

Health Career Resource Guide



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Benefits of a Health Career

1. **Choices**

You have a lot of options in this field--check out all of the different careers in this booklet!

2. **Stability and Demand**

There is always a need for healthcare professionals.

3. **Make An Impact**

You would be making a difference in the lives of your patients and their families every day!

4. **Job Flexibility**

The hours can be flexible since hospitals and other healthcare facilities are open 24/7.

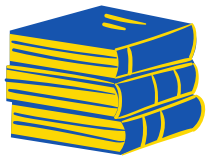
5. **Travel Options**

There are positions that would allow you to travel around the country or world. You can find a job anywhere!

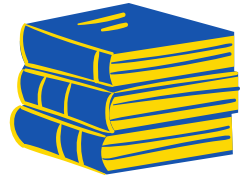
6. **Helping Your Community**

You can aid your community by improving peoples' health, allowing them to pursue their goals and live better, healthier lives!





HOW TO PREPARE IN HIGH SCHOOL



Keep Your Grades Up

Keeping your grades up is important for earning scholarships and getting into a good program for your future career.

Develop Your Career Skill Set

Learn skills that will help you throughout college and career. For example, developing solid study habits, time management, note taking, reading, and professional communication skills can help prepare you for the college and workplace experience.

Classes You Should Take

To best prepare yourself for college and especially a health career, you should take as many science and math classes as possible. This includes biology, chemistry, physics, calculus, and statistics. English is another essential topic that will provide you with the necessary skills for a career in healthcare.

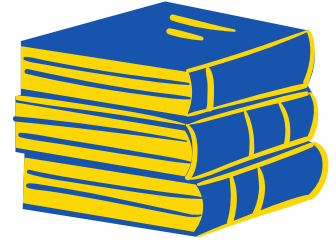
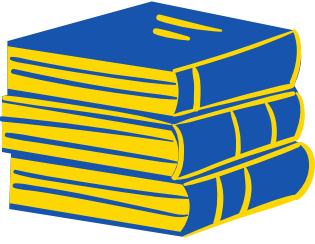
Extracurricular Activities

School clubs, sports, leadership programs, work experience, volunteer opportunities and internships all benefit you as a student. Extracurricular activities are great resume builders and show your leadership skills and passions when applying for colleges/universities and jobs.

Learn Healthy Habits

This is a great time to start learning healthy habits to sustain in college. This includes learning about self-care and what works for you, getting organized, sticking to a regular sleep routine, keeping your body healthy through diet and exercise, and asking for help when you need it.

GETTING INVOLVED



Volunteer

Volunteering is a great way to connect with your community, gain real world experience and learn skills like leadership, problem-solving, and time management. It can also give you an introduction to different career fields you may be interested in. For example, you can volunteer in a hospital or nursing home.

Shadow a Health Professional

By shadowing a health professional, you get a glimpse into what a day in the life of a health care professional would look like and see if that is the career you want to pursue. It is also a good way to familiarize yourself with different medical and research settings.

Say Yes to Education Buffalo

Say Yes Buffalo's goal is to remove barriers to educational attainment, workforce participation, and economic mobility for students in public and charter schools in Buffalo. They offer programs including in-school and afterschool support, mentoring, summer programs to prepare students for college, as well as summer college programs.

More ways to get involved include joining other local programs (as seen on [page 36](#)). This is also a great time to think about potential scholarships (as seen on [page 35](#)) and which activities to get involved in that can lead to scholarships.

HEALTH CAREERS



Healthcare is an essential part of life, and there are many different careers within the field. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in healthcare occupations is expected to grow 16% from 2020 to 2030, which is much faster than other occupations!





Allied Health

Allied Health Workers include a broad group of health professionals who are essential to healthcare. They tend to deliver services involving the identification, evaluation, and prevention of diseases and disorders, rehabilitation, and health systems management.

Types of Allied Health Workers:

- Medical Assistant
 - Supports physicians, nurses, and other health professionals, usually in a clinic setting.
- Dental Assistant
 - Assists a dentist during a variety of procedures.
- Community Health Worker
 - Works with community members to help seek healthcare by overcoming barriers like lack of awareness, transportation, and more.
- Healthcare Documentation Specialist
 - Responsible for transcribing notes, distributing, collecting, storing, and maintaining documentation.
- Health Information Manager
 - Organizes, oversees, and protects patient health information.
- Home Care Aid
 - Aids patients to live independently at home by assisting in daily activities.
- Medical Coder
 - A medical translator that examines a file and changes it to universal codes for insurance companies.

