



CWAHEC
Wenatchee Valley College



CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE

www.cwahec.org

CONSIDER A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE

There are several compelling reasons to consider a career in healthcare, as it offers a unique blend of personal fulfillment, job stability, and the opportunity to make a positive impact on people's lives. Here are some key reasons:

- **Helping Others:** Healthcare professionals make a real difference in the lives of individuals and communities. Whether it's providing direct patient care, conducting research, or developing healthcare policies, their work actively contributes to improving the well-being of others.
- **Job Stability:** The demand for healthcare professionals is consistent, making it a relatively stable career choice. People will always need medical care, and as the population ages, the demand for healthcare services is likely to increase.
- **Diverse Career Options:** The healthcare industry is diverse, offering a wide range of career options. Whether you're interested in patient care, research, administration, technology, public health, behavioral health, and more, there are numerous paths to explore within the healthcare field.
- **Constant Learning and Innovation:** Healthcare is a dynamic field with ongoing advancements in medical technologies, treatments, and research. This creates opportunities for continuous learning and professional development, ensuring that your skills and knowledge remain relevant and up-to-date.

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- **Global Impact:** Healthcare is a global concern, and working in this field allows you to contribute to solving global health challenges. Whether it's through direct patient care, research on infectious diseases, or involvement in international healthcare initiatives, you can have a broad impact on public health.
- **Personal Fulfillment:** Many healthcare professionals find deep satisfaction in knowing that their work directly improves the quality of life for others. The sense of purpose and the emotional rewards that come from helping people during their times of need can be personally fulfilling.
- **Job Variety:** Healthcare offer a variety of roles and settings. You can work in hospitals, clinics, research institutions, government agencies, or private practices. This variety allows you to find a niche that aligns with your interests and skills.
- **Good Compensation:** Many healthcare professions offer competitive salaries and benefits, reflecting the level of education and expertise required. This can contribute to financial stability and job satisfaction.
- **Resilience in Economic Downturns:** The healthcare industry has historically shown resilience during economic downturns. While other industries may experience layoffs, healthcare professionals often remain in demand.

While a career in healthcare comes with its challenges, the potential for personal and professional fulfillment, job stability, and the opportunity to positively impact lives make it an attractive choice for many individuals.

NURSING

For those who are passionate about healthcare and helping others, a career in nursing might be the perfect fit. It requires dedication, compassion, and the ability to handle stress. They have a direct and positive impact on patients' lives by providing care, support, and comfort during times of illness and distress. Nursing can be a demanding profession, both physically and emotionally. However, for those who are passionate about healthcare and helping others, the rewards of a nursing career often outweigh the challenges.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$39,410 (\$18.95/hour)

Credentialing

National licensure exam

Job Growth

Projected to grow 6% 2022-2032 (**Faster than average**)

Employment Setting

Hospitals, clinics, research, higher education, schools, home health and hospice, public health, and a variety of other settings.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



NURSING ASSISTANTS

Nursing assistants perform various direct patient care activities under the supervision of a Registered Nurse. They assist patients in dressing or undressing, bathing, or eating. They collect non-invasive body fluid specimens or gather vital signs. They aid physicians and nursing staff members with procedures if needed. They might also document patient interactions as needed. For those looking to get into the nursing profession, becoming a nurse assistant is often a vital first-step.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$35,740 (\$17.18/hour)

Credentialing

State certification

Job Growth

Projected to grow 4% 2022-2032 (**Faster than average**)

Employment Setting

Hospitals, long term care centers, adult family homes, clinics, private homecare

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

Medical assistants have a wide variety of responsibilities, ranging from clerical to clinical duties. They interview patients and record their medical history, measure patients' vital signs, such as their blood pressure and weight, help physicians with patient examinations, give patients injections or medications as directed by physicians and as permitted by state law, schedule patient appointments, collect and prepare samples of blood and other specimens for laboratory tests.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$38,380 (\$18.40/hour)

Credentialing

Certification and licensing required.

Job Growth

Projected to grow 14% 2022-2032 (Faster than average)

Employment Setting

Physicians' offices, hospitals, outpatient, clinics

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

Pharmacy technicians play a crucial role in the healthcare system by assisting pharmacists in various tasks related to medication dispensing, patient care, and administrative responsibilities. Their duties include filling prescriptions and mixing, measuring, counting, and recording prescribed quantities and dosage levels.

The demand for pharmacy technicians is often stable, and job opportunities may vary by geographic location and the specific healthcare needs of the community. Work settings include retail or hospital pharmacies, or clinics and other healthcare facilities.

With experience and additional education, pharmacy technicians may advance to supervisory roles, specialize in certain areas (such as chemotherapy preparation), or pursue further education to become pharmacists.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$37,790 (\$18.17/hour)

Credentialing

Requires state certification.

Job Growth*

Projected to grow 6% 2022-2032

Employment Setting

Pharmacies in hospitals, clinics, and retail businesses.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics

MEDICAL LAB TECHNOLOGISTS

Medical lab technologists play a vital role in the healthcare system by performing laboratory tests that aid in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases. Their work directly impacts patient care and helps physicians make informed decisions.

