

# 10 REASONS TO CONSIDER A HEALTH CARE CAREER



A career is more than a paycheck. It's something you'll be doing 40 hours a week for 40 years or more. That's why you should carefully consider the reasons you are choosing your career. And while a good salary and interesting work are at the top of the list, there are even more reasons to consider a health care career.

## 1 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 health care will generate 3 million new wage and salary jobs between 2006 and 2016, more than any other industry. Dozens of health careers have good or excellent job prospects, meaning you'll never have trouble finding a job.



## 2 You will 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.



## 3 You can live and work anywhere you want:

Almost every region of the United States has a strong demand for health care 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.



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

There are health careers that require eight, 10, even 13 years of specialized education after high school, and there are health careers you can train for in 18 to 24 months at your local community college. Search for health careers that fit your educational plans.



## 5 You can learn by reading and 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.



## 6 You can get help to pay for school:

Hundreds of scholarships, financial aid programs, grants and student loans are available to help aspiring health care workers pay for school.



## 7 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.



## 8 You'll earn a good salary:

Health care workers make 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.



## 9 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.



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

Perhaps the biggest benefit of being a health care professional is that you will make a difference in people's lives. Whether you work as a nurse's aide, an acupuncturist, a health services administrator or a veterinarian, to name just a few careers, you will be helping to make our world a little healthier, a little safer and a little better.

