

Healthcare

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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SECTION 1

Is This the Field for You?

Are you a good listener? Perhaps you are known for being understanding. People often ask for your help with problems. They see you as a calm and helpful friend. Giving up when work is hard isn't an option. Helping others gives you purpose. Does this sound like you? If so, consider a career in healthcare.

Chapter 1 >

Inside the Industry

Healthcare is a medical field. All people are treated. The goal is to live a healthy life. **Patients** get checkups. They learn how to take care of themselves. Injury and illnesses are prevented. A patient may be sick. They could have a disease. Maybe they had an accident. Workers in this industry care for them all.





Some workers treat very sick people. They run tests. Results can show what is wrong. Doctors do surgeries. Injuries are treated. Medicine may be given. Other workers help with **recovery**. Daily tasks are practiced. Stretches and exercises are taught. **Nursing** facilities take care of elders.





Healthy people need care. Kids and adults get checkups. Babies are born and cared for. Shots can prevent sickness. Vision exams are taken. Teeth are cleaned. People are living longer than they used to. Older people often need extra services. Workers care for them.

Healthcare is a field with many options. Nearly two million jobs open every year. There are roles in labs and hospitals. Others are in offices. Workers might go to patients' homes. Caring people could do well. Helping others is the focus. It is important to be patient. Kindness is key. Does this interest you? Read on to find out more.

Did You Know?

Nursing is the most popular healthcare job. There are more than five million nurses in the U.S.

5 MILLION

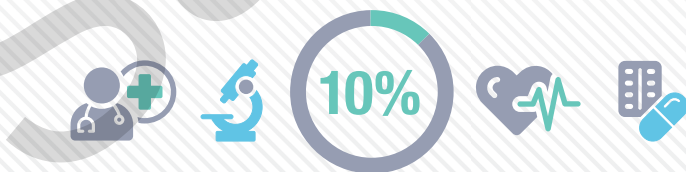
One-third of all clinic visits are for preventive care.



There are more than 6,000 hospitals in the U.S.

+ 6,000 

Ten percent of U.S. jobs are in healthcare.



More than seven in ten U.S. healthcare workers are women.





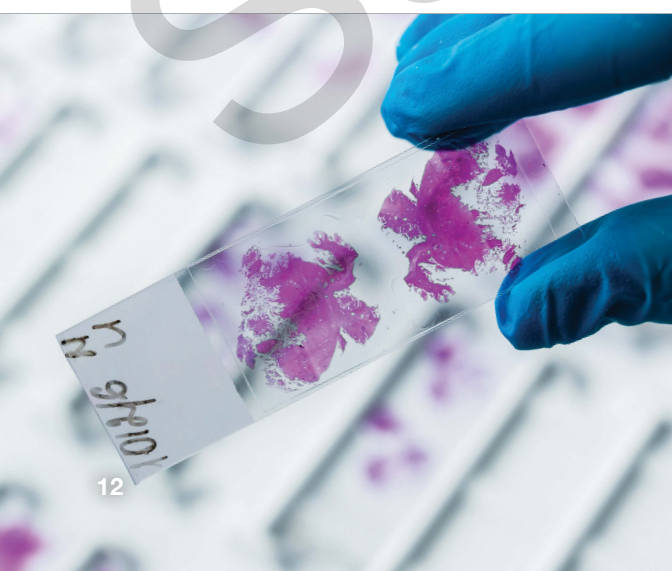
The healthcare field offers a wide range of jobs. They take place in many settings. Each type of place requires different roles. Here is a close-up look at a few scenes.

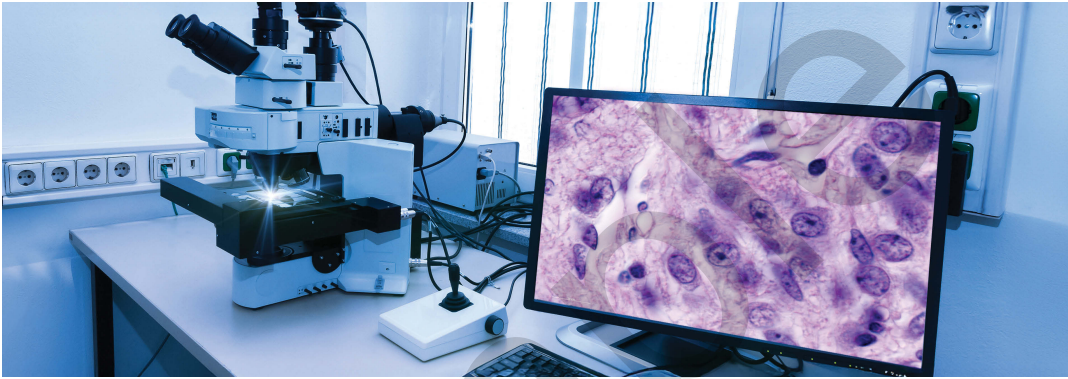
Scene #1: A Hospital

There are many jobs in a hospital. **Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)** bring in patients. They use an ambulance. **Orderlies** move patients. They push beds and wheelchairs. There are operations. **Surgeons** need tools to operate. A **surgical assistant** helps. **Nurses** give medicine to patients. A **medical assistant** takes blood pressures and temperatures.









Scene #2: A Medical Lab

Medical labs are full of employees. **Histology technicians** are hard at work. They are cutting tissue. It will be shown to a **doctor**. A **phlebotomist** collects a blood sample. Now it goes to a doctor. It needs to be examined. **Dental laboratory technicians** make dentures. These will help someone.

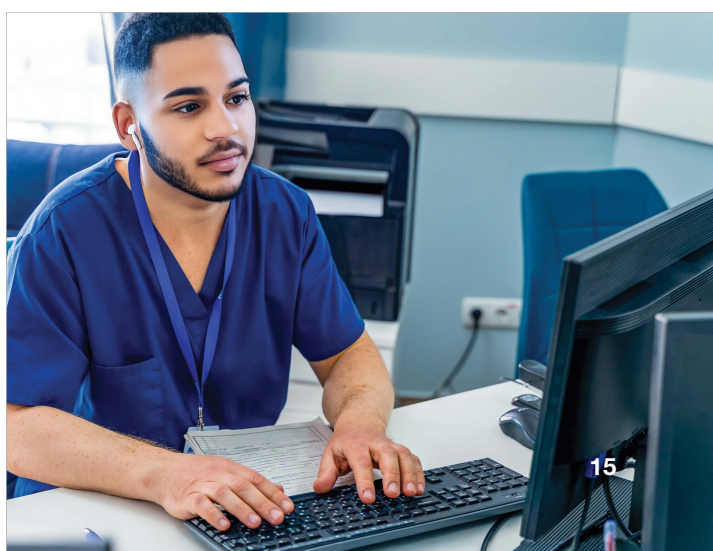




Scene #3: A Doctor's Office

Many workers help a doctor's office run. A **medical office manager** trains new hires. The **medical transcriptionist** is at a computer. He is typing the doctor's notes. A **medical biller** is on the phone. She is working with insurance. One patient has questions. They are nervous. A **patient representative** speaks to them. Then the patient feels at ease.





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