The field of medical laboratory technology offers a wide range of specializations, such as clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and immunology. This diversity allows individuals to choose a specific area of interest and expertise, providing opportunities for continuous learning and professional growth.

Medical lab technologists are required to analyze and interpret complex data, troubleshoot issues with equipment or test results, and exercise critical thinking skills regularly. This aspect of the job can be intellectually stimulating and appealing to those who enjoy problem-solving.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$57,380 (\$27.59/hour)

Credentialing

Requires ASCP or AMT certification

Job Growth

Projected to grow 5% 2022-2032 (**Faster than average**)

Employment Setting

Pharmacies in hospitals, clinics, and retail businesses.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

Radiologic technologists play a crucial role in the diagnosis and treatment of various medical conditions. The images they produce are essential for physicians to accurately assess and diagnose illnesses or injuries, leading to appropriate treatment plans. They directly interact with patients, helping them through the imaging process. This role allows for meaningful patient care and the opportunity to provide comfort and support to individuals undergoing medical procedures.

The field of radiologic technology offers various specializations, such as X-ray, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and mammography. This diversity allows individuals to choose an area that aligns with their interests and skills, providing room for professional growth and specialization.

Radiologic technology is continually evolving with advancements in imaging equipment and techniques. Working as a radiologic technologist offers the opportunity to stay updated with the latest technologies and contribute to the implementation of state-of-the-art diagnostic tools.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$67,180 (\$18.17/hour)

Credentialing

Requires registry and certification

Job Growth

Projected to grow 6% 2022-2032

Employment Setting

Hospitals, clinics and out-patient care centers

*Bureau of Labor Statistics

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

EMTs are often the first healthcare professionals to arrive at the scene of an emergency. They play a crucial role in providing immediate medical care and stabilizing patients during critical situations, making a significant impact on patient outcomes. They work in diverse environments, including ambulances, hospitals, fire departments, and at public events. This variety allows for a dynamic work experience and exposure to different emergency scenarios.

Salary Outlook*

Median Salary (2022)
\$39,410 (\$18.95/hour)

Credentialing

State certification required

Job Growth

Projected to grow 5% 2022-2032

Employment Setting

Work can be physically demanding and stressful involving life and death situations.

*Bureau of Labor Statistics



READY TO TAKE ACTION?

Does a career in healthcare sound intriguing to you? If you'd like to explore options, find shadow opportunities, or for more information, please reach out to the Central Washington Area Health Education Staff for more information, or to setup an appointment to learn more.



Nancy Spurgeon
CWAHEC Director



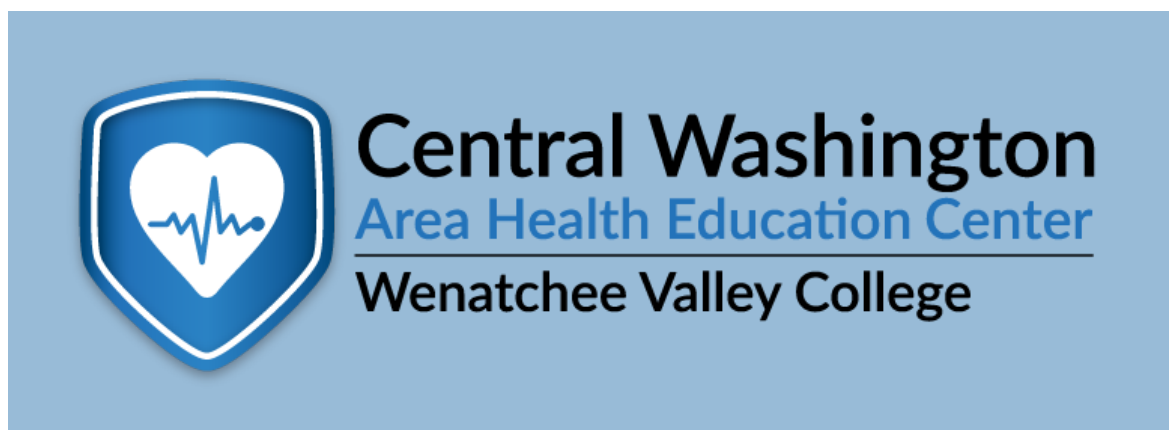
Jordan Johnson
CWAHEC Coordinator

Wenatchee Valley College is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in employment and student enrollment. All programs are free from discrimination and harassment against any person because of race, creed, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a service animal by a person with a disability, age, parental status or families with children, marital status, religion, genetic information, honorably discharged veteran or military status or any other prohibited basis per RCW 49.60.030, 040 and other federal and state laws and regulations, or participation in the complaint process.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and Title IX compliance for both the Wenatchee and Omak campuses:

To report discrimination or harassment: Title IX Coordinator, Mish ee twie, 1321A,
(509) 682-6716, title9@wvc.edu.

To request disability accommodations: Student Access Manager, Wenatchi Hall
2131, (509) 682-6854, TTY/TTD: dial 711, sas@wvc.edu.



Central Washington Area Health Education Center
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