PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE and ASSISTANT
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Therapist Assistants</th>
<th>Physical Therapist Aides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs in 2012</td>
<td>Expected Growth by 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


JOB DUTIES

Physical Therapist Assistants
- Help patients to relieve their pain and increase strength and mobility.
- Work with individuals with disabilities and injuries, or those who are recovering from a stroke or heart disease.
- Work under the direction of physical therapists to carry out treatment plan, teach patients how to do therapeutic exercises or how to use braces, prostheses, crutches, or other devices.
- May involve therapeutic massage, aquatic physical therapy, or ultrasound.
- Measure patients range of motion and vital signs.
- Chart treatment details and patient progress.

Physical Therapist Aides
- Work under the supervision of a physical therapist assistant or physical therapist.
- Clean and organize work area and disinfect equipment after treatment.
- Secure patients into or onto therapy equipment.
- Transport patients to and from treatment areas, using wheelchairs or providing standing support and prepare patients for treatment.
- Arrange treatment supplies to keep them in order.
- Some physical therapist aides perform clinical tasks, such as charting patient progress or taking vital signs, but it depends on the employer.

Visit www.onetonline.com for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Physical therapist aides are required to have at least a high school diploma or GED. Physical therapist assistants are required to complete an approved, accredited two year degree program\(^1\) and pass an exam administered by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation.

Skills/Aptitude
Must have subject matter knowledge in anatomy and physiology, and be good at communication and problem solving, and enjoy working with people and be customer service oriented.

Other Requirements
May work evenings and weekends, depending on the employer’s hours of operation.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

Physical therapist aides may return to school to become physical therapist assistants (requiring a two-year degree) or physical therapists (requiring a master’s degree).

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Physical therapists offices, hospitals, nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare, Crestwood Care Center)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
Physical therapy assistant (PTA), physical therapy technician, licensed physical therapist assistant (LPTA), physical therapy aide (PTA), clinical rehabilitation aide

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\(^1\) Find a list of approved programs in Illinois at http://www.ipta.org

The TOPs reflect the priorities of The Partnership’s WIA Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) and do not represent a complete list of important or high demand occupations.
REGISTERED NURSE
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Practicing nurses in Illinois are required to graduate from an approved professional nursing education program and earn an associate’s degree or a bachelor’s degree in nursing. A list of approved programs is available at the Illinois Center for Nursing.¹

Skills/Aptitude
Medical knowledge, Good communication and customer service skills, ability to problem solve

Certifications
In Illinois, registered nurses must be licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.²

Other Requirements
The job regularly involves standing for long periods of time, as well as night, weekend, and holiday hours.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

RN’s can advance in the administrative or clinical sides of nursing. They may obtain a graduate degree in nursing or health administration and advance to higher levels of management, or can obtain more education to become nurse practitioners, midwives, or nurse anesthetists.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), home health care services (Oxford Health Care, Gateway Home Care), physicians’ offices, nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
Registered nurse (RN), staff RN (Staff Registered Nurse), staff nurse, charge nurse, oncology RN (oncology registered nurse), relief charge nurse, cardiac/coronary care unit nurse (CCU nurse), certified nurse operating room (CNOR)

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
69 W. Washington, Suite 2860, Chicago, IL 60602
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www.workforceboard.org

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Revised June 2013

¹ For a list of approved nursing programs in Illinois, see: http://nursing.illinois.gov/education.asp
² To review requirements for RN licensure in Illinois, see: http://www.idfpr.com/PROFS/Info/nursing.asp

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JOB DUTIES

- Work under the direction of veterinarians to assist in routine checkups on animals, as well as assist in the diagnosis and treatment of animal health problems.
- Prepare animals for and conduct medical tests such as urinalyses, blood counts, biopsies, and x-rays.
- Prepare animals for and assist in surgical procedures, and care for animals recovering from surgery.
- Administer anesthesia and monitor animals to ensure correct dosage.
- Administer emergency first aid on animals.

Visit www.onetonline.com for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Veterinary techs are required to complete a two year veterinary technology program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.¹

Skills/Aptitude
Must have medical knowledge, be good at critical thinking and active listening, and be skilled at communication with animal owners and other veterinary professionals.

Certifications
Veterinary techs in Illinois must pass the Veterinary Technician National Examination and be licensed by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation.²

Other Requirements
May involve interactions with hazardous animals at times, resulting in bites or scratches.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?
With experience, veterinary technicians can take on more responsibility, assist in more complex tasks, or assume supervisory roles. They must attend veterinary school to become veterinarians.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Veterinarian’s offices, advocacy organizations (such as shelters)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
Vet tech, registered/licensed/certified veterinary technician (RVT, LVT, CVT), veterinary assistant, veterinary nurse

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www.workforceboard.org

¹ List of AVMA accredited programs: https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Programs/Pages/vettech-programs-all-programs-list.aspx#illinois
² For licensing information see http://www.idfpr.com/Renewals/apply/Vet.asp
CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
<th>Entry Level Wage</th>
<th>Mid-Level Wage</th>
<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Health Aides</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>$22,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Assistants</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td>$26,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: EMSI 2012, O*NET, Illinois WorkNet, American Community Survey 2009-2011 for Cook Co. Covers SOC codes 31-1011 and 31-1012. The latter code has been discontinued and replaced with multiple codes including 31-1014 – Nursing Assistants, but data is not yet available for the new code.

JOB DUTIES

Home Health Aides
- Care for elderly, recovering, or patients with disabilities in their own homes and on trips outside the home.
- Maintain records of patient care and condition.
- Check patients' pulse, temperature, and respiration, and administer prescribed oral medication.
- Change bed linens, help patients move in and out of beds, baths, and wheelchairs, and assist with their personal care.

Nursing Assistants
- Care for patients in residential care facilities or hospitals.
- Answer patient call signals to determine needs.
- Administer medications or treatments, such as catheterizations, suppositories, irrigations, or enemas.
- Apply clean dressings, and collect specimens from patient.

Visit www.onetonline.com for more information about these occupations.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
These jobs offer opportunities for individuals with a high school diploma or GED, who can complete a certification program approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health.¹

Skills/Aptitude
Must have medical knowledge, as well as good active listening, customer service, and critical thinking skills.

Certifications
Those working in skilled nursing or intermediate care facilities or home health agencies must complete an approved training program and pass a written competency exam.¹

Other Requirements
Background check required. May work evenings and weekends. Home Health Aides are required to travel to patients homes, and often do a variety of non-medical tasks, including laundry and house cleaning.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

Nursing assistants and home health aides with experience can become supervisors, or can obtain additional training and credentials to become Licensed Practical Nurses and then Registered Nurses.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?

Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?

Nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare, Crestwood Care), hospitals, continuing care retirement communities (Admiral Retirement Community, Waterford Estates Retirement Community); home health care services (Oxford Health Care, Gateway Home Care), Services for the elderly or persons with disabilities (Circle of Support, Aspire of Illinois)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?

Home health aide (HHA), certified nursing aide (CNA), residential counselor, certified medical aide (CMA), care giver

¹ List of approved CNA training programs here: http://www.idph.state.il.us/nar/home.htm and CNA exam info here: http://nurseaidetesting.com/
**DENTAL HYGIENIST & DENTAL ASSISTANT**

**TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jobs in 2012</th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
<th>Entry Level Wage</th>
<th>Mid-Level Wage</th>
<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dental Hygienists</strong></td>
<td>3,493</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td>$31</td>
<td>$43</td>
<td>$62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dental Assistants</strong></td>
<td>5,408</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td>$32,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**JOB DUTIES**

*Hygienists*
- Record and review patient medical history
- Examine and clean gums and teeth of patients
- Take x-rays
- Chart conditions of mouth and gums for diagnosis and treatment by dentist
- Apply fluoride to patient teeth

*Dental Assistants*
- Prepare patient and set up instrument trays before procedures
- Assist dentist during procedures
- Maintain and clean dental instruments
- Provide health education or postoperative instructions to patients

Visit [www.onetonline.com](http://www.onetonline.com) for more information about these occupations.

**IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?**

**Education**
Dental hygienists require an associate’s or bachelor’s degree from an accredited program; most dental assistants complete a post-secondary program lasting one year or less and earn a credential.

**Skills/Aptitude**
Enjoys working with other people, skilled at oral communication and active listening, skilled at handling delicate instruments.

**Certifications**
Dental hygienists must pass both national and regional Board exams. This profession is regulated by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation ([http://www.idfpr.com](http://www.idfpr.com)). Dental assistants are not regulated by the state, so certification is not legally required. However, the Dental Assisting National Board offers certification exams.

**Other Requirements**
Note that Persons convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor may not be able to obtain licensure to become a dental hygienist.

**ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?**
Dental assistants may complete additional exams to expand their duties to include sealant application or coronal polishing, for example.

**WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?**
Visit [www.chicagolandwiatraining.com](http://www.chicagolandwiatraining.com) to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

**WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?**
Dentist’s offices, hospitals and health systems, temporary help services

**WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?**
Registered dental hygienist (RDH), registered dental assistant (RDA), expanded duties dental assistant (EDDA), orthodontic assistant, oral surgery assistant
EMT & PARAMEDIC
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

JOB DUTIES
• Drive ambulance
• Diagnose illness or injury and establish/prioritize medical procedures
• Administer first aid or emergency treatment procedures; Administer drugs by injection, orally, or intravenously
• Operate medical equipment such as EKGs and defibrillators
• Coordinate with other emergency medical team members, police, fire department, dispatchers and hospital regarding situation
• Comfort and reassure patients

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Basic EMTs are required to complete an approved training program of 110 classroom hours and 10 clinical hours before taking the licensing exam. To move on to intermediate EMT or paramedic it is required to complete 120 hours of continuing education and pass additional licensing exams.

Skills/Aptitude
Works well under pressure, has critical thinking skills and good oral communication and active listening

Certifications
To work as an EMT or Paramedic in Illinois, one must pass either the National EMT exam or one of three Illinois exams – EMT-Basic, EMT- Intermediate, and EMT- Paramedic.

Other Requirements
May work nights, weekends, and holidays. Note that those convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor may not be able to obtain licensure to become a paramedics or EMT.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?
EMT-Bs can obtain licenses to work as EMT-I’s or Paramedics with continuing education and additional licensing examinations.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), ambulance services (Medical Express, Pulse Ambulance)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
Emergency medical technician (EMT), EMT - B, EMT - I, EMT-paramedic, first responder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMTs and Paramedics</th>
<th>Jobs in 2012</th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
<th>Entry Level Wage</th>
<th>Mid-Level Wage</th>
<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,831</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>$11</td>
<td>$21</td>
<td>$43</td>
<td>$56,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST / TECHNICIAN
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about these occupations.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Technologists generally have at least a bachelor’s degree, while technicians generally require an associate’s degree.

Skills/Aptitude
Has content knowledge in chemistry, biology, and medicine. Able to operate complex medical machinery, skilled at active listening and critical thinking, and has good vision and manual dexterity.

Certifications
Certification is voluntary, but may be required by certain employers. Certification depends on area of specialization, and is available from the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, American Association of Bioanalysts, and American Medical Technologists.

Other Requirements
May work nights, weekends, or holidays. Involves wearing safety gear, and periods working both alone running lab tests.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

Technicians can complete additional training and experience to become technologists. They also may move on to work for lab equipment manufacturers as product testers or sales representatives.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?

Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?

Hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), medical laboratories (Abbott, Brainlab, Quest Diagnostics), doctors’ offices

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?

Medical lab tech, MT or MLT, clinical laboratory scientist (CLS), clinical laboratory manager, laboratory assistant
LICENCED PRATICAL NURSE
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

### JOB DUTIES

- Measure patient vital signs, including height, weight, temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration.
- Administer prescribed medications or start intravenous fluids.
- Record notes on patients' charts.
- Answer patients' calls and determine how to assist them.
- Prepare patients for tests and treatments.
- Duties may include dressing wounds, treating bedsores, collecting blood or urine samples, or performing catheterizations.
- Work under the supervision of doctors or registered nurses.

Visit [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org) for more information about this occupation.

### IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

**Education**  
LPNs must complete an approved practical nursing program that is at least one academic year.  

**Skills/Aptitude**  
Must have content knowledge in medicine, strong attention to detail, enjoy working with people and have good customer service skills. Critical thinking, active listening, and oral communication are also important.

**Certifications**  
The profession is regulated by the state of Illinois. After completing an approved training program, individuals must pass the state licensing exam ($50 fee).

**Other Requirements**  
May work nights, weekends, or holidays. Involves exposure to diseases and infections, and lots of time on one’s feet.

### ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

LPNs with experience can become supervisors of certified nursing assistants or nursing aides. LPNs can also obtain additional training to become registered nurses or other types of healthcare workers.

### WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?

Visit [www.chicagolandwiatraining.com](http://www.chicagolandwiatraining.com) to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

### WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?

Nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare, Crestwood), hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), home health care services (Oxford Health Care), doctor’s offices, temporary help services.

### WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?

LPN, LVN, charge nurse, clinic nurse, office nurse, private duty nurse.

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1 A list of approved LPN training programs can be found at the Illinois Center for Nursing.

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**CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP**  
Revised June 2013

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

JOB DUTIES
- Work under the direction of a physician.
- Schedule appointments, maintain medical records, and perform billing and coding duties.
- Take and record vital signs (height, weight, blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and respiration).
- Record patient’s medical history and test results.
- Prepare treatment rooms and patients for examinations by physician.
- Prepare and administer medications as directed by a physician.
- During examinations, help physicians examine and treat patients, handing them instruments or materials or performing such tasks as removing sutures.
- Collect blood, tissue, or other specimens and prepare them for testing.

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?
Education
Medical assistants are often trained on the job. Many have a high school diploma or a 1-2 year postsecondary degree.

Skills/Aptitude
Must have content knowledge in medicine, strong attention to detail, enjoy working with people and have good customer service skills. Critical thinking, active listening, and oral communication are also important.

Certifications
Medical assistants are not required to have licenses or certifications, but voluntary certification is available through the American Association of Medical Assistants. In order to perform certain tasks (drawing blood, taking x-rays, for example) additional training or exams are required.

Other Requirements
May work nights, weekends, or holidays. Involves exposure to diseases and infections, and lots of time on one’s feet.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?
With additional training and experience, medical assistants can advance down the clinical path (nursing or physician assistants) or the administrative path (medical secretaries, health records technicians).

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Doctor’s offices, hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), chiropractors’ offices, mental health specialists’ offices

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
Certified medical assistant (CMA), doctor's assistant, medical office assistant, clinical assistant

The TOPs reflect the priorities of The Partnership’s WIA Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) and do not represent a complete list of important or high demand occupations.
MEDICAL SECRETARY and 
HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIAN

TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOB DUTIES</th>
<th>Medical records and health information technicians</th>
<th>Medical Transcriptionists</th>
<th>Medical Secretaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain medical records as well as indexes, storage, and retrieval systems, and retrieve records for physicians as needed.</td>
<td>• Translate medical jargon and abbreviations into correct terminology.</td>
<td>• Greet visitors, answer phones, schedule appointments, and file lab results and other documents in patient charts.</td>
<td>• Use word processing, spreadsheets, and other computer programs to prepare reports, invoices, letters, medical records, or insurance claim forms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect the security and confidentiality of medical records.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use taped recordings to type notes from office appointments, surgical procedures, ER visits, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org) for more information about these occupations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills/Aptitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experienced health information technicians may become supervisors or administrators. Medical transcriptionists can eventually become freelance contractors or business owners.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visit <a href="http://www.chicagolandwiatraining.com">www.chicagolandwiatraining.com</a> to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor’s offices, hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare, Crestwood Care), collection agencies (medical transcriptionists)(VanRu Credit Corp)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical records clerk, documentation specialist, unit support representative, medical receptionist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS and TECHNICIANS
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

Revised June 2013

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Jobs in 2012</th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
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<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular Techs</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$21</td>
<td>$39</td>
<td>$49,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Medical Sonographers</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td>$69,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Medicine Technicians</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td>$72,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic Technicians</td>
<td>3,878</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td>$39</td>
<td>$60,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapy Technicians</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>Decline</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$47,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Technicians</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$21</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>$44,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Health Technicians</td>
<td>3,473</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>$29</td>
<td>$43,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>74%</strong></td>
<td><strong>196</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,800</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


JOB DUTIES

Though the terms are often used interchangeably, medical technologists tend to have more education, be responsible for more complex procedures, and earn a higher wage than medical technicians. Both technologists and technicians prepare patients for medical tests and procedures, and operate equipment to conduct those procedures. They can specialize in a number of medical fields.

- Cardiovascular: Operate EKG/ECG machines, assist in cardiac catheterizations, and conduct lung capacity tests.
- Diagnostic medical sonography: Operate sonogram or ultrasound equipment.
- Nuclear medicine: Administer radiation intravenously for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.
- Radiology: Operate MRI, mammography, CT (computed tomography), or x-ray equipment.
- Respiratory therapy: Use ventilators, oxygen devices, or breathing treatments for those with emphysema, asthma, cystic fibrosis, and other respiratory illnesses.
- Surgery: Set up operating room, prepare patients for surgery, and pass instruments to surgeons.

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about these occupations.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Technicians tend to have a one or two year degree, and technologists may have bachelor’s degrees.

Skills/Aptitude
Should have good mechanical abilities in order to set up and maintain complex medical equipment. Should also have strong interpersonal skills and critical thinking skills, and be very detail oriented.

Certifications
Nuclear medicine techs, radiology techs, and surgical techs are regulated by the State of Illinois.¹ They must complete an approved training program and pass a licensing exam. For the other occupations, certification is voluntary, but some employers may prefer it.

Other Requirements
May be required to work on call, evenings, and weekends; must be comfortable working around sick patients. Nuclear medicine and radiology techs must wear protective gear as they are exposed to radiation.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

Technicians can advance to becoