



San Diego Area Health Education Center Health Care Career Choices

Developed by: Mr. Clukey, RN Scripps Memorial Hospital Chula Vista, California

Web resources for health career information:				
1. Healthprofessions.com http://www.healthprofessions.com/careers/index.htm				
2. Healthcare Career Information http://library.thinkquest.org/15569/car1a.html				
Career Choices	Education Required	Pay	Area Schools	Web/Association Resource
Administrator Assistant Administrator	BA/BS or masters degree in hospital administration or business	Ave: 35-100K	San Diego State University (MS) CSU-Long Beach (BS) CSU-Northridge (BS)	American College of Healthcare Executives http://www.ache.org/
Cardiovascular Technician	AD	Ave: 24-37K	Grossmont College	Alliance of Cardiovascular Professions: http://www.acp-online.org/index.htm
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	HS + certificate	Ave: 16-26K	Southwestern College Grossmont College Maric College Golden Health Careers Academy Mira Costa College	American Nursing Assistants Association
Dietician	BS	Ave: 30-40K	San Diego State University	American Dietetic Association: http://www.eatright.org/careers.html
Dietary Technician	AD	Ave: 16-30K	San Bernadino Valley College Long Beach City College Los Angeles City College Chaffey College	American Dietetic Association: http://www.eatright.org/careers.html
Electrocardiogram Technician (EKG tech)	HS + certificate	Ave: 18-28K	Grossmont College	
Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists (EEG tech)	HS + certificate	Ave: 25-38K	Orange Coast College	American Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists: http://www.aset.org/
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic	HS + certificate Paramedic requires additional education	EMT- Ave: 20-38K Paramedic- Ave: 25-48K	Southwestern College Mirimar College Polamar College	National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians http://www.naemt.org/
Health Information Specialist	HS + certification	Ave: 20-25K (Coding Specialists) Ave: 23-30K (Record Technicians) Ave: 30-40K (Record	Mesa College Charles R Drew University of Medicine & Science (LA) Loma Linda University East Los Angeles College	The American Health Information Management Association: http://www.ahima.org/

		Administrators)		
Laboratory Technologist	BS or MS	Ave: 25-40K	Loma Linda University CSU, Dominguez Hills UC Irvine Medical Center	American Medical Technologists: http://www.amt1.com/

Career Choices	Education Required	Pay	Area Schools	Web/Association Resource
Laboratory Technician	AD	Ave: 20-28K	Loma Linda University	American Medical Technologists: http://www.amt1.com/ American Society for Medical Technology:
Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)	Certificate	Ave: 22-38K	Southwestern College Grossmont College Maric College Mira Costa College	National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses: http://www.nflpn.org/
Nuclear Medicine Technician	BS or certificate	Ave: 42-57K	Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science (LA) CSU, Dominguez Hills	Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section http://www.snm.org/about/new_tech_1.html
Nurse Practitioner	BSN+MS	Ave: 50-85K	University of San Diego Univ. of California, San Diego	American Academy of Nurse Practitioners: http://www.aanp.org/
Occupational Therapist	BS	Ave:38-45K	Loma Linda University CSU-Dominquez Hills	The American Occupational Therapy Association: http://www.aota.org/
Occupational Therapy Assistant	AD	Ave: 27-35K	Grossmont College Maric College	The American Occupational Therapy Association: http://www.aota.org/
Orthopaedic Technician	AD	Ave: 20-30K	Grossmont College North Orange County Regional Occupational Program (Anaheim)	National Association of Orthopaedic Technologists http://www.realsolutions.org/naot.htm
Pharmacist	PharmD	Ave: 33-51K	University of Southern Calif. Western University of Health Sciences (Pamona)	American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy: http://www.aacp.org/ American Society of Health System Pharmacists: http://www.ashp.org/
Pharmacy Technician	HS + certificate	Ave: 19-29K	United Education Institute	
Physician Assistant (PA)	BS or MS	Ave: 60-90K	Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (LA) Western University of Health Sciences (Pamona)	American Academy of Physician Assistants: http://www.aapa.org/
Physical Therapist	BS+MS	Ave: 29-60K	CSU-Long Beach CSU-Northridge Loma Linda University	American Physical Therapy Association http://www.apta.org/
Physical Therapist Assistant	AD	Ave: 20-25K	Mesa College Loma Linda University	American Physical Therapy Association http://www.apta.org/
Phlebotomist	HS + certificate	Ave: 16-24K	Orange Coast College Loma Linda University	American Medical Technologists: http://www.amt1.com/

