

CAREER OUTLOOK

According to the US Department of Labor, nursing is the largest health care related occupation in the country. It is also a profession that is experiencing a nation-wide shortage. Employment opportunities for registered nurses are excellent and are expected to grow 21%-35% through the end of the decade. As the "baby-boom" generation becomes increasingly older, the number of people who will require medical care is projected to grow very rapidly. There will also be a demand for nursing educators who will be responsible for teaching the next generation of talented nurses. Another area of expected growth is in advanced training and specialization.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Nurses Association
600 Maryland Avenue, SW,
Suite 100 W.
Washington, DC 20024-2571
Phone: (202) 651-7000
Web: www.nursingworld.org

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
PO Box 12846, Capital Station
Austin, TX 78711
Phone: (512) 442-4262
Web: www.aanp.org

Mississippi Nurses Association
31 Woodgreen Place
Madison, MS 39110
Phone: (601) 898-0670
Web: www.msurses.org



MHA HEALTH CAREERS CENTER

6425 LAKEOVER ROAD (39213)
P.O. Box 16444
JACKSON, MS 39236-6444
PHONE (601) 982-3251
FAX (601) 368-3200

WWW.MSHEALTHCAREERS.COM

It's
YOUR
choice...



Choose to care!

...

*Promoting Health
Careers in Mississippi*

A division of Mississippi Hospital Association

REGISTERED NURSE - MASTERS & PH.D

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Registered nurses (RNs) are the backbone of almost every health care facility in the nation. RNs provide patients with treatment and education, as well as participating in patient care evaluation and discharge planning. Responsibilities of a registered nurse may include understanding, administering, and evaluating the effects of a wide range of medicines, operating and interpreting intricate life saving equipment, and being caring and sympathetic to patients with severe injuries and illnesses. There are many specialties that an RN may choose such as intensive care, pediatrics, gerontology, surgical care, psychiatry, anesthesiology, oncology, orthopedics, administration, or education. Registered nurses are also in charge of supervising other nursing staff such as licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and certified nursing assistants (CNAs). Anyone interested in entering this field of nursing should be well organized, able to work well under pressure, able to form and maintain good interpersonal relationships, and have the ability to handle emergencies calmly. Academic ability and good study habits are also necessary for any student who is considering a career in nursing. Nursing is one of the most challenging and rewarding health careers and requires hard work and dedication to be successful.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Registered nurses work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health departments, clinics, schools, physicians' offices, home health agencies, rehabilitation centers, mental

health institution, the military, and industrial or corporate sites.

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a registered nurse should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, foods and nutrition, health occupations/medical professions education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering a master's level degree program must have a B.S.N from an accredited educational institution. Masters programs offer courses of study for clinical specialists, education, and administration/management. Masters education includes the study of concept, theory, and research. Additionally, a master's degree provides advanced preparation for nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists. After receiving a master's degree, nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty in order to practice in their expanded role. The Ph.D program is given jointly by the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the University of Southern Mississippi. Students must have a master's degree to be considered for this program. This highest level of education is designed to develop leaders in the field of nursing who can conduct valuable research on clinical outcomes.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Master's Degree programs

Alcorn State University
PO Box 18399
Natchez, MS 39122
Phone: (601) 442-3901

Delta State University
PO Box 3154
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: (662) 846-3000

Mississippi University for Women
PO Box W-1614
Columbus, MS 39701
Phone: (662) 329-4750

The University of Mississippi
Medical Center
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 984-6213

University of Southern Mississippi
Box 5101
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Phone: (601) 288-4201

Ph.D programs

The University of Mississippi
Medical Center
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 984-6213

University of Southern Mississippi
Box 5101
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Phone: (601) 288-4201

SALARY RANGE

Average Annual Salary--\$56,700
Salary Range--\$45,400-\$64,300