Pathway to becoming an Allied Health Professional:

1. Get an Associate's degree in the specific field you want (2 years).
2. (Optional) Continue education to earn more responsibility and money.

In 2020, the average salary was **\$40,850** in the United States. Salary varies based on job title and duties.

Athletic Trainer

An **Athletic Trainer** specializes in preventing, diagnosing, and treating muscle and bone injuries and illness in athletes. They collaborate with physicians to provide preventive, emergency, clinical, therapeutic, and rehabilitative care.

Athletic Trainers can work in schools, hospitals, fitness centers, physicians' offices, with sports teams, and more.

Pathway to becoming an Athletic Trainer:

1. Get a Bachelor's degree in athletic training (4 years).
2. Pass Board of Certification (BOC) Exam.
3. Get certified in your state.
4. (Optional) Get master's degree (2 years).

In 2021, the average salary was **\$50,428** in the United States, and **\$60,664** in New York.

For further information, visit the National Athletic Trainer's Association at [NATA.org](https://www.nata.org).





Bioinformatics

Bioinformatics is a rapidly growing field that provides research tools to better understand diseases at the molecular level, leading to improved healthcare and disease management, and facilitating a future era of individualized medicine.

Jobs in this Field:

- Clinical Lab Scientist
 - Analyze a variety of biological specimens, perform scientific testing on samples, and report results.
 - Requires a Bachelor's degree in clinical laboratory science, medical technology, or related field.
 - In 2021, the average salary was **\$74,404** in the United States, and **\$89,508** in New York.
- Pharmaceutical Scientist
 - Discover, develop, test, and manufacture new medications.
 - Requires a Bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical sciences, but some jobs require a Master's as well.
 - In 2021, the average salary was **\$93,4879** in the United States, and **\$112,465** in New York.
- Computer Science
 - Design innovative uses for new and existing computing technology.
 - Typically requires a Master's degree in computer science, but some Bachelor's degrees are sufficient for certain jobs.
 - In 2021, the average salary was **\$115,891** in the United States, and **\$139,416** in New York.
- Biomedical Engineer
 - Combine engineering principles with science and create equipment, devices, computer systems, and software.
 - Requires a Bachelor's degree in bioengineering or biomedical engineering; some positions require a Master's degree.
 - In 2021, the average salary was **\$59,568** in the United States, and **\$71,682** in New York.



Chiropractor

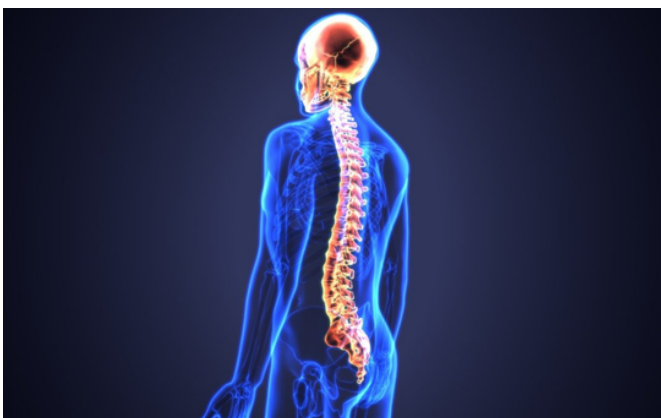
A **chiropractor** specializes in treatment and diagnosis of neuromuscular disorders. Chiropractors use special instruments and their hands to manipulate and adjust joints in the body and spine. The goal of chiropractic care is to reduce pain and improve the overall function of the body.

Pathway to becoming a chiropractor:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree.
2. Earn a professional degree from a chiropractic college, Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.).
3. Pass the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NCBE) exam.
4. Obtain state license.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$154,728** in the United States, and **\$186,137** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Chiropractic Association at [acatoday.org](https://www.acatoday.org).





Dentist

Dentists diagnose and treat patients' teeth, gums, and related parts of the mouth. Dentists typically work in a private practice. There are many types of dentists and specialties.

Pathway to becoming a Dentist:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (in relevant areas like biology, health science, or psychology) (4 years).
2. Complete Dental School earning either a DDS (Doctorate of Dental Surgery) or DMD (Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry) (~ 4 years).
3. (Optional) Complete residency to specialize (~ 2-3 years).

