



Exploring Healthcare Careers in Kankakee County

Look inside to learn about:

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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

Kankakee Workforce Services has identified 18 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 Kankakee 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 Kankakee 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
- Surgical Technologist

2 Years

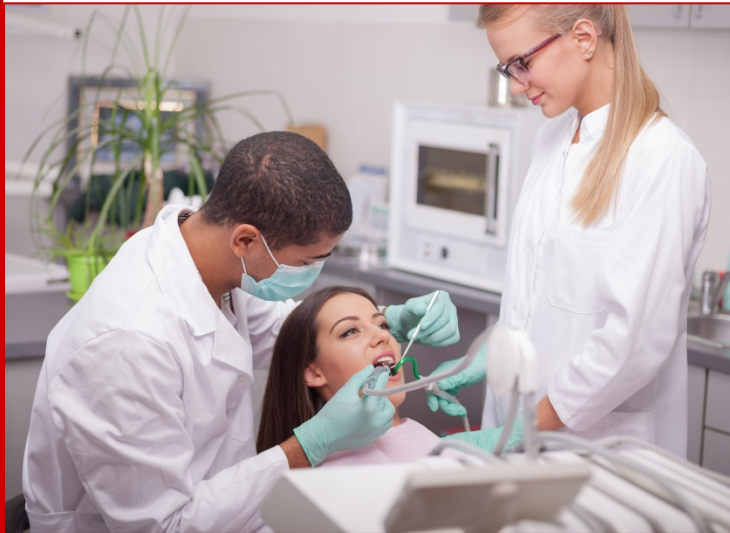
Associate Degree

- Dental Hygienist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Registered Nurse

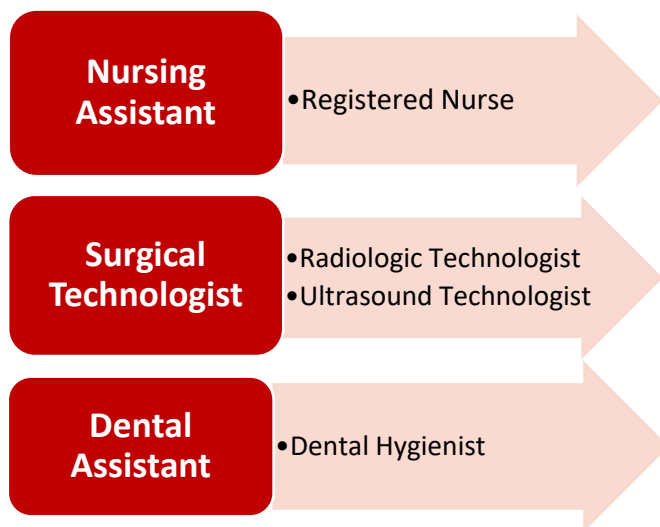
www.kcc.edu/wioa provides information about careers in healthcare and includes local Kankakee County job postings, training programs, and advice on how to find financial aid. It is a resource which will introduce you to healthcare jobs in Kankakee County and help you figure out which ones could be the 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:



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**



Kankakee County In-Demand Healthcare Jobs

Job Title	Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	Average Starting Hourly Wage	Average Hourly Wage with Experience	
Certificate					
	Dental Assistants*	817	~10	\$15.88	\$25.17
	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers*	125	~10	\$29.33	\$46.22
	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics*	655	11	\$13.44	\$36.57
	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses*	863	15	\$19.82	\$31.15
	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	526	~10	\$14.41	\$40.80
	Medical Assistants	1,518	21	\$12.55	\$23.19
	Medical Secretaries	1,317	16	\$13.43	\$23.55
	Nursing Assistants	3,612	96	\$11.55	\$19.90
	Pharmacy Technicians	906	13	\$9.55	\$20.80
	Surgical Technologists*	181	~10	\$9.25	\$12.60
Associate Degree					
	Dental Hygienists	303	~10	\$29.19	\$39.07
	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	818	12	\$14.94	\$41.18
	Occupational Therapy Assistants	218	~10	\$22.89	\$45.11
	Physical Therapy Assistants	304	~10	\$23.10	\$42.53
	Radiologic Technologists	295	~10	\$22.08	\$41.48
	Registered Nurses	4,265	111	\$26.22	\$49.08
	Respiratory Therapist Technicians	162	~10	\$20.63	\$32.48
	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	219	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data

*Earning an associate degree will also satisfy educational requirements for this job.