



CISCO COLLEGE

**HEALTH
SCIENCE**



CISCO COLLEGE

MAIN CONTACT FOR NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH:
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Applications for the following programs are available on the **Cisco Website**: Medical Assisting, Pharmacy Technology, Surgical Technology, and Respiratory Therapy. [VISIT WWW.CISCO.EDU](http://WWW.CISCO.EDU)

Cisco Campus

101 College Heights
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Abilene Educational Center

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RESPIRATORY THERAPY



A respiratory therapist (RT) is a healthcare worker who treats people with breathing or Cardiopulmonary problems. Among their patients are premature infants whose lungs are underdeveloped, or children and adults who have lung diseases like cystic fibrosis, asthma, and COPD. After interviewing and examining a patient, and upon consultation with a physician, the RT will develop a treatment plan. This plan may include removing mucus from a patient's lungs or inserting an artificial airway into the trachea of a patient who needs support.

A respiratory therapist also delivers emergency care to heart attack and drowning victims or people in shock. Some RTs work in-home care. In this capacity, they are responsible for setting up ventilators or other life support equipment and instruct caretakers how to use them.

Tasks include consulting with physicians and other health care staff to help develop and modify individual patient care plans, evaluating patients by performing limited physical examinations and conducting diagnostic tests, treating patients by using oxygen or oxygen mixtures, chest physiotherapy, and aerosol medications, connecting patients who cannot independently breathe to ventilators that deliver pressurized oxygen, and supervising respiratory therapy technicians or Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCPs).

CONTACT: TRACY TALLEY AT TRACY.TALLEY@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:

\$59,710/year
(BLS.gov 2017)

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

A surgical technician (or surgical technologist) is present within the operating room and provides help to surgeons, nurses, and anesthesia care providers. The technician will provide necessary instruments to the surgeon when asked. It is important to be able to anticipate which device the surgeon will use, so that no time is lost. Certain equipment may also be monitored by the technician, such as machinery relating to the observance of vital signs. Strong knowledge of medical terminology is also important in order to work well with other medical personnel.

Prior to a surgery being carried out, the technician will set up the room. After a surgery is carried out, the technologist is usually responsible for cleaning the room and disposing of items so that the room is ready for the next patient. The technician should also make sure that the patient is comfortable during the procedure and explain the process to the patient prior to it being completed. Therefore, strong people skills are necessary.



CONTACT: JENNIFER MAZEY AT JENNIFER.MAZEY@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:

\$46,310/year
(BLS.gov 2017)

MEDICAL ASSISTING



Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in physicians offices and other urgent care facilities. Medical Assistants take and record patient's personal information. Electronic health records (EHRs) are changing some medical assistants' jobs. Assistants need to learn the EHR software that their office uses.

Administrative duties include filling out insurance forms, coding patients' medical information, answering telephones, and scheduling patient appointments. Clinical duties typically involve performing basic laboratory tests and taking vitals, disposing of contaminated supplies, sterilizing medical instruments, instructing patients about medication or special diets, removing stitches, drawing blood, providing wound care, and giving injections.

Medical assistants should not be confused with physician assistants, who examine, diagnose, and treat patients under a physician's supervision. In larger practices, medical assistants may perform both administrative and clinical work. The practice of medical assisting directly influences the public's health and well-being, and requires mastery of a complex body of knowledge and specialized skills requiring both formal education and practical experience that serve as standards for entry into the profession.

CONTACT: DAWN CHISM AT DAWN.CHISM@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:

\$32,480/year
(BLS.gov 2017)

PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY

Pharmacy technicians are supervised by licensed pharmacists and are responsible for preparing and assembling prescriptions for patients. They must provide the highest-quality care at all times and ensure that they are always fully informed about medicine and its effects. They also take insurance information from patients to log into the computer and provide relevant information from patients to type into the computer and provide relevant information related to insurance, co-pays, and deductibles.

The Pharmacy Technician program prepares students for both entry (Level I) and advanced (Level II) positions in a Pharmacy setting. Pharmacy technicians assist the pharmacist in the preparation and dispensing of medications. The Pharmacy Technician program is a four-month Level I certificate and/or nine-month Level II Certificate. Students completing either program will be eligible to take the national certification exam from the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB). In the Level II certificate, the student must successfully complete the first semester courses prior to enrolling in second semester courses and satisfy the TSI requirements. Pharmacy technicians who graduate with a Level II certificate will graduate with an ASHP/ACPE Sterile Compounding and Aseptic Technique certificate that meets the requirements set by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.



CONTACT: KELLY MEYER AT KELLY.MEYER@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:

\$33,950/year

(BLS.gov 2019)

VOCATIONAL NURSING



Vocational nurses (VNs) provide basic medical care. They work under the direction of registered nurses, CRNs, and doctors. Duties of VNs vary depending on their work setting and the state in which they work. For example, they may reinforce teaching done by registered nurses regarding how family members should care for a relative; help deliver, care for, and feed infants; collect samples for testing; or feed patients who need help eating. Licensed vocational nurses held about 719,900 jobs in 2014.