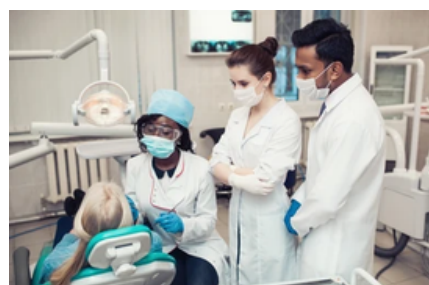
Types of Dentists:

- General Dentist
 - Completes regular teeth cleanings and routine dental exams.
- Pediatric Dentist
 - Specialized in treatments for children and youth.
- Orthodontist
 - Specialized in teeth and jaw alignment using braces, retainers and other devices.
- Periodontist
 - Specialized in treatment and repair diseases and problems of the gums.
- Endodontist
 - Specialized in issues involving the nerve of a tooth.
- Oral Surgeon
 - Specialized in the treatment of oral diseases of teeth and jaw. Trained to perform surgery and works closely with ENTs.
- Prosthodontists
 - Specialized in repairing teeth and jaw bones.



In 2021, the average salary for a General Dentist was **\$171,530** in the United States, and **\$206,351** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Dental Association at ada.org or the National Dental Association at ndaonline.org.



Dietician and Nutritionist



Dieticians and **Nutritionists** are experts in food and diet, and help people maintain good health and prevent or treat health conditions through proper nutrition. Dieticians have more education and credentials than nutritionists. Both work in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, cafeterias, government, and more.

Pathway to Dietician:

1. Obtain a Bachelor's degree from accredited Nutrition and Dietetics program (4 years).
2. Complete 1,200 hours in a supervised internship during undergraduate studies.
3. Complete Master's degree in Nutrition and Dietetics (2 years).
4. Get verified by the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD).
5. Obtain Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) certification.

Pathway to Nutritionist:

1. Typically, you must obtain a Bachelor's degree in nutrition (4 years).
2. (Optional) Complete Master's of Public Health with a concentration in nutrition.
3. Obtain either Certified Nutrition Specialist (CNS) or certified/clinical nutritionist (CN) credentials.

In 2021, the average salary for Dieticians and Nutritionists was **\$64,529** in the United States, and **\$70,070** in New York.

For further information, visit the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics at eatright.org.



Genetic Counselor

Genetic Counselors assess individual or family risk for a variety of inherited conditions like genetic disorders and birth defects. They provide information and support to other healthcare providers, or to individuals and families concerned with the risk of inherited conditions. Genetic Counselors work in private and public hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, medical centers, and physicians' offices.

Pathway to becoming a Genetic Counselor:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (4 years).
2. Complete Master's degree (~ 2 years).
3. Obtain certification from the American Board of Genetic Counseling.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$80,017** in the United States, and **\$96,260** in New York.

For further information, visit the National Society of Genetic Counselors at nsgc.org.



Nursing



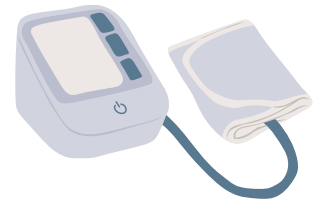
A **Nurse** provides and coordinates patient care and educates patients and the public about various health conditions. Nurses can work in hospitals, physicians' offices, home services, nursing care facilities, and more!

Pathway to becoming a Registered Nurse:

1. Complete Associate degree in Nursing for Registered Nurse (RN) (2 years).
2. Pass National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).
3. (Optional) Complete Bachelor's degree to obtain BSN and Master's for Nurse Practitioner.

Types of Nurses:

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
 - Provide basic care and help patients with activities of daily living.
 - Attend training program with at least 120 hours of instruction.
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
 - Provides basic care under the supervision of an RN.
 - Year-long nursing program.
- Registered Nurse (RN)
 - Most common type of nurse. They administer medication, draw blood, insert IV drips, operate medical equipment.
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
 - Furthers education as an RN and works to further leadership skills.
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)
 - Advanced nurse, sometimes able to work independently.
 - Master's degree (2-4 years).
- And more!



In 2021, the average salary for an RN was **\$75,330** in the United States, and **\$86,924** in New York. The higher the degree, the more money a nurse can make.



