

NURSING PATHWAY

Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)

What They Do

Certified nursing assistants (CNAs) provide basic support in medical environments, performing duties such as dressing, bathing, feeding, or transporting patients. To become a CNA, no college degree is required. Credentials are issued by state, so prospective nursing assistants just need to enroll in a state-sanctioned training program and then pass a state certification exam.

Typical Tasks:

- Provide physical support to assist patients to perform daily living activities, such as getting out of bed, bathing, dressing, using the toilet, standing, walking, or exercising.
- Record vital signs, such as temperature, blood pressure, pulse, or respiration rate, as directed by medical or nursing staff.
- Feed patients or assist patients to eat or drink.
- Lift or assist others to lift patients to move them on or off beds, examination tables, surgical tables, or stretchers.
- Apply clean dressings, slings, stockings, or support bandages, under direction of nurse or physician.
- Administer treatments, such as catheterizations, suppositories, irrigations, enemas, massages, or douches, as directed by a physician or nurse.

Growth Rate: This career has grown by 3% over the last 2 years, and is expected to grow by 8% over the next 10 years. Currently 15,634 Nursing Assistants are employed in the region. There are 2,977 Nursing Assistants who are age 55 and older. They will likely retire within the next 10 years, creating a demand for new workers.

Typical education level

High School

Related Degrees

Nurse Aide, Certificate

Similar Careers

Personal Care Aide (\$21k/yr)

Home Health Aide (\$21k/yr)

Physical Therapist Aide (\$23k/yr)

Occupational Therapy Aide (\$26k/yr)

Pharmacy Aide (\$22k/yr)

Phlebotomist (\$29k/yr)

How well does it pay?

Normal pay for Nursing Assistants is \$23,808 per year. That is about \$1,984 per month, or \$11.45 per hour. New workers generally start around \$18,265, while highly experienced workers can earn as much as \$31,080.

Wage

