Registered Nurse

Step Up to the Future!

What Does a Registered Nurse Do?

Registered Nurses (RNs) are considered by many to be the backbone of health care. They work in many settings; hospitals (60%), ambulatory care clinics, nursing homes, home health agencies, schools, government agencies and the military.

In any setting, an RN is responsible for formulating and implementing care plans, performing physical assessments, providing health promotion, counseling and education, and administering medications and other therapeutic interventions as prescribed. Nurses interpret patient information and make critical decisions about needed actions, coordinate care in collaboration with other health care professionals and conduct research in support of improved practice and patient outcomes.

Facts About Registered Nurses & Job Opportunities

According to a document entitled “Key Findings, 2014, Health Occupations in California,” prepared by the Centers of Excellence, the need for Registered Nurses in the ambulatory healthcare and nursing and residential care employer settings is expected to see a projected growth rate of 12%, with a total of 7,103 job openings over the subsequent 12-month period.

The demand for Registered Nurses in California’s acute care hospitals varies by region. Refer to the California Nurse Workforce Dashboard (http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/SupplyDemand/Dashboard.html) for specific demand information for your region.

RNs must be licensed to practice in California by the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). To take the licensing examination, an applicant must have completed an associate or bachelor’s degree nursing program. Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) may become eligible for the RN license by enrolling in a 12-18 month Career Advancement (step-up) program.

An applicant for registered nursing programs must be a high school graduate or have a GED. Community colleges offer programs leading to an associate degree. Four-year colleges and universities grant a bachelor’s degree in nursing. Some prerequisites to taking a Registered Nurse program at a community college or university may include Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Microbiology, English, and Beginning Algebra. They may also include Basic Nutrition, Psychology, Sociology and Speech as corequisites or prerequisites. All nursing programs include supervised clinical experience.

Sources for Further Information About Registered Nurses:

- California Community Colleges’ Health Program Directory www.ca-hwi.org
- The Foundation of the National Student Nurses Association (FNSNA) www.nsna.org
- Discover Nursing www.discovernursing.com
- Health Care Careers www.anacalifornia.org
- California Licensing: Department of Consumer Affairs, California Board of Registered Nursing: www.rn.ca.gov

For more information on salaries go to: www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/http://salarysurfer.cccco.edu

Personal Characteristics & Working Conditions

- Excellent people skills: Able to put patients of all ages and backgrounds at ease, gain their confidence, provide clear instructions, and act assertively to manage emotionally charged situations.
- Excellent communication and assessment skills: Able to observe subtle changes in the health and behavior of patients, make decisions about needed actions, communicate accurate clinical information, and work with a multidisciplinary team.
- Position Requirements: Able/willing to work weekends, holidays, nights and 8-12 hour shifts, be in good health, be physically active for long periods of time, tolerate exposure to blood, bodily fluids and unpleasant odors, and deal with challenging situations.
- In order to be licensed, the RN candidate must pass a criminal background check and be cleared by the BRN.

What Does a Registered Nurse Do?
Registered Nurse (RN) Programs are Available at the Following Community Colleges:

- Allan Hancock College
- American River College
- Antelope Valley College
- Bakersfield College
- Butte College
- Cabrillo College
- Cerritos College
- Chabot College
- Chaffey Community College
- Citrus College
- City College of San Francisco
- College of Marin
- College of San Mateo
- College of the Canyons
- College of the Desert
- College of the Redwoods
- College of the Sequoias
- College of the Siskiyous
- Contra Costa College
- Copper Mountain College
- Cuesta College
- Cypress College
- De Anza College
- East Los Angeles College
- El Camino College
- El Camino College-Compton Community
- Educational Center
- Evergreen Valley College
- Fresno City College
- Gavilan College
- Glendale Community College
- Golden West College
- Grossmont College
- Hartnell College
- Imperial Valley College
- Long Beach City College
- Los Angeles City College
- Los Angeles Harbor College
- Los Angeles Southwest College
- Los Angeles Trade-Tech College
- Los Angeles Valley College
- Los Medanos College
- Mendocino College
- Merced College
- Merritt College
- Miramar College
- Mission College
- Modesto Junior College
- Monterey Peninsula College
- Moorpark College
- Mt. San Antonio College
- Mt. San Jacinto College
- Napa Valley College
- Ohlone College
- Palomar College
- Pasadena City College
- Porterville College
- Rio Hondo College
- Riverside City College
- Sacramento City College
- Saddleback College
- San Bernardino Valley College
- San Diego City College
- San Joaquin Delta College
- Santa Ana College
- Santa Barbara City College
- Santa Monica College
- Santa Rosa Junior College
- Shasta College
- Sierra Community College
- Solano Community College
- Southwestern College
- Ventura College
- Victor Valley Community College
- West Hills College
- Yuba College

Find out more information at: www.ca-hwi.org

For more information, please contact one of the colleges listed above or explore the web resources. For additional information regarding this brochure please contact: The Health Workforce Initiative at Butte College (530) 892-3060

The California Community Colleges Allied Health Programs

Step Up to the Future as a Registered Nurse

Associate Degree Nursing Program
Application Period February 1 - 14 Annually

Allied Health Division Office
West Campus ~ Glacier Hall 165
(209) 575-6362

Website: www.mjc.edu/alliedhealth

Regular Hours:
Monday – Thursday: 8am – 5pm
Friday: 8am – 4:30pm

Summer Hours:
Monday – Thursday 7:30am – 5:30pm
Friday – Closed

Contact Donna Blagg for more information
(209) 575-6362 ~ blaggd@mjc.edu

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