***For further
information, visit the
American Nurses
Association at
[nursingworld.org](https://www.nursingworld.org).***



Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapists (OT) treat injured, ill, or disabled patients through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. They help these patients develop, recover, improve, and maintain the skills needed for daily living and working. OTs teach new ways to perform daily tasks, demonstrate how to use assistive technology, educate caregivers on how to best help, create daily routines that promote independence, show strengthening and stretching exercises, and more! OTs can work in hospitals, clinics, private offices, schools, nursing facilities, and home healthcare services.

Pathway to becoming an Occupational Therapist:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (in relevant areas like biology, health science, or psychology) (4 years).
2. Earn a graduate degree--either Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) (2 years) or Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) (3 years).
3. Pass National Board of Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to become certified.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$91,159** in the United States, and **\$109,665** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Occupational Therapy Association at aota.org.



Paramedic and EMT

Both **Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)** and **Paramedics** work within emergency medical service teams. EMTs handle most of the basic health procedures like performing CPR and using oxygen on a patient, and paramedics perform more complex procedures like inserting IV lines, administering drugs, and more.

EMTs and Paramedics work in ambulance services, fire departments, hospitals, or other rescue services.

Pathway to EMT:

1. Obtain high school diploma or GED.
2. Obtain cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.
3. Complete an EMT training program (about 150-200 hours).
4. Pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam.

Pathway to Paramedic:

1. Complete an Associates degree (2 years).
2. Complete 1,200 to 1,800 hours of training for certification.
3. Pass the Nation Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam and the National Registry Paramedic Cognitive exam.

In 2021, the average salary for EMT was **\$36,990** in the United States, and **\$39,683** in New York.

In 2021, the average salary for Paramedic was **\$45,516** in the United States, and **\$48,839** in New York.



For further information, visit the American Ambulance Association at ambulance.org.





Pharmacist

Pharmacists specialize in the right way to use, store, preserve, and provide medication. They dispense medications and offer expertise in the safe use of prescriptions. Pharmacists work in pharmacies (including ones in drug and grocery stores), hospitals, and other healthcare facilities.

Pathway to becoming a Pharmacist:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree in pre-pharmacy or similar scientific field (4 years).
2. Earn a Doctor of Pharmacy degree (3-4 years).
3. (Optional) Complete residency program (1 year).
4. Pass the North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam (NAPLEX) and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (MPJE).

In 2021, the average salary was **\$140,182** in the United States, and **\$150,415** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Pharmacists Association at [pharmacist.com](https://www.pharmacist.com).



Physical Therapy

A **Physical Therapist (PT)** helps injured or ill people improve movement and manage pain. They provide preventative care, rehabilitation, and treatment for patients with chronic conditions, illnesses, or injuries. They work with techniques that include exercises and stretching. PTs can work in private offices, clinics, hospitals, patient's homes, and nursing homes. PTs spend a lot of time on their feet, actively working with patients.

Pathway to becoming a Physical Therapist:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree typically in a health science, exercise or sports field. (4 years).
2. Complete a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program (3 years).
3. Pass the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE).
4. Get a license to practice by your state.
5. (Optional) Complete a residency program (1500 hours).
6. (Optional) Earn board certification.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$91,908** in the United States, and **\$110,565** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Physical Therapy Association at [apta.org](https://www.apta.org).



Physician



Physicians are responsible for caring for patients. This includes diagnosing, treating, and educating the patient. Duties include performing diagnostic tests, recommending specialists, documenting medical history, and prescribing treatments. There are many areas of specialization that address specific health concerns.

Pathway to becoming a Physician:

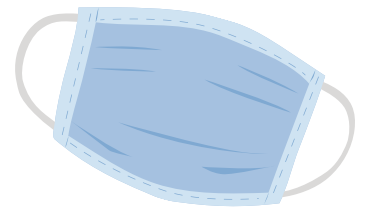
1. Complete undergraduate education that includes pre-med courses (~ 4 years).
2. Pass the MCAT (exam needed to get into medical school).
3. Apply to Medical school.
4. Complete medical school training (~ 4 years).
5. Pass first two parts of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE).
6. Match with residency.
7. Complete residency (Often specialized) (~ 4 years).
8. Pass final part of the USMLE.
9. Earn board certifications.
10. Get a license.
11. (Optional) Complete fellowship to specialize (~1-3 years).
12. Apply for jobs.