Career Choices	Education Required	Pay	Area Schools	Web/Association Resource
Radiology Technician	AD	Ave: 24-39K	Mesa College Pima Medical Institute	American Society of Radiologic Technologists: http://www.asrt.org/
Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP)	AD	Ave: 24-43K	Grossmont College California College for Health Sciences (National City) Loma Linda University	American Association for Respiratory Care: http://www.aarc.org/
Registered Nurse (RN)	ADN BSN	Ave: 25-45K	Southwestern College (ADN) SD City College (ADN) Grossmont College (ADN) Polomar College (ADN) Maric College (ADN) Pt Loma (BSN) SDSU (BSN)	American Nurses Association: http://www.ana.org/
Social Worker	BS degree + MSW	Ave: 20-42K	CSU-Los Angeles Univ. of California, Berkley	The National Association of Social Workers: http://www.naswdc.org/
Speech Therapist	BS degree	Ave: 40-50K	San Diego State University. (BS, MS, PhD)	American Academy of Audiology: http://www.audiology.com/index.php
Surgical Technician	AD or certificate	Ave: 18-30K	Southwestern College	Association Surgical Technologists: http://www.ast.org/
Ultrasound Technician	Diploma or certificate	Ave: 27-40K	UCSD Medical Center	Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography: http://www.sdms.org/
Unit Clerk	Certificate	Ave: \$9.50-12.50 hr	Grossmont Health Occupation Center	National Association of Health Unit Clerks http://www.nahuc.org/

Abbreviation key:

AD: Associate Degree (2 + years)

ADN: Associate Degree in Nursing (2 years +)

BSN: Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (4 years +)

BA: Bachelor of Arts Degree (4 years)

BS: Bachelor of Science Degree (4 years)

Certificate: Usually a short education program of less than 1 year

MS: Masters Degree (usually 1-2 years education beyond a BS degree)

MSW: Master Degree in Social Work (usually 1-2 years education beyond a BS degree)

PharmD: Pharmacy Doctorate: Requires BS degree plus 3-4 additional years of education

PhD: Doctorate Degree: Requires BS or BA degree plus 3-4 additional years of education

Keys to success:

-Good grades

-Take science courses (anatomy/physiology, chemistry, biology, math)

-Avoid felony convictions

-Have a love for people

-Can cope and function with a fair amount of stress

-Check out your career choice first - be a volunteer

NURSING CAREER OVERVIEW

Demographics:

Nation: 2.6 million RNs
California: 210,000 plus

Nursing Shortage:

Factors contributing to California's nursing shortage include changes in the healthcare environment that resulted in downsizing of the nursing work force as a result of managed care, the aging nursing work force, and public policy regarding nursing education. As a result, California ranks 50th in the nation in number of RNs per 100,000 population (566, compared with a national average of 798).

Approximately one third of the nursing workforce is over 50 years of age. A study published in the July, 2000, issue of JAMA predicts that 40% of nurses by 2010 will be 50 years old or older.

Not only is the shortage in number of nurses, the educational preparation of nurses is inadequate to meet the demands of today's health care system. Employers demand more baccalaureate prepared nurses for hospitals and specialty nurses for intensive care units, operating rooms, emergency rooms, and other specialized areas of acute care. 60% of California's nurses practice in hospitals. The remainder are practicing in community settings such as out-patient clinics, home care, public health, and non-traditional case management settings.

These practice settings need nurses prepared with at least the baccalaureate for the knowledge and skills necessary for service in the community. Yet, approximately 70% of nurses in California received their initial education at the associate degree level and of these, only 16% return to school for the bachelor's degree in nursing.

Advanced practice nurses such as nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, case managers, and clinical specialists are also in demand. These nurses have at least a master's preparation and practice in a variety of settings.

In addition to the nursing work force shortage, there is a dangerous shortfall of nursing faculty nationally. Most baccalaureate and higher degree nursing programs across the country are experiencing a lack of well-prepared nurse educators. The faculty is aging and educational programs are in fierce competition with industry for nurses who hold advanced degrees. The average age of full time nursing faculty is 49 years.

Salary: Ave: 25-45K, but ever increasing

Schools:

Southwestern College (ADN)
SD City College (ADN)
Grossmont College (ADN)
Polomar College (ADN)
Maric College (ADN)
Pt Loma (BSN)
SDSU (BSN)

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More info... American Nurses Association: <http://www.ana.org/>

San Diego Border Area Health Education Center

SAN DIEGO BACKGROUND:

Established in 1994 to develop a family practice residency program in the South Bay, the San Diego Border AHEC program has increased access to health care for the medically underserved by expanding the training capacity of the existing service network to include resident rotations and student internships. Scripps, in partnership with the University of California San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine, is now expanding the scope of the existing San Diego Border AHEC program to include a larger geographic area as well as a broader range of health care education opportunities. With a focus on improving access to health care through education, the San Diego Border AHEC program helps to reduce health care professional shortages in medically underserved communities in the South and Central regions of San Diego County.

PROJECT GOALS:

The ultimate aim of the San Diego Border AHEC Program is to build and support a diverse, culturally competent primary health care workforce in San Diego's medically underserved communities. Thereby access to quality health care would improve through appropriate preparation, composition and distribution of the health profession workforce. Goals are threefold:

- Introduce and engage youth in health activities that promote health careers.
- Develop education and clinical training experiences for students and health professionals in community settings.
- Support existing health professionals through job placement and continued education in medically underserved communities.

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