

# CAREER LADDER HEALTHCARE

Last Updated: February 2025

# NOVA

Northern Virginia  
Community College

[www.nvcc.edu/LMI](http://www.nvcc.edu/LMI)



## Direct Patient Care

Caregivers, Home Health Aides,  
Sterile Processing Technicians

**\$13.74 - \$20.81/hr.**  
2,858 Postings



## Diagnostic/Therapeutic

*No high-growth jobs at the high  
school level in this pathway*

Pharmacy Technicians, Health  
Technicians, Phlebotomists

**\$20.27 - \$20.91/hr.**  
3,600 Postings



## Administrative/Corporate

Receptionists and Information  
Desk Clerks

**\$15.10/hr.**  
1,872 Postings

### High School Diploma or GED



### Certificate or Diploma (1-2 yrs.)

Diploma, Certificate, License,  
and/or Apprenticeship Programs



Nursing Assistants, Medical  
Assistants, Dental Assistants,  
Emergency Medical Technicians  
and Paramedics, Surgical Tech-  
nologists, Licensed Practical and  
Vocational Nurses

**\$17.31 - \$31.94/hr.**  
6,718 Postings

Pharmacy Technicians, Health  
Technicians, Phlebotomists

**\$20.27 - \$20.91/hr.**  
3,600 Postings

Medical Administrative Assistants,  
Medical Coders/Billers

**\$18.90 - \$24.90/hr.**  
1,326 Postings

### Associate Degree (2 yrs.)

Diploma, Certificate, License,  
and/or Apprenticeship Programs



Physical Therapist Assistants,  
Occupational Therapy  
Assistants, Registered Nurses\*,  
Dental Hygienists

**\$77,926 - \$112,689/yr.**  
14,273 Postings

Laboratory Technicians,  
Respiratory Therapists, Radiologic  
Technologists, Ultrasound  
Technicians, MRI/CT Technologists

**\$67,648 - \$113,784/yr.**  
5,452 Postings

*No high-growth jobs at the  
associate degree level  
in this pathway*

### Bachelor's Degree (4 yrs.)



Health Care Social Workers,  
Registered Nurses\*,  
Health Educators

**\$73,174 - \$107,989/yr.**  
13,214 Postings

Mental Health Counselors,  
Medical Technologists, Dietitians  
and Nutritionists

**\$63,024 - \$90,428/yr.**  
2,417 Postings

Clinic Managers/Directors,  
Directors of Nursing,  
Administrative Managers

**\$143,096/yr.**  
2,681 Postings

### Post-Graduate Degree



Speech Language Pathologists,  
Physical Therapists,  
Occupational Therapists,  
Physician Assistants, Nurse  
Practitioners, Nurse Anesthetists

**\$105,668 - \$258,293/yr.**  
5,416 Postings

Pharmacists, Dentists, Family and  
General Practitioners, Physicians/  
Surgeons, Psychiatrists,  
Anesthesiologists

**\$151,591 - \$470,535/yr.**  
3,374 Postings

*No high-growth jobs at the  
post-graduate level in this pathway*

\*Employment as a Registered Nurse requires, at a minimum, an associate degree. However, many employers may prefer (and are increasingly requiring) a bachelor's degree.

Occupations grouped by level of education typically required for employment, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Openings represent the total number of online job postings from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 in the NOVA region, as compiled by Lightcast. Wages represent the 25th percentile of hourly pay for positions at the High School/GED and Certificate/Diploma levels, and median annual salaries for positions at the associate, bachelor, and post-graduate degree levels. Wages calculated by Lightcast based on 2023 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) data from the BLS.