

Nursing Assistants (SOC 31-1014)

Nursing assistants and orderlies help provide basic care for patients in hospitals and residents of long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes.

Sample of reported job titles: Certified Medication Aide (CMA), Certified Nurse Aide (CNA), Certified Nurses Aide (CNA), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Geriatric Nursing Assistant (GNA), Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA), Nurses' Aide, Nursing Aide, Nursing Assistant, State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA)



Job Responsibilities

- Clean and bathe patients or residents
- Help patients use the toilet and dress
- Turn, reposition, and transfer patients between beds and wheelchairs
- Listen to and record patients' health concerns and report that information to nurses
- Measure patients' vital signs, such as blood pressure and temperature
- Serve meals and help patients eat

New Hampshire Outlook

- Average Hourly Wage*: \$14.30
- Estimated Employment 2014: 8,548
- Projected Employment 2024: 10,026
- Expected 10-Year Growth: 17.3%
- Projected Average Annual Openings: 341

Top industries in NH for this occupation:

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

Education and Training

Nursing assistants must complete a state-approved education program in which they learn the basic principles of nursing and complete supervised clinical work. These programs are found in high schools, community colleges, vocational and technical schools, hospitals, and nursing homes. In addition, nursing assistants typically complete a brief period of on-the-job training to learn about their specific employer's policies and procedures.

After completing a state-approved education program, nursing assistants take a competency exam. Passing this exam allows them to use state-specific titles. In some states, a nursing assistant or aide is called a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), but titles vary from state to state.

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

Nursing assistants who have passed the exam are placed on a state registry. Nursing assistants must be on the state registry to work in a nursing home.

Some states have other requirements, as well, such as continuing education and a criminal background check. Check with state boards of nursing or health for more information.

In some states, nursing assistants can earn additional credentials, such as becoming a Certified Medication Assistant (CMA). As a CMA, they can give medications. Nursing assistants may also choose to become certified in a specialty area, such as geriatrics.

Interests (Holland Code): SCR

- **Social:** Social occupations frequently involve working with, communicating with, and teaching people. These occupations often involve helping or providing service to 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.
- **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.

Career Cluster: Health Science

Work Environment

Nursing assistants and orderlies work in nursing and residential care facilities and in hospitals. They are frequently active and may need to help lift or move patients. They wear uniforms to protect their clothing and to promote cleanliness.

Additional Information Sources**

For more information on nursing assistants and orderlies, visit National Association of Health Care Assistants, <www.nahccareforce.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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