As the baby-boom population ages, the overall need for healthcare services is expected to increase. VNs will be needed in residential care facilities and in-home health environments to care for older patients. The number of individuals who have access to health insurance is expected to continue to increase because of federal health insurance reform. VNs will be needed, particularly in ambulatory care settings and long-term care facilities.

Industries that employ the most licensed vocational nurses are hospitals, nursing & residential care facilities, Physicians' offices, and home health services.

National Median Wage:

\$45,030/year
(BLS.gov 2017)

CONTACT: TERI BROWN AT TERI.BROWN@CISCO.EDU

ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN NURSING

Registered nurses (RNs) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. Most RNs work as part of a team with physicians and other healthcare specialists. Registered nurses oversee licensed practical nurses, nursing assistants, home health aides, and unlicensed personnel.

Duties and titles often depend on where an RN works and the patients with whom they work. For example, an oncology nurse works with cancer patients while a geriatric nurse works with elderly patients. Some RNs combine one or more areas of practice. For example a pediatric oncology nurse works with children and teens that have cancer. Many possibilities for working with specific patient groups exist and provided below are a few examples:

Addiction nurses care for patients who need help overcoming addictions to drugs, alcohol, or other substances.

Cardiovascular nurses care for patients with heart disease and those who have had heart surgery.

Critical care nurses work in intensive-care units; care for patients with serious, complex, or acute illnesses & injuries.

Neonatal nurses take care of newborn babies.

Rehabilitation nurses care for patients with temporary or permanent disabilities



CONTACT: TERI BROWN AT TERI.BROWN@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:

\$73,300/year
(BLS.gov 2019)

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE (CNA)

Certified nurse aides (CNAs) provide care to patients, often in facilities such as nursing homes. They generally assist patients with basic needs, such as bathing, dressing, mobility, positioning, eating, and grooming. They often care for multiple patients who have a variety of health needs and personal abilities. Thus, it is important for nurse assistants to be knowledgeable of the types of care that may be administered as well as to be sensitive to the need of individual patient.

This job often requires physical strength, as CNAs will be walking and standing for most of their shifts. The ability to lift heavy objects is important, as they often help patients from place to place. CNAs will occasionally have to perform basic housekeeping tasks for the patients as well. Education, training, and a current valid certification are required.



CONTACT: WORKFORCE@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:
\$27,510/year
[BLS.gov 2017]

PHLEBOTOMY

A phlebotomy technician is a healthcare professional that is responsible for drawing blood from patients and preparing it for further medical testing. They draw blood for tests, transfusions, research, or blood donations.

The state of Texas requires a technician to be licensed or registered, while some other states do not. Because of the nature of the job, excellent communication skills are required to thoroughly explain procedure to patients and provide the best care.

A phlebotomy technician is required to learn a specialized skill and master it. Handling blood at a hospital or doctor's office is not taken lightly, and can be dangerous if not performed properly.



CONTACT: WORKFORCE@CISCO.EDU

National Median Wage:
\$35,510/year
[BLS.gov 2019]

INTERESTED IN THE MEDICAL FIELD BUT NOT SURE WHICH PATH IS FOR YOU?

RESPIRATORY THERAPY	A respiratory therapist is a healthcare worker who treats people with breathing or Cardiopulmonary problems. A respiratory therapist also delivers emergency care to heart attack victims, or people in shock. Some RTs work in-home care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meets 4 times a week, must have day & evening availability• 6 consecutive semesters (2 years)• Application deadline: June 1st
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY	A surgical technician (or surgical technologist) is present within the operating room and provides help to surgeons, nurses, and anesthesia care providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meets 4 times a week, daytime & online are both required• 3 consecutive semesters (1 year)• Application deadline: June 1st
MEDICAL ASSISTING	Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in physicians offices and other urgent care facilities. Responsibilities include recording patient's information, filling out insurance forms, and checking vitals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classes 2 afternoons/nights a week & online, both are required• 3-4 full time semesters, depends on level II or AAS• Application deadline: May 1st• Must be available for daytime clinical hours

PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY	<p>Pharmacy technicians are supervised by licensed pharmacists and are responsible for dispensing, preparing, and assembling prescriptions for patients.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level I- online, Level II- online & 3 nights/wk • Level I - 1 semester, Level II - 2 semesters • Application deadline: August 1st • Must be available for daytime clinical hours
VOCATIONAL NURSING	<p>Vocational nurses (VN) provide basic medical care. They work under the direction of registered nurses, CRNs, and doctors. they may reinforce teaching done by registered nurses; help to deliver, care for, and feed infants; collect samples for testing; or feed patients who need help eating.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 to 5 days a week, daytime hours • 3 consecutive semesters (1 year) • Application deadlines: August Program - June 15th January Program - October 15th May Program - February 15th
ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN NURSING	<p>Registered nurses (RN) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August- 1 day/wk lecture & 1 day/wk clinical • January- 2 night/wk lecture & Saturday clinical • Application deadlines: August Program - May 31st January Program - Oct.15th

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