Average salary for General Practitioner was **\$213,590** in the US, and **\$229,190** in New York (in 2021).

***For further information, visit the
American Medical Association at
ama-assn.org.***



Physician Specialties:



Allergist and Immunologist

- Focuses on immune system disorders such as asthma, eczema, food allergies, some autoimmune diseases, and more.
- Must have a prior certification in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics and then two years in Allergy and Immunology.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$260,307**.

Anesthesiologist

- This specialist focuses on giving drugs to numb pain or to put a patient under during surgery, childbirth, and other procedures. They also monitor your vital signs while you are under anesthesia to make sure everything is going well.
- Must go through an additional 1-2 years in a fellowship program.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$400,000**.



Cardiologist

- Experts on the heart and blood vessels.
- Must go through 3 additional years of internal medicine training and then 3 years of specialized training.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$402,200**.

Dermatologist

- Diagnose and treat disorders of the skin, hair, nails, and mucous membrane. Services include but are not limited to acne, infections, skin cancer, genetic disorders, hair loss, and scars.
- Must complete a 1- or 2-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$356,300**.

Emergency Medicine

- Specializes in emergency medicine and focuses on the immediate decision-making and action necessary to prevent death or further disability.
- After Residency, you must earn an Emergency Medicine Certification.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$296,187**.

Physician Specialties Continued:



Endocrinologist

- Specialize in diagnosing and treating conditions related to problems with the body's hormones, hormonal glands, and related tissue.
- After residency, must complete a 2-to-3-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$238,183.**

Gastroenterologist

- Specialize in treating digestive system conditions and diseases.
- After Residency, must complete 3-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$390,209.**



Internal Medicine

- Specialize in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of internal diseases.
- After Residency, must complete 1-to-3-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$225,960.**

Medical Genetics

- Specialize in medicine that involves the interaction between genes and health.
- Must complete 2-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$85,388.**

Neurologist

- Specialize in diagnosing, treating, and managing disorders of the brain and nervous system.
- Must complete 2-year fellowship after residency.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$254,000.**



Nuclear Medicine

- Specialize in treatments that use radioactive materials. Use materials to determine how the organ of the patient functions.
- 2-year residency in nuclear medicine.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$344,874.**

Physician Specialties Continued:



Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN)

- Gynecology specializes in women's bodies and their reproductive health. Obstetrics specializes in pregnancy and childbirth.
- After 4 years of specialized residency, you must complete 3 years of fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$294,601**.

Oncology

- Specializes in treatment of cancer and medical care for those diagnosed with cancer. There are many specialized fields of Oncology.
- After residency, must complete fellowship (length depends on which specialty you want to go into).
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$314,235**.



Ophthalmologist

- Specialized in diagnosing and treating injuries, infections, diseases, and disorders of the eye.
- Must complete a 3-year specialized residency program.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$305,639**.

Orthopedic Surgeon

- Specializes in diagnosing and treating conditions of the musculoskeletal system (bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, and muscles). They are able to perform surgery to do so.
- After 5 years of residency (2 years general surgery and 3 specialized), complete 2-year fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$501,520**.



Pathologist

- Specialized in studying fluids, tissues and organs from the body. Performs tests to help reach diagnoses.
- 3-year specialized residency program and optional 1–2-year fellowship to specialize further.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$285,298**.

Physician Specialties Continued:

Pediatrician

- Specializes in the treatment of infants, children, adolescents and young adults typically from birth to 21 years old.
- 3-year specialized residency program.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$208,048.**



Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

- Specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of patients that have a medical condition that could impair a patient's ability to function normally.
- 4-year specialized residency program and optional fellowship to specialize.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$242,190.**

Preventative Medicine

- Specializes in public health and clinical care. Expert in prevention of injury, disease and death.
- 4-year specialized residency and optional 1–3-year fellowship program.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$183,300.**

Psychiatrist

- Specializes in mental health. Is able to conduct psychotherapy and prescribe medications and other medical treatments.
- 4-year specialized residency program and optional 1–3-year fellowship to specialize.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$234,949.**



Surgeon

- Specializes in evaluating and treating conditions that may require surgery or physically changing the human body.
- 4-year surgical residency with additional 1–3-year fellowship to specialize.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$405,073.**

Urologist

- Specializes in the genitourinary tract (kidneys, urinary bladder, adrenal glands, urethra, and male reproductive organs).
- 4–6-year residency program (1-2 years of surgical experience and 3-4 years of urology training) and can further specialize with a fellowship.
- The average salary in the US in 2021 was **\$389,830.**

Physician Assistant

Physician Assistants (PA) work on teams with physicians or surgeons and other healthcare workers. Physician assistants work in all areas of medicine, including primary care and family medicine, emergency medicine, surgery, and psychiatry.

