

Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses (SOC 29-2061)

Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) provide basic nursing care. They work under the direction of registered nurses and doctors.

Sample of reported job titles: Charge Nurse; Clinic Licensed Practical Nurse (CLINIC LPN); Clinic Nurse; Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN); Licensed Practical Nurse, Clinic Nurse (LPN, Clinic Nurse); Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN); Office Nurse; Pediatric Licensed Practical Nurse (PEDIATRIC LPN); Private Duty Nurse; Triage Licensed Practical Nurse (TRIAGE LPN)



Job Responsibilities

- Monitor patients' health—for example, by checking their blood pressure
- Administer basic patient care, including changing bandages and inserting catheters
- Provide for the basic comfort of patients, such as helping them bathe or dress
- Discuss the care they are providing with patients and listen to their concerns
- Report patients' status and concerns to registered nurses and doctors
- Keep records on patients' health

New Hampshire Outlook

- Average Hourly Wage*: \$22.98
- Estimated Employment 2014: 2,091
- Projected Employment 2024: 2,454
- Expected 10-Year Growth: 17.4%
- Projected Average Annual Openings: 96

Top industries in NH for this occupation:

- Ambulatory Health Care Services
- Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
- Government, Local (Excluding Education)
- Hospitals

Education and Training

LPNs and LVNs must complete an approved educational program. These programs award a certificate or diploma and typically take about 1 year to complete, but may take longer. They are commonly found in technical schools and community colleges, though some programs may be available in high schools and hospitals.

Practical nursing programs combine classroom learning in subjects, such as nursing, biology, and pharmacology. All programs also include supervised clinical experience.

Contact state boards of nursing for lists of approved programs.

* Wage estimates based on surveys conducted from November 2012 to May 2015.

After completing a state-approved educational program, prospective LPNs and LVNs can take the National Council Licensure Examination, or NCLEX-PN. In all states, they must pass the exam to get a license and work as an LPN or LVN. LPNs and LVNs may choose to become certified through professional associations in areas such as gerontology and IV therapy, among others. Certifications show that an LPN or LVN has an advanced level of knowledge about a specific subject.

Interests (Holland Code): SRC

- **Social:** Social occupations frequently involve working with, communicating with, and teaching people. These occupations often involve helping or providing service to others.
- **Realistic:** Realistic occupations frequently involve work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions. They often deal with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery. Many of the occupations require working outside, and do not involve a lot of paperwork or working closely with others.
- **Conventional:** Conventional occupations frequently involve following set procedures and routines. These occupations can include working with data and details more than with ideas. Usually there is a clear line of authority to follow.

Career Cluster: Health Science

Work Environment

Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses work in nursing homes and extended care facilities, hospitals, physicians' offices, and private homes. LPNs and LVNs often wear scrubs, a type of medical clothing that usually consists of a shirt and drawstring pants.

Nurses must often be on their feet for much of the day and may have to lift patients who have trouble moving in bed, standing, or walking. These duties can be stressful, as can dealing with ill and injured people.

Additional Information Sources**

For more information about licensed practical or licensed vocational nurses, visit:
National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc. (NAPNES), <<https://napnes.org>>
National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, <www.nflpn.org>

To Find a Job

Contact the nearest NH Employment Security office or go online to www.nhes.nh.gov

** Inclusion of this information is intended to provide a convenient resource for research, but in no way constitutes an endorsement for any organization, nor is the list all-inclusive.

Source:

NH Employment Projections, base year 2014 to projected year 2024
Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor Statistics



For more information:
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