

Health Care

Industry Snapshot

- ❑ The health care industry includes careers that focus on helping people achieve physical, mental and emotional well-being. Health care clusters range from dentistry to mental health to nursing to community health services.
- ❑ The State of Maryland initiative, “Teach for the Health of It,” provides \$800,000 to partnerships of health care and educational institutions that develop a plan to assist interested and qualified registered nurses to obtain teaching credentials and teach in Maryland nursing programs. Scholarships to help nursing students complete their education are also available through the partnerships. (Governors’ Workforce Investment Board)
- ❑ Another State of Maryland initiative, “Incumbent Worker Training Program” provides an additional \$700,000 to health care employers to fund incumbent health care worker programs to upgrade workers’ skills in specific health care related areas. Training activities result in workers acquiring transferable skills or industry-recognized certification or credentials, leading to potential career growth and increased wages. Upgrading the skills of workers encourages promotion, creates more job opportunities and improves worker retention by increasing the skill level of the workforce. (Governor’s Workforce Investment Board)
- ❑ This \$600 billion industry is in desperate need of skilled workers. There are 115,000 immediate job vacancies in the health services, and that is only the beginning of the problem.
 - Between now and 2010, the health care industry will add over 1 million new jobs.
 - Over that same time period, four key health care occupations will grow by over 50%.
 - Overall, nine out of the 20 fastest growing occupations are concentrated in health services.
 - When you add up the numbers, over 13% of all new jobs created by our economy will be concentrated in the health care field.
 - 56 percent of the workers in nursing and personal care facilities have a high school diploma or less, as do 25 percent of the workers in hospitals.

High Growth Occupations

In Frederick County, between 2000-2010, over 2,100 new positions in the health care industry will be created at all levels. (Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation)

Listed in order of projected growth from 2000-2012:

Medical Assistants - 59% growth

Physicians Assistants - 49% growth

Home Health Aides, may include CNAs, LPNs, RNs - 48% growth

Medical Records and Health Information Technology - 47% growth

- Physical Therapy Aides and Assistants - 46% growth
- Physical Therapy Aides - 46% growth
- Physical Therapy Assistants - 45% growth
- Dental Assistants - 33% growth

Nurses

- RNs - 27% growth
- LPNs - 26% growth
- CNAs - 25% growth

Employment Outlook

Current salary ranges for Frederick County, Maryland for the top seven growth areas are:

Medical Assistants	\$22,800 - \$31,850	average \$25,600
Physicians' Assistants	\$42,500 - \$90,000	average \$52,000
Home Health Aides	\$18,200 - \$60,000	average varies for level of care
Medical Records and Health Information Technology	\$18,720 - \$28,200	average \$24,150
Physical Therapy Aides	\$22,800 - \$31,500	average \$26,540
Physical Therapy Assistants	\$29,120 - \$36,850	average \$32,115
Dental Assistants	\$22,800 - \$30,000	average \$28,322
RNs	\$45,000 - \$78,000	average \$58,000
LPNs	\$24,250 - \$44,000	average \$35,247
CNAs	\$18,720 - \$26,533	average \$24,692

Training and Advancement

Training for advancement can range from a six-week training to training of six years. Because of specialization in the fields, training can be attached to each level. For example, an RN who wants to be well-versed in Magnetic Imaging, can be trained an additional 18 months to the regular three or four year RN program.

The following occupations require at least the minimum for training/education:

Medical Assistants, one year of technical training. (Some are trained on the job.)

Physicians' Assistants, Bachelor's degree with a specialization in science. One year anatomy, physiology at graduate level.

Home Health Aides, on-the-job training for the basic care needed.

Medical Records and Health Information Technology, usually an Associate's degree is required.

Physical Therapy Aides, on-the-job training is often provided for a period of six months to one year.

Physical Therapy Assistants, an Associate's degree plus practical experience is often required.

Physical Therapists DPT, seven years of training usually guarantees a supervisory position.

Dental Assistants, on-the-job training is sometimes acceptable. Others require six months to a year of training at an approved dental technology school.

Nurses:

- **RNs**, require a three or four year training, often including a Bachelor's degree.
- **LPNs**, can finish the training in about one year or 18 months with part classroom and part clinical or through apprenticeships.
- **GNAs**, are increasingly sought after, requiring certification in CNA plus a two month course in Geriatrics.
- **CNAs**, require a four or six week comprehensive training that includes clinical or apprenticeship work.

Local Industry Categories

Jobs for these occupations can be found with:



Hospitals
Clinics
Home Care Agencies
Insurance Companies
Doctors'/Dentists' Offices
Nursing Homes
Board of Education

Additional Resources

Frederick County Workforce Services

Located at the Business and Employment Center
5340 Spectrum Drive, Suite A
Frederick, MD 21703
301-600-2255
www.frederickworks.com

Frederick County Office of Economic Development

Located at the Business and Employment Center
www.discoverfrederickmd.com

Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation

www.dllr.state.md.us

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration

www.doleta.gov

Care Careers

www.carecareers.net

Career Voyages

www.careervoyages.gov

Career One Stop

www.CareerOneStop.org

O*Net - Occupational Network

www.onetcenter.org

