

Careers in caregiving and nursing are some of the fastest-growing in Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area.

They offer a wide array of rewarding work and many opportunities for career advancement. Here you can see some of the most in-demand occupations and how they connect to form pathways into well-paying careers.

You'll also find information on educational requirements and programs that can prepare you for each occupation—including their location, size, and recent student outcomes.

PERSONAL CARE AIDES

HOURLY WAGE
\$10.24

ANNUAL OPENINGS
2,999

\$5 \$5

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
Short-Term Online Training

WORK SETTINGS H B

Personal Care Aides help patients with daily living activities in homes or care facilities while other health care professionals handle basic health needs.

NURSING ASSISTANTS

HOURLY WAGE
\$12.16

ANNUAL OPENINGS
1,784

\$5 \$5 \$

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
Short-Term Postsecondary Training

WORK SETTINGS H B

Nursing Assistants provide basic patient care including checking vital signs and giving medications under supervision, and personal care like bathing, dressing, and preparing meals.

HOME HEALTH AIDES

HOURLY WAGE
\$11.06

ANNUAL OPENINGS
2,884

\$5 \$5

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
Short-Term Postsecondary Training
Work Experience in Home Settings

WORK SETTINGS B

Home Health Aides provide routine health care where patients live. They help patients with routine activities like bathing, preparing meals, and housekeeping. Under the supervision of nurses, they may check vital signs and perform other medically-related tasks.

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

HOURLY WAGE
\$20.31

ANNUAL OPENINGS
3,339

\$5 \$5 \$5 \$5

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
Postsecondary Diploma or A.S. Degree (Less Common)
Passage of Licensure Exam (NCLEX-PN)

WORK SETTINGS H B

Licensed Practical Nurses perform a variety of tasks under the supervision of a physician or registered nurse. They administer medicine and injections, take vital signs and, in some settings, assist in personal care like bathing, dressing, and eating.

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

HOURLY WAGE
\$14.69

ANNUAL OPENINGS
2,395

\$5 \$5 \$5

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
A.A.S. Degree
Certification (CMA) Preferred But Not Required

WORK SETTINGS +

Medical Assistants play a number of support roles, from taking vital signs and drawing blood, to handling administrative tasks like scheduling and billing.

REGISTERED NURSES

HOURLY WAGE
\$32.64

ANNUAL OPENINGS
11,433

\$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
A.S. or B.S.N. or B.A.N. Degree; M.S.N. Degree for Mid-Career Changers
Passage of Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN)

WORK SETTINGS H + B

Registered Nurses provide and coordinate patient care, and educate and support patients and families. Their work can vary greatly by setting and specialty. They may play supervisory or leadership roles.

NURSING SPECIALTIES

Registered Nurses can go into dozens of specialties; here are a few of the most in-demand. Specialization generally requires two years of RN experience in the specialty area, continuing education, and passing a certification exam. Most specialty nursing positions pay significantly better than entry-level RN positions.

CERTIFIED PERIOPERATIVE NURSES
Perioperative Nurses, sometimes called Surgical or Operating Room Nurses, educate and care for patients and their families before, during, and after surgery.
H +

CERTIFIED LONG-TERM CARE NURSES
Long-Term Care Nurses care for the health of patients who have a disabilities or illnesses in need of extended care. They may also assist patients with normal day-to-day tasks like getting dressed and taking baths.
B

CERTIFIED GERIATRIC NURSES
Geriatric Nurses help older adult patients who are at greater risk of injuries and diseases like osteoporosis, Alzheimer's and cancer, often with a focus on preventative care.
B

CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH CARE NURSES
Home Health Care Nurses work with patients in their homes. They mainly work with older adults, but can also work with younger children who have developmental or mobility issues.
B

CERTIFIED MANAGED CARE NURSES
Managed Care Nurses work with older adults and low-income patients, helping with preventative care and encouraging regular check-ups. They help ensure patients have access to quality healthcare.
H B

CERTIFIED EMERGENCY NURSES
Emergency Nurses treat patients in emergency situations dealing with trauma or injury. They quickly recognize life-threatening problems and are trained to help solve them quickly.
H +

CERTIFIED CASE MANAGEMENT NURSES
Case Management Nurses coordinate long-term care, often for specific groups such as older adults or those with HIV/AIDS or cancer, and with the goal of keeping them healthy and out of the hospital.
+ B

PSYCHIATRIC NURSES
Psychiatric Nurses treat patients with conditions like schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and depression, helping them and their families deal with challenges that come with psychiatric disorders.
H +

CERTIFIED transcultural NURSES
Transcultural Nurses provide culturally-sensitive care all over the world, both at home and abroad. They treat patients of different cultures, often including immigrants and refugees.
H +

ADVANCED PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES
Public Health Nurses work with communities to improve their overall health, often focusing on issues like immunizations, obesity, STDs, and even disaster preparedness.
+

