



# Exploring Healthcare Careers in Kankakee County

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## Industry Overview

It takes a network of connected and specialized services to make up the healthcare industry. Nursing homes, hospitals, doctors' offices, outpatient surgery centers, and other facilities all provide a wide range of healthcare services.

Overall, they share a common goal of providing services to treat illness, maintain wellness, and manage disease. For workers in healthcare, helping people is the core of their jobs.

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- **Are you strong in science or mathematics?**
  - **Do you like to help others?**
  - **Do you like to work in teams, share information and solve problems?**
  - **Is living a healthy lifestyle important to you?**
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### In-Demand Healthcare Jobs

The Kankakee Workforce Services office has identified 22 high-demand jobs with available training programs in the healthcare field, which are listed on the back page with related wage and training information. Certain healthcare occupations may require testing or licensure. Most require drug testing and criminal background checks.

## Outlook & Growth

The healthcare industry in Kankakee County is reported to grow faster than any other industry sector through 2032. This growth comes primarily from advances in healthcare technology, an increase in chronic conditions, and the aging population. These industry-wide changes offer many exciting employment opportunities for careers in healthcare.



## Training

Jobs in Kankakee County's healthcare industry require education and training after high school, yet they don't always require a four-year degree. Depending on your career interests and professional goals, you can choose a training program lasting from several weeks to more than four years. Here are some examples:

### **1 Year or less**

#### Certificate Program

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant

### **2 Years**

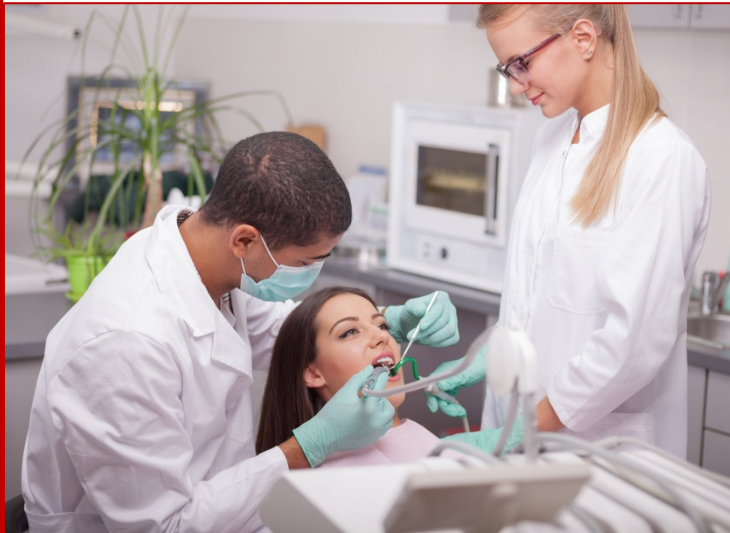
#### Associate Degree

- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technicians
- Registered Nurse

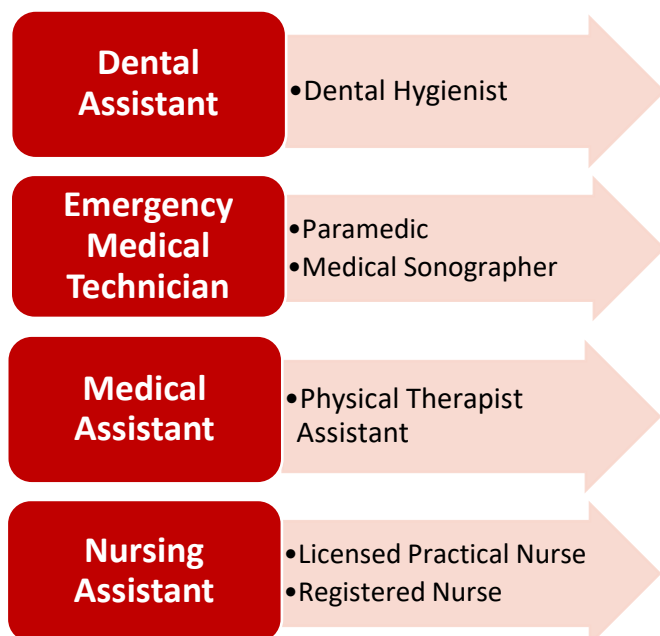
The Kankakee Workforce Services website provides information about careers in healthcare and includes local Kankakee County job postings, training programs, and advice on how to find financial aid. It is a resource which will introduce you to healthcare jobs in Kankakee County and help you figure out which ones could be the right fit for you.

## Career Opportunities

There are many job specializations and opportunities within the field of healthcare. Whether you are interested in assisting medical doctors, responding to emergencies, supervising teams of experts, utilizing and maintaining medical equipment, or organizing medical records and information, there are a variety of professions within this industry.



Of course, you don't have to stick to one career pathway. You can start in one career, and advance with experience and education into something different. Here are some healthcare career pathway examples:



These career pathway examples are just a way to get you started – the next step is up to you!

## Required Skills & Abilities

Although completing the required technical training is critical to landing a job in healthcare, there are additional skills employers look for. To move ahead in, and even begin your career, you will need to demonstrate good interpersonal and communication skills.







**How many of the top 9 healthcare interpersonal skills do you see in yourself?**

1. **Communication**
2. **Dealing with criticism**
3. **Dealing with pressure**
4. **Empathy**
5. **Flexibility**
6. **Self-confidence**
7. **Strong work ethic**
8. **Team player**
9. **Time management**



# Kankakee County In-Demand Healthcare Jobs

Job Title	Annual Job Openings Cook County Region	Annual Job Openings Kankakee County Area	Average Starting Hourly Wage	Average Hourly Wage with Experience	
<b>Certificate</b>					
	Dental Assistants	721	17	\$15.03	\$22.21
	Emergency Medical Technicians	372	16	\$16.92	\$22.53
	Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars*	497	18	\$20.68	\$31.69
	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	646	40	\$28.24	\$35.49
	Massage Therapists	389	11	\$17.10	\$23.27
	Medical Assistants	1248	39	\$18.54	\$21.44
	Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	939	35	\$18.41	\$22.54
	Nursing Assistants	3010	192	\$17.90	\$21.34
	Pharmacy Technicians	809	25	\$17.44	\$22.86
	Phlebotomists	324	13	\$14.86	\$21.46
<b>Associate Degree</b>					
	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	104	5	\$20.85	\$45.35
	Dental Hygienists	22	5	\$16.55	\$44.28
	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	254	6	\$39.34	\$48.48
	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	512	20	\$21.27	\$37.16
	Occupational Therapy Assistants	160	6	\$27.70	\$39.76
	Paramedics	50	16	\$19.99	\$26.36
	Physical Therapist Assistants	256	10	\$25.31	\$35.51
	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	310	14	\$30.96	\$39.07
	Registered Nurses	3603	174	\$27.85	\$49.42
	Respiratory Therapists	149	7	\$33.16	\$39.25
	Surgical Technologists	146	6	\$24.31	\$30.19
	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	177	4	\$16.68	\$21.60

\*Earning an associate degree will also satisfy educational requirements for this job.