

Explore HEALTH Careers.org

Do something that matters. For yourself. For others.

7 Steps to a Successful Health Career

Whether you're in high school, starting college or already working, you can begin preparing now for your successful career in health care. The FREE website, www.ExploreHealthCareers.org can help with information, advice and interactive tools.

1. Find out if a health career is right for you

It's important to choose a career that you will enjoy. Think about what you like and don't like. Talk to your career counselor. Write a description of your ideal job – what factors matter most to you?

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Point to the "Getting Started" tab
- Click on "Is a Health Career Right for You?"

2. Learn more about health career opportunities

There are hundreds of health careers – including many jobs you may not have heard about. Health careers are organized into fields that focus on specific areas of health care or certain types of patients.

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Look for the heading "Career Explorer"
- Click on a field to see a list of health careers

3. Find a career that fits your educational plans

You can train for many health careers in 2 years at your local community college. Other jobs require a four-year degree, while some involve up to 14 years of education. If you want to get to work soon, consider training for a job as a health "assistant" or "aide" in the field that interests you.

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Point to the "Career Explorer" tab
- Click on "Find a Health Career" to search for careers by salary and educational requirement

4. Find out what health care workers do

Before you choose a career, do some research to learn about the day-to-day responsibilities of the job. "Shadow" a health worker for a day to see what the career is really like.

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Use the "Career Explorer" to find a career
- Click on "Working Conditions" to learn more about what the job entails.

5. Start building your resume now

Most health careers require a background in science – take as many science and math courses as you can. Enroll in a summer program or internship to gain experience in the health field.

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Point to the "Career Explorer" tab
- Click on "Find a Pre-Health Enrichment Program" to search opportunities by field, program type and location.

6. Don't let money stop you

Paying for school is a challenge, but you can get financial assistance for college or a training program. Many scholarships, grants and loans are available for minorities and low income students.

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Point to the "Career Explorer" tab
- Click on "Find Funding Opportunities" to search financial aid programs by field of study, funding type, student ethnicity and state.

7. Believe in yourself

If you can dream it, you can do it. Picture yourself working in a rewarding health career – and take the steps to make it happen!

EHC can help:

- Go to www.ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Subscribe to the EHC eNewsletter for more information and tips to plan your health career.