Exploring Healthcare Careers

in Grundy County

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Industry Overview

It takes a network of connected and specialized services to make up the healthcare industry. Nursing homes, hospitals, doctors' offices, outpatient surgery centers, and other facilities all provide a wide range of healthcare services.

Overall, they share a common goal of providing services to treat illness, maintain wellness, and manage disease. For workers in healthcare, helping people is the core of their jobs.

- **Are you strong in science or mathematics?**

- **Do you like to help others?**

- **Do you like to work in teams, share information and solve problems?**

- **Is living a healthy lifestyle important to you?**

In-Demand Healthcare Jobs

Grundy Workforce Services has identified 19 high-demand jobs with available training programs in the healthcare field. They are listed on the back page with related wage and training information. Certain healthcare occupations may require testing or licensure. Most require drug testing and criminal background checks.

Outlook & Growth

The healthcare industry in Grundy County is reported to grow faster than any other industry sector through 2020. This growth comes primarily from advances in healthcare technology, an increase in chronic conditions, and the aging population. These industry-wide changes offer many exciting employment opportunities for careers in healthcare.

Training

Jobs in Grundy County's healthcare industry require education and training after high school, yet they don't always require a four year degree. Depending on your career interests and professional goals, you can choose a training program from several weeks to more than four years. Here are some examples below:

1 Year or less Certificate Program

- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician

2 Years Associate Degree
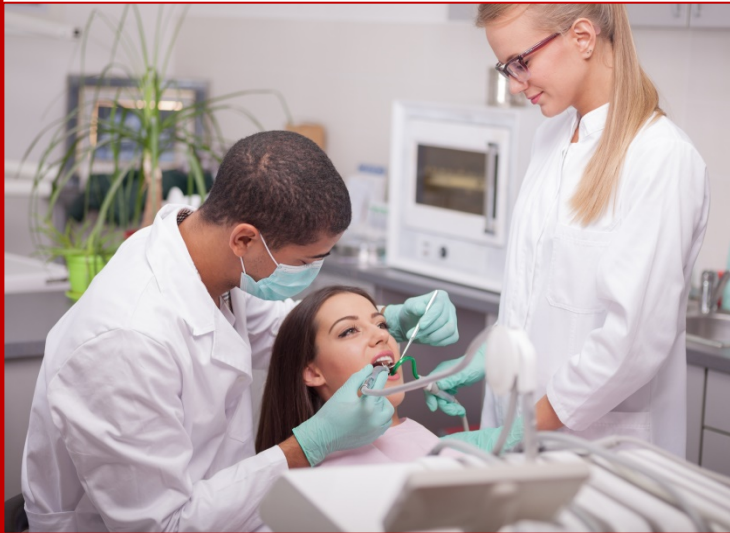
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

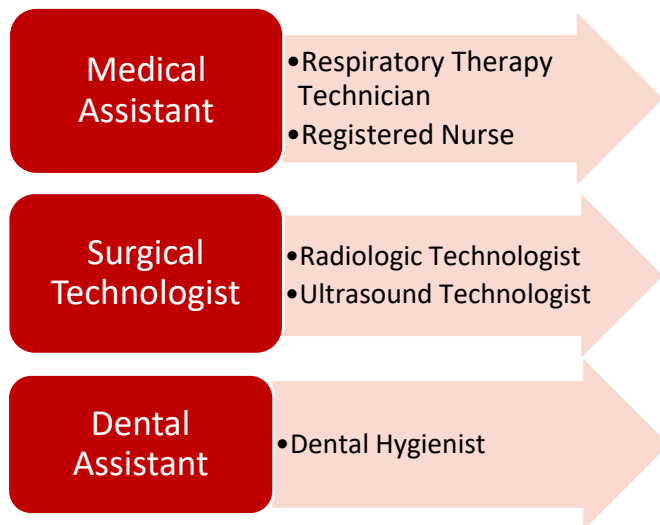www.jjc.edu/grundy-workforce provides information about careers in healthcare and includes local Grundy County job postings, training programs, and advice on how to find financial aid. It is a resource which will introduce you to healthcare jobs in Grundy County and help you figure out which ones could be the right fit for you.

Career Opportunities

There are many job specializations and opportunities within the field of healthcare. Whether you are interested in assisting medical doctors, responding to emergencies, supervising teams of experts, utilizing and maintaining medical equipment, or organizing medical records and information, there are a variety of professions within this industry.

Of course, you don't have to stick to one career pathway. You may start in one career and advance with experience and education into something different. Here are some healthcare career pathway examples:

Medical Assistant	• Respiratory Therapy Technician • Registered Nurse
Surgical Technologist	• Radiologic Technologist • Ultrasound Technologist
Dental Assistant	• Dental Hygienist

These career pathway examples are just a way to get you started – the next step is up to you!

Required Skills & Abilities

Although completing the required technical training is critical to landing a job in healthcare, there are additional skills employers look for. To move ahead in, and even begin your career, you will need to demonstrate good interpersonal and communication skills.

How many of the top 9 healthcare interpersonal skills do you see in yourself?

1. **Communication**
2. **Dealing with criticism**
3. **Dealing with pressure**
4. **Empathy**
5. **Flexibility**
6. **Self-confidence**
7. **Strong work ethic**
8. **Team player**
9. **Time management**

Grundy County In-Demand Healthcare Jobs

	Job Title	Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	Annual Job Openings Grundy County	Average Starting Hourly Wage	Average Hourly Wage with Experience
Certificate					
	Dental Assistants	817	~10	$13.06	$23.42
	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	655	~10	$11.29	$51.39
	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	863	~10	$19.46	$32.85
	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	818	~10	$12.66	$35.50
	Medical Assistants	1,518	~10	$12.17	$21.88
	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians*	526	~10	$14.18	$36.29
	Medical Secretaries	1,317	~10	$12.37	$22.63
	Nursing Assistants	3,612	28	$11.00	$18.36
	Pharmacy Technicians	906	~10	$11.40	$21.81
	Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers*	3,641	20	$16.97	$47.41
	Surgical Technologists*	181	~10	$15.94	$32.12
Associate Degree					
	Dental Hygienists	303	~10	$25.03	$43.45
	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	125	~10	$23.80	$46.23
	Occupational Therapy Assistants	218	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
	Physical Therapy Assistants	304	~10	$18.73	$38.71
	Radiologic Technologists	295	~10	$19.72	$39.66
	Registered Nurses	4,265	36	$23.59	$46.06
	Respiratory Therapist Technician and Healthcare Practitioner Support Technicians	162	~10	$20.57	$34.82
	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	219	~10	$12.10	$26.58

* Earning an Associate Degree will also satisfy educational requirements for this job.