



Education Needed

There are 2 ways to become a Registered Nurse: complete a four-year bachelor's (BSN) or two-year associate's degree (ADN) program in nursing.

BSN training is more comprehensive, takes longer, but holds more professional opportunity.

Licensure is required after completion of an approved nursing program.

Licensing requirements vary by state, but all require a passing score in the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) before the candidate may practice.

A Day in the Life of a Registered Nurse

Registered Nurses (RN's) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and give advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.

As a Registered Nurse, you will spend your workday in an office, clinic, hospital, or home setting, providing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. You will record medical histories and symptoms, give medicines and treatments, plan for patients' care or contribute to existing care plans, observe patients and record your observations. You will operate and monitor medical equipment, perform diagnostic tests and analyze results. You will teach patients and their families. You may supervise licensed practical nurses, nursing aides, and home care aides. Most registered nurses work as part of a team with physicians and other healthcare specialists. Some work as nurse educators, healthcare consultants, public policy advisors, researchers, hospital administrators, salespeople for pharmaceutical and medical supply companies, or as medical writers and editors.

Job Openings

Greater than Average

Growth Rate: 20%

Salary Expectations

Starting = \$44,000

Average = \$63,000

Top = \$81,000

Skills Needed for Nursing

Organizational Skills

Stress Management

Kind and Compassionate

Excellent Communication Skills

Dedication and Patience.

Detail Oriented

Critical Thinking

Alert and Observant

Responsible

Physical and Mental Endurance

Jobs In This Career

General Medical and Surgical Hospitals

1587040

Offices of Physicians

194370

Home Health Care Services

173590

Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)

154060

Outpatient Care Centers

110580

Federal Executive Branch (OES Designation)

75250

Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals

59750

Elementary and Secondary Schools

51560

Employment Services

48070

Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals

36480

TCHS Graduates Who Are Registered Nurses

Katrina Kicklighter Rapp (1996), Nidsa Hays Baker (2001), Sydney Durrence Desimone (2012), Brittany McDaniel (2012), Candace Stephens Durrence (2013)