

What do Home Health/Personal Care Aides do?

Provide routine individualized healthcare such as changing bandages and dressing wounds, and applying topical medications to the elderly, convalescents, or persons with disabilities at the patient's home or in a care facility. Monitor or report changes in health status. May also provide personal care such as bathing, dressing, and grooming of patient.

Work Content

Maintain records of patient care, condition, progress, or problems to report and discuss observations with supervisor or case manager.

Check patients' pulse, temperature, and respiration.

Provide patients with help moving in and out of beds, baths, wheelchairs, or automobiles and with dressing and grooming.

Care for patients by changing bed linens, washing and ironing laundry, cleaning, or assisting with their personal care.

Administer prescribed oral medications, under the written direction of physician or as directed by home care nurse or aide, and ensure patients take their medicine.

Plan, purchase, prepare, or serve meals to patients or other family members, according to prescribed diets.

Accompany clients to doctors' offices or on other trips outside the home, providing transportation, assistance, and companionship.

Places to work

Social Assistance

Nursing and Residential Care Facilities

Ambulatory Health Care Services

Private Households



Median annual wage *

\$29,370

Projected employment **

10,965

Annual openings (Jobs)

1,424

Career Cluster



health science

* Wage estimates based on surveys conducted from November 2019 to May 2021

** Projected Occupational Employment in 2030

How do you become a Home Health/Personal Care Aide?

Most home health aides are not required to have any formal education, however, most have at least a high school diploma. Home health and personal care aides are usually trained on-the-job by a supervisor. Such training includes safety and emergency response protocols.

In New Hampshire, the Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for regulation and oversight of home health care providers. Licensure is issued to home health care organizations or business entities.

Interests (Holland Codes)



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.

Work environment

Home health and personal care aides work in a variety of settings. Most work in a client's home; others work in small group homes or larger care communities.

Explore more: ***

National Association for Home Care and Hospice, www.nahc.org

Home Care, Hospice & Palliative Care Alliance of New Hampshire, <https://homecarenh.org/>

*** Inclusion of this information is intended to provide a convenient resource for exploration, but does not constitute an endorsement for any

Source:

New Hampshire Employment Projections, base year 2020 to projected year 2030

New Hampshire Occupational Employment and Wages, May 2021

Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor Statistics

