NURSING ASSISTANTS

WORK SETTINGS

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

HOME HEALTH AIDS

WORK SETTINGS

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.

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

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.

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

WORK SETTINGS

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

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Postsecondary Diploma or A.S. Degree (Less Common)

WORK SETTINGS

Licensure and certification vary by state. Nurses may also need to have specific certifications or ongoing continuing education to practice.

REGISTRED NURSES

WORK SETTINGS

Registered Nurses and provide care to patients and their families. Their work can vary greatly by setting and specialty. They may play supervisory or leadership roles.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

A.S. or B.S.N. Degree, and RN License (BLS/ACLS)

WORK SETTINGS

Registered Nurses need a B.S.N. degree and are at greater risk of injuries and diseases like osteoporosis, Alzheimer’s, and cancer, often with a focus on preventative care.

CERTIFIED PERIOPERATIVE NURSES

Evaluates patients who are at risk of complications during surgery and recovery. They may also need to know about wound care, infection prevention, and patient advocacy.

CERTIFIED GERIATRIC NURSES

Evaluates patients who are at greater risk of injuries and diseases like osteoporosis, Alzheimer’s, and cancer, often with a focus on preventative care.

CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH AIDS

WORK SETTINGS

Certified Home Health Aides work with patients in their homes. They may work with elderly patients, but can also work with younger patients who have development or mobility issues.

CERTIFIED EMERGENCY AIDS

Evaluates patients in emergency situations dealing with trauma and pain. They quickly recognize life-threatening situations and prevent them from happening.

CERTIFIED NURSING AIDS

Evaluates patients with conditions like schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and depression. They help them and their families deal with challenges that come with psychiatric disorders.

ADVANCED PUBLIC HEALTH AIDS

Public Health Aides work with communities to improve their overall health, offer vaccinations, immunizations, elderly, and even disaster preparedness.

NOTES

1. Work settings (A) are primary, and (B) are secondary, and (C) are in special situations or in specialty care.
2. Outpatient or ambulatory settings, such as clinics and urgent care centers.
3. Aging services settings, including assisted living facilities, assisted living centers, and patient homes.
4. Annual openings vary by the number of job openings in the given regions for a specific period.
5. Hours represent the median wage from recent local job postings as estimated by Monster.com.
6. This size of each box is proportional to the number of openings for that occupation.