TIME OF EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

1-2 WEEKS

4-6 WEEKS

1-2 YEARS

2-4 YEARS

6+ YEARS

NURSING ASSISTANT PROGRAMS AND OUTCOMES

Top 15 Programs by Tests Taken, Fiscal Year 2014

PROGRAM	LOCATION	Written Tests Taken and % Passed	Skills Tests Taken and % Passed
American Indian OIC	Minneapolis	11 100.0%	11 72.7%
American Red Cross	Minneapolis	360 97.5%	377 92.0%
Anoka Technical College	Anoka	72 97.2%	72 80.6%
District 287	Chanassen	13 92.3%	13 76.9%
District 287	Richfield	12 100.0%	12 75.0%
Elim Home	Princeton	15 100.0%	15 86.7%
Health Services Consultant Center	St Louis Park	56 96.4%	56 83.9%
Hennepin Tech	Brooklyn Park	141 94.3%	141 80.1%
Hennepin Tech	Eden Prairie	112 97.3%	112 72.3%
International Institute of MN	St Paul	127 94.5%	127 93.7%
Normandale Community College	Bloomington	41 95.1%	41 71.4%
Osseo Senior High	Osseo	20 100.0%	20 71.4%
Shakopee High School	Shakopee	21 95.2%	21 71.4%
South West Metro Educational Coop	Chaska	17 64.7%	17 71.4%
Spring Lake Park High School	Spring Lake Park	14 100.0%	14 71.4%

HOME HEALTH AIDE PROGRAMS AND OUTCOMES

Top 15 Programs by Tests Taken, Fiscal Year 2014

PROGRAM	LOCATION	Written Tests Taken and % Passed	Skills Tests Taken and % Passed
Accelerated School Nursing Assistant	Brooklyn Center	65 80.0%	65 87.7%
Anoka Technical College	Anoka	144 97.9%	144 84.7%
Anoka-Ramsey Comm College	Cambridge	261 94.6%	261 91.6%
Century Community College	White Bear Lake	531 94.9%	530 86.0%
Dakota County Tech College	Rosemount	86 94.2%	86 82.6%
Foundations Health Career Academy	St. Paul	46 71.7%	46 41.3%
Inver Hills Comm College	Inver Grove Heights	98 94.9%	98 61.2%
Joliz School Of Nursing Asst	Brooklyn Park	92 65.2%	92 70.7%
Lighthouse Training Center	Minneapolis	48 79.2%	47 44.7%
Midwest Career Institute	Minneapolis	80 61.3%	80 63.8%
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	Minneapolis	88 83.0%	87 64.4%
Normandale Comm College	Bloomington	58 93.1%	58 75.9%
North American Medical Academy	Minneapolis	132 90.2%	131 58.0%
Scofield Nursing Asst Training	Cambridge	67 98.5%	67 94.0%
St. Paul College	St Paul	159 87.4%	159 73.0%

MEDICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAMS AND OUTCOMES

Top 10 Programs by Tests Taken, Fiscal Year 2014

PROGRAM	LOCATION	Written Tests Taken
Argosy University	Eagan	19
Anoka Technical College	Anoka	70
Brown College	Brooklyn Center	32
Century Community College	White Bear Lake	50
Dakota County Technical College	Rosemount	39
Everest Institute	Eagan	116
Hennepin Tech	Brooklyn Park	23
Minneapolis Business College	Roseville	84
Minnesota School Of Business/Globe College	Various Locations	54
National American University	Bloomington/Brooklyn Center	10

Sources: Minnesota Department of Health (<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/tpc/profinfo/narinfo/nartestdata.html>) and IPEDS

NURSING PROGRAMS AND OUTCOMES Fiscal Year 2014

Number of Graduates Preparing for Licensure / First-time Success Rate of Candidates

SCHOOL	LOCATION	LPN	RN (A.S.)	RN (B.S.N./B.A.N.)	RN (M.S.N.)
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	Coon Rapids/Cambridge		195 82%		
Anoka Technical College	Anoka	99 84%			
Bethel University*	St. Paul			82 79%	
Century College	White Bear Lake	97 92%		20 65%	
Crown College*	St. Bonifacius				
Dakota County Technical College	Rosemount	72 81%			
Globe University/MN School of Business	Richfield			38 82%	
Hennepin Technical College	Eden Prairie/Brooklyn Park	99 81%			
Herzing University	Crystal			20 65%	
Inver Hills Community College	Inver Grove Heights		82 86%		
Metropolitan State University*	St. Paul				27 88%
Minneapolis Comm and Tech College	Minneapolis	75** 89%	68 81%		
National American University	Bloomington			18 71%	
Normandale Community College	Bloomington		90 89%		
North Hennepin Community College	Brooklyn Park		129 88%		
Rasmussen College	Blaine/Bloomington		66 81%		
Rasmussen College	Brooklyn Park/Maple Grove/Eagan	285 91.8%***			
St. Catherine University	Minneapolis		113 75%		
St. Catherine University*	St. Paul			111^ 79%	
St. Paul College	St. Paul	23 78%			
University of Minnesota	Minneapolis			118 88%	62 90%

* Also offers an RN to BSN Program

** As part of the Associates Degree Program

*** Mankato Campus

^ Includes BSN and MSN

Source: Minnesota Board of Nursing Annual Education Report (http://mn.gov/boards/assets/Education_Nrsg_Prog_Report.pdf_tcm21-37172.pdf)

NOTES

WORK SETTINGS tell you where each occupation is most likely to work:

H Hospital settings, including acute and specialty care

+ Outpatient or ambulatory settings, such as clinics and urgent care

B Aging services settings, including skilled nursing facilities, assisted living centers, and patients' homes

ANNUAL OPENINGS tell you the number of job openings in the seven-county metro area from October '14 to September '15.

HOURLY WAGE represents the median wage from recent local job postings as estimated by Wanted Analytics™.

THE SIZE OF EACH BOX is proportional to the number of openings for that occupation.