PAs can work in offices of physicians (most common), hospitals, outpatient care centers, educational services, or employment services.

Pathway to becoming a Physician Assistant:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (4 years).
2. Acquire healthcare and patient care experience (HCE/PCE).
3. Attend an accredited PA program (3 years).
4. Pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE).
5. Obtain State License and Certification.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$112,260** in the United States, and **\$132,953** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Academy of Physician Assistants at [aapa.org](https://www.aapa.org).





Public Health

Public Health Professionals focus on preventing disease and injury by promoting healthy lifestyles. This is done through implementing educational programs, developing policies, administering services, conducting research, and regulating health systems to achieve these goals.

Public Health Professionals can work in health departments, hospitals, health clinics, schools, laboratories, and organizations.

Pathway to becoming a Public Health Professional:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree in public health or a related concentration (4 years).
2. Complete Master's degree in public health (2 years).
3. (Optional) Gain doctorate degree in public health.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$41,675** in the United States, and **\$44,718** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Public Health Association at apha.org.

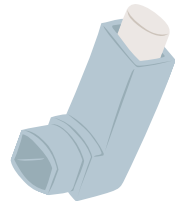


Respiratory Therapist

Respiratory Therapy is a growing field in healthcare. This profession assists patients with lung and breathing disorders as well as recommend treatment modalities. They analyze breath sounds, measure vital signs, and draw arterial blood to determine levels of oxygen and other gases. RTs work in hospitals, in patient's homes, doctor's office, and other specialized programs.

Pathway to becoming a Respiratory Therapist:

1. Complete Associates' degree (2 years).
2. (Optional) Complete Bachelors degree (4 years).
3. Obtain one of the following certifications offered from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC):
 - a. Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT)
 - b. Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT)



In 2021, the average salary was **\$71,509** in the United States, and **\$79,944** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Association for Respiratory Care at aarc.org.



Social Work

Social Workers help people to solve and cope with challenges in their lives. It is a practice-based profession that promotes social change, development, cohesion, and empowerment of people and communities. Social Workers can work in mental health clinics, schools, child welfare and human service agencies, hospitals, settlement houses, community development corporations, private practices, and more.

Pathway to becoming a Social Worker:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (4 years).
2. Complete Master's degree (2 years).
3. Get licensed through your state as a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW).
4. Gain experience in the field (3 years).
5. (Optional) Pass the exam to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

In 2021, the average salary was **\$66,090** in the United States, and **\$79,506** in New York.

For further information, visit the National Association of Social Workers at [socialworkers.org](https://www.socialworkers.org).



Speech Pathology

A **Speech Language Pathologist (SLP)** is also known as a speech and language therapist. SLPs are experts in communication. They work with people of all ages and treat many communication and swallowing problems. SLPs can work in private practice, physician offices, hospitals, schools, colleges, universities, rehabilitation centers, long term and residential health care facilities.

Pathway to becoming a Speech Language Pathologist:

1. Get a Bachelor's degree in a related field (4 years).
2. Complete a Master's degree in SLP (2 years).
3. Complete a fellowship in SLP (1260 hours).
4. Pass the Praxis Examination (national test that shows you understand the field).
5. Get licensed by your state.
6. Get certified by the American Speech Language Hearing Association.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$85,090** in the United States, and **\$91,290** in New York.

For further information, visit the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at ashfoundation.org.



Technician/Technologist

Medical Technician and Medical Technologist jobs typically involve working with patients, but mostly in a lab setting. They collect samples and perform tests to analyze fluids, tissue, and other substances. Technicians could work in hospitals, medical and diagnostic laboratories, doctors' offices, and more.

There are many different fields technicians and technologists can become certified in, such as:

- Phlebotomist - draws blood for tests, transfusions, and donations.
- Surgical Technician - prepares operating room, prepares and transports patient.
- MRI Technologist - operates MRI machines.
- Cytotechnologist - examine slides of body and detect abnormalities.
- Clinical Lab scientists - collect samples of body fluid and tissues and perform testing.
- Dental Lab Technicians - construct, fit, and repair dental devices.

