical laboratory technologists (commonly known as <i>medical laboratory scientists</i>) and medical laboratory technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue, and other substances.	Associate's degree or postsecondary nondegree	\$42,624
Medical and Health Services Managers	Medical and health services managers, also called healthcare executives or healthcare administrators, plan, direct, and coordinate medical and health services. They may manage an entire facility, a specific clinical area or department, or a medical practice for a group of physicians.	Bachelor's degree	\$84,509
Medical Assistants	Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in the offices of physicians, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities. Their duties vary with the location, specialty, and size of the practice.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$27,531

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Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	Medical records and health information technicians, commonly referred to as <i>health information technicians</i> , organize and manage health information data. They ensure that the information maintains its quality, accuracy, accessibility, and security in both paper files and electronic systems. They use various classification systems to code and categorize patient information for insurance reimbursement purposes, for databases and registries, and to maintain patients' medical and treatment histories.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$29,583
Medical Transcriptionists	Medical transcriptionists, sometimes referred to as <i>healthcare documentation specialists</i> , listen to voice recordings that physicians and other healthcare workers make and convert them into written reports. They may also review and edit medical documents created using speech recognition technology. Transcriptionists interpret medical terminology and abbreviations in preparing patients' medical histories, discharge summaries, and other documents.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$29,583
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	Nuclear medicine technologists operate equipment that creates images of areas of a patient's body. They prepare radioactive drugs and administer them to patients. The radioactive drugs cause abnormal areas of the body to appear different from normal areas in the images.	Associate's degree	\$45,436
Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners	Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners, also referred to as <i>advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs)</i> , coordinate patient care and may provide primary and specialty healthcare. The scope of practice varies from state to state.	Master's degree	\$84,836
Nursing Assistants and Orderlies	Nursing assistants, sometimes called <i>nursing aides</i> , help provide basic care for patients in hospitals and residents of long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes. Orderlies transport patients and clean treatment areas.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$20,115
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	Occupational health and safety specialists analyze many types of work environments and work procedures. Specialists inspect workplaces for adherence to regulations on safety, health, and the environment. They also design programs to prevent disease or injury to workers and damage to the environment.	Bachelor's degree	\$74,543

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Occupational Therapists	Occupational therapists treat injured, ill, or disabled patients through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. They help these patients develop, recover, and improve the skills needed for daily living and working.	Master's degree	\$78,753
Occupational Therapy Assistants and Aides	Occupational therapy assistants and aides help patients develop, recover, and improve the skills needed for daily living and working. Occupational therapy assistants are directly involved in providing therapy to patients; occupational therapy aides typically perform support activities. Both assistants and aides work under the direction of occupational therapists.	Associate's degree	\$61,442
Opticians, Dispensing	Dispensing opticians help fit eyeglasses and contact lenses, following prescriptions from ophthalmologists and optometrists. They also help customers decide which eyeglass frames or contact lenses to buy.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$29,637
Pharmacists	Pharmacists dispense prescription medications to patients and offer expertise in the safe use of prescriptions. They also may conduct health and wellness screenings, provide immunizations, oversee the medications given to patients, and provide advice on healthy lifestyles.	Doctoral or professional degree	\$112,266
Pharmacy Technicians	Pharmacy technicians help pharmacists dispense prescription medication to customers or health professionals.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$30,234
Phlebotomists	Phlebotomists draw blood for tests, transfusions, research, or blood donations. Some explain their work to patients and provide assistance when patients have adverse reactions after their blood is drawn.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$24,563
Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides	Physical therapist assistants, sometimes called <i>PTAs</i> , and physical therapist aides work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists. They help patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses regain movement and manage pain.	Associate's degree	\$37,032
Physical Therapists	Physical therapists, sometimes called <i>PTs</i> , help injured or ill people improve their movement and manage their pain. These therapists are often an important part of the rehabilitation, treatment, and prevention of patients with chronic conditions, illnesses, or injuries.	Doctoral or professional degree	\$74,786

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Physician Assistants	Physician assistants, also known as <i>PAs</i> , practice medicine on teams with physicians, surgeons, and other healthcare workers. They examine, diagnose, and treat patients.	Master's degree	\$67,550
Physicians and Surgeons	Physicians and surgeons diagnose and treat injuries or illnesses. Physicians examine patients; take medical histories; prescribe medications; and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests. They counsel patients on diet, hygiene, and preventive healthcare. Surgeons operate on patients to treat injuries, such as broken bones; diseases, such as cancerous tumors; and deformities, such as cleft palates.	Doctoral or professional degree	\$184,624
Public Relations Managers	Public relations managers create and maintain a favorable public image for their employer or client by communicating programs, accomplishments and/or points of view. Public relations managers are tasked with fielding media questions and pitching stories to the media, preparing media kits and organizing press conferences. In addition to writing press releases, they write speeches for organizational leaders, develop advertising and marketing communications material and prepare articles for corporate newsletters. Public relations managers handle crisis and emergency communications.	Bachelor's degree	\$67,532
Radiologic and MRI Technologists	Radiologic technologists, also known as <i>radiographers</i> , perform diagnostic imaging examinations, such as x rays, on patients. MRI technologists operate magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners to create diagnostic images.	Associate's degree	\$43,905
Recreational Therapists	Recreational therapists plan, direct, and coordinate recreation-based treatment programs for people with disabilities, injuries, or illnesses. These therapists use a variety of modalities, including arts and crafts; drama, music, and dance; sports and games; aquatics; and community outings to help maintain or improve a patient's physical, social, and emotional well-being.	Bachelor's degree	\$34,346
Registered Nurses	Registered nurses (RNs) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.	Bachelor's degree	\$57,642

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Respiratory Therapists	Respiratory therapists care for patients who have trouble breathing—for example, from a chronic respiratory disease, such as asthma or emphysema. Their patients range from premature infants with undeveloped lungs to elderly patients who have diseased lungs. They also provide emergency care to patients suffering from heart attacks, drowning, or shock.	Associate's degree	\$51,633
Security Guards	Security guards secure premises and personnel by patrolling property; monitoring surveillance equipment; inspecting buildings, equipment, and access points; permitting entry.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$24,974
Speech-Language Pathologists	Speech-language pathologists (sometimes called <i>speech therapists</i>) assess, diagnose, treat, and help to prevent communication and swallowing disorders in patients. Speech, language, and swallowing disorders result from a variety of causes, such as a stroke, brain injury, hearing loss, developmental delay, Parkinson's disease, a cleft palate or autism.	Master's degree	\$66,115
Surgical Technologists	Surgical technologists, also called <i>operating room technicians</i> , assist in surgical operations. They prepare operating rooms, arrange equipment, and help doctors during surgeries.	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$39,135

Sources: bls.gov, laworks.net