

NURSING PATHWAY

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

What They Do

Care for ill, injured, or convalescing patients or persons with disabilities in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions. May work under the supervision of a registered nurse. Licensing required.

Typical Tasks:

- Administer prescribed medications or start intravenous fluids, noting times and amounts on patients' charts.
- Observe patients, charting and reporting changes in patients' conditions, such as adverse reactions to medication or treatment, and taking any necessary action.
- Provide basic patient care or treatments, such as taking temperatures or blood pressures, dressing wounds, treating bedsores, giving enemas or douches, rubbing with alcohol, massaging, or performing catheterizations.
- Sterilize equipment and supplies, using germicides, sterilizer, or autoclave.
- Answer patients' calls and determine how to assist them.
- Measure and record patients' vital signs, such as height, weight, temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration.
- Work as part of a healthcare team to assess patient needs, plan and modify care, and implement interventions.
- Collect samples, such as blood, urine, or sputum from patients, and perform routine laboratory tests on samples.
- Supervise nurses' aides or assistants.
- Make appointments, keep records, or perform other clerical duties in doctors' offices or clinics.

Growth Rate: This career has grown by 4% over the last 2 years, and is expected to grow by 11% over the next 10 years. Currently 5,424 Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses are employed in the region. There are 1,258 Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses who are age 55 and older. They will likely retire within the next 10 years, creating a demand for new workers.

Typical Education Level

Vocational Diploma

Related Degrees

Practical Nursing Diploma

Similar Careers

Registered Nurse (\$60k/yr)

Occupational Therapy Assistant (\$58k/yr)

Physical Therapist Assistant (\$58k/yr)

Critical Care Nurse (\$60k/yr)

Recreational Therapist (\$35k/yr)

Psychiatric Technician (\$32k/yr)

Radiologist Technician (\$35k/yr)

Medical Assistant (31k/yr)

How well does it pay?

Normal pay for Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses is \$41,872 per year. That is about \$3,489 per month, or \$20.13 per hour. New workers generally start around \$32,288, while highly experienced workers can earn as much as \$51,462.

Wage