Pathway to becoming a Medical Technician:

1. Complete an Associate's degree or a Bachelor's degree in medical technology (2-4 years).
2. Earn extra certificates to cover a specific field in medical technology.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$55,464** in the United States, and **\$66,723** in New York.



Veterinarian



Veterinarians care for the health of animals. They diagnose, treat, and research medical conditions and diseases of pets, livestock, zoo animals, birds, and other animals. Some responsibilities could include advising clients on care for their pets, administering vaccines, conducting physical exams, providing emergency care, performing surgery, prescribing medications, and more. Veterinarians can work in private clinics, hospitals, farms, laboratories, classrooms, zoos, or in the wild.

Pathway to becoming a Veterinarian:

1. Complete Bachelor's degree (4 years).
2. Complete Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program (4 years).
3. Pass the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE).
4. (Optional) Complete internship or residency for additional training and board certification in a specialty field.

In 2021, the average salary was **\$98,783** in the United States, and **\$118,836** in New York.



For further information, visit the American Veterinary Medical Association at [avma.org](https://www.avma.org).



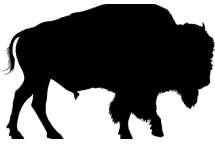
Other Important Information



Schools in the Buffalo Area
SUNY Schools
Scholarships
Program and Resources



Schools in the Buffalo



Area



University at Buffalo

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Bioinformatics, Dentistry, Exercise Science, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Physical Therapy, Speech and Hearing Science, and more.

Buffalo State

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics, Health and Wellness, Social Work, Psychology, Speech Pathology, and more.

Canisius College

Private College that offers degrees in Biology, Clinical Laboratory Science, Health and Wellness, Physician Assistant, Pre-Medical and Pre-Health Professions, Sports and Exercise Health Care, and more.

D'Youville University

Private university that offers degrees in Biology, Chiropractic, Dietetics, Health Analytics, Healthcare Studies, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Public Health, and more.

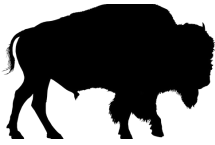
Daemen University

Private College that offers degrees in Athletic Training, Biology, Health Promotion, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Social Work, and more.

Medaille College

Private College that offers degrees in Biology, Health Information Management, Veterinary Technology, and more.

Schools in the Buffalo



Area



Niagara University

Private College that offers degrees in Biology, Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, and more.

SUNY Erie Community College

SUNY community college that offers associate degrees in Dental Hygiene, Dental Laboratory Technology, EMT and Paramedic, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Radiation Therapy Technology, Respiratory Care, Vision Care Technology, and more.

SUNY Niagara County Community College

SUNY community college that offers associate degrees in Dietetics, Health Studies, Medical Assistant, Nursing, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiologic Technology, Surgical Technology, and more.

Trocaire College

Private College that offers degrees in Nursing, Healthcare Management, Medical Assisting, Radiologic Technology, Surgical Technology, Echocardiography, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Biology.

Villa Maria College

Private College that offers degrees in Community Health, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapy Assistant, and more.

SUNY Schools Located Outside of Buffalo



Binghamton University

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Nursing, Social Work, and more.

Stony Brook University

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Health Science, Nursing, Social Work, and more.

Geneseo

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Optometry, Osteopathic Medicine, Physical Therapy, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Veterinary Medicine, Socio-medical Sciences, and more.

SUNY Downstate College of Medicine

SUNY school that offers degrees in Diagnostic Medical Imaging, Nursing, and Physical Therapy.

University at Albany

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Dental, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Social Welfare, and more.

Oneonta

SUNY school that offers degrees in Biology, Chiropractic, Dentistry, Dietetics, Exercise Science, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Pre-Medical, Veterinary, and more.

Scholarships

Scholarships can help pay for school, and you don't need to pay them back. You can learn about different scholarships from your school's financial aid office, state and federal agencies, counselors, community organizations, employers, Google, and more. There are many types of scholarships, and you are bound to find some that are a good fit for you!

Academic Scholarships

- Used to recruit academically talented students to schools and is merit-based (i.e. you must meet or exceed certain standards put in place by the scholarship funder).

Athletic Scholarships

- Used to recruit student-athletes to join the school based on athletic abilities.

Community Service Scholarships

- Given to students who have dedicated their time to serving their communities.

First Generation Scholarships

- Awarded to students who are the first in their family to go to college.

Low Income Scholarships

- Awarded to students who show financial need.

Say Yes Scholarships

- Say Yes has scholarships available to those who fit their criteria (ex. must reside in the City of Buffalo) which can be found on their website.

STEM Scholarships

- There are many Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) scholarships available to promote getting a degree in this field.

Programs and Resources

Erie Niagara AHEC

Erie Niagara AHEC offers high school programs that expose teens to health careers and bring youth voices into important health conversations. College students can participate in AHEC Scholars, a 2-year program to bring future health professionals together to work with patients to address social determinants of health. Information on these and other programs can be found at <https://www.erieniagaraahec.org/pipeline>.

Say Yes to Education Buffalo

Say Yes's goal is to remove barriers to educational attainment, workforce participation and economic mobility for students in Buffalo. They offer programs to support students and families in schools and out of schools including mentoring, scholarships and more. For more information, check out <https://sayyesbuffalo.org/>.

Upward Bound

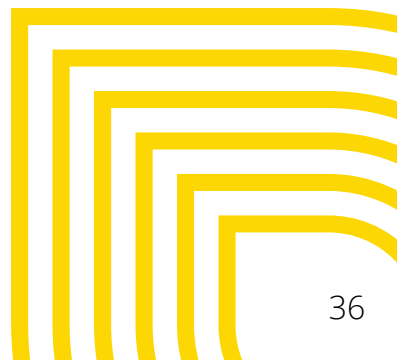
Upward Bound is a program offered at many local colleges designed to assist low-income and/or first-generation high school students in fulfilling their educational potential in high school and further.

Buffalo Urban League

The Buffalo Urban League's Mission is to empower African Americans, other minorities, and disadvantaged individuals to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights. Each year they award scholarships to graduating high school students in Buffalo. <https://www.buffalourbanleague.org/>.

Your Guidance Counselor

Reach out to your Guidance Counselor or a similar resource to get you in touch with different programs, classes, or events in your area to learn more about the opportunities near you.



Early Assurance Program

Early Opportunity Program in Medicine (EOPIM)

EOPIM is an early assurance program that, if successfully completed, will lead to entry into medical school at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of the University at Buffalo. Students accepted into EOPIM are provided with the opportunity for professional interaction and career training at the Jacobs School before their graduation from college. You start your application your third semester of undergrad by talking to your pre-health advisor.

For further information, visit <https://www.buffalo.edu/eop.html>.

Eligibility:

1. Sophomore Undergraduate in participating school.
2. Maintain 3.5 GPA or higher.
3. Historically underrepresented in medicine.
4. U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

What does the program offer:

1. Participate in research with research faculty.
2. You will be paired with a current medical student as a peer mentor.
3. Gain valuable MCAT preparation advice and skills.

Participating Schools:

1. University at Buffalo
2. Canisius College
3. D'Youville College
4. Tougaloo College
5. Niagara University



Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

CSTEP is a program that was made to increase the number of students from under-represented groups who are pursuing professional licensure and careers in mathematics, science, technology and health-related fields.

Eligibility:

1. New York State Resident
2. African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian or Alaskan Native
3. Economically Disadvantaged

What does the program offer:

1. CSTEP provides academic enrichment and research experience in STEM content areas.
2. Projects consist of academic year and summer components including:
 - a. Supervised training in research methods
 - b. Graduate/professional school admissions preparation
 - c. Standardized test preparation
 - d. Academic and career development activities

For further information, visit
<http://www.nysed.gov/postsecondary-services/collegiate-science-and-technology-entry-program-cstep>.

Erie Niagara Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

Erie Niagara AHEC is dedicated to creating a diverse healthcare workforce and well-informed community. By joining forces with health professionals, high schools, universities, and students, we aim to expand the pipeline of students to professional networks and careers within the Buffalo-Niagara region.



This guide was created as a resource for students interested in pursuing a healthcare or STEM-related career path.

Learn more at www.erieniagaraahec.org



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Learn More

Bureau of Labor Statistics

- Federally run program and website with further information with statistics of the profession. If you are seriously considering one of these careers you can visit www.bls.gov.

U.S. Department of Labor's Free Scholarship search tool

- Scholarship, fellowships, grants and other award opportunities that could help to relieve some financial burden. You can visit <https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx> for more information.



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