



# Top 10 Reasons to Pursue a Health Career

## You'll earn a good salary

Okay, salary *is* important. The good news is health workers make very good money. The average entry-level health worker earns from \$15 to \$50 per hour. The more experience and training you get in your field, the more money you can make. Wonder how much you can make? Search health careers by salary on [ExploreHealthCareers.org](http://ExploreHealthCareers.org).

## You'll enjoy job security

Unlike many industries that are losing workers, the health care field is growing rapidly. The U.S. Department of Labor expects 4,700,000 new healthcare jobs to open up by 2014. Dozens of health careers have good or excellent job prospects, meaning you'll never have trouble finding a job.

## You'll can do work that interests you

A career in health can lead in many directions. You can treat patients in an office or study cells under a microscope. You can work in a small doctor's office or run a hospital. You can examine eyes, mend bones, clean teeth or deliver babies. The range of skills and experiences is limited only to your imagination.

## You can live and work anywhere you want

Almost every region of the United States has a strong demand for healthcare professionals in a wide range of fields. As a trained health worker, you can choose where you want to live and the setting you want to work in.

## You can find a health career that fits your educational plans

There are health careers that require 8, 10, even 13 years of specialized education after high school, and there are health careers you can train for in 18-24 months at your local community college. You can search for health careers that fit your educational plans on [ExploreHealthCareers.org](http://ExploreHealthCareers.org).

## You can learn by reading and by doing

Many health career training programs involve both classroom lectures and hands-on learning opportunities. You may spend time in a lab, do a summer internship in a community clinic, or do a clinical rotation in a bustling hospital to hone your technical and patient care skills. There are even hands-on learning programs for high school and college students who haven't decided on a career.

## You can get help to pay for school

Hundreds of scholarships, financial aid programs, grants and student loans are available to help aspiring healthcare workers pay for school. You can search for educational funding on [ExploreHealthCareers.org](http://ExploreHealthCareers.org).

## You'll have a clear path to advancement

It costs employers less to promote a trusted worker than to hire someone new. Many employers will reimburse educational expenses and even give you time off to go to school so you can qualify for a higher-paying position. Some organizations run career ladder programs that help accelerate employee advancement.

## You can work with people (or not)

Do you prefer to work alone or on a team? Are you more comfortable working with people or with information? Whatever your preference, you can find a health career that matches your skills and interests.

## You'll make a difference in people's lives

Perhaps the biggest benefit of being a healthcare professional is that you will make a difference in people's lives. Whether you work as a nurse's aide, a cytotechnologist, a food safety inspector, or a veterinary assistant, you will be helping to make our world a little healthier, a little safer and a little better.

**Good pay.**  
**Job security.**  
**Interesting work.**  
**And that's just the beginning!**

