

NURSING PATHWAY

Home Health Aide

What They Do

Provide routine individualized healthcare such as changing bandages and dressing wounds, and applying topical medications to the elderly, convalescents, or persons with disabilities at the patient's home or in a care facility. Monitor or report changes in health status. May also provide personal care such as bathing, dressing, and grooming of patient.

Typical Tasks:

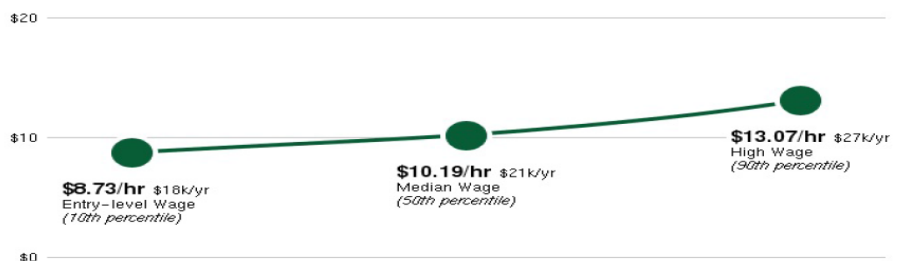
- Maintain records of patient care, condition, progress, or problems to report and discuss observations with supervisor or case manager.
- Administer prescribed oral medications, under the written direction of physician or as directed by home care nurse or aide, and ensure patients take their medicine.
- Check patients' pulse, temperature, and respiration.
- Provide patients with help moving in and out of beds, baths, wheelchairs, or automobiles and with dressing and grooming.
- Care for patients by changing bed linens, washing and ironing laundry, cleaning, or assisting with their personal care.
- Plan, purchase, prepare, or serve meals to patients or other family members, according to prescribed diets.
- Accompany clients to doctors' offices or on other trips outside the home, providing transportation, assistance, and companionship.
- Direct patients in simple prescribed exercises or in the use of braces or artificial limbs.
- Provide patients and families with emotional support and instruction in areas such as caring for infants, preparing healthy meals, living independently, or adapting to disability or illness.
- Entertain, converse with, or read aloud to patients to keep them mentally healthy and alert.

Growth Rate: This career has grown by 7% over the last 2 years, and is expected to grow by 16% over the next 10 years. Currently 14,036 Home Health Aides are employed in the region. There are 2,800 Home Health Aides who are age 55 and older. They will likely retire within the next 10 years, creating a demand for new workers.

How well does it pay?

Normal pay for Home Health Aides is \$21,199 per year. That is about \$1,766 per month, or \$10.19 per hour. New workers generally start around \$18,152, while highly experienced workers can earn as much as \$27,186.

Wage



Typical Education Level

High School

Related Degrees

None

Similar Careers

Childcare Worker (\$20k/yr)

Occupational Therapy Aide (\$26k/yr)

Psychiatric Aide (\$25k/yr)

Nursing Assistant (\$24k/yr)

Personal Care Aide (\$21k/yr)

Physical Therapist Aide (\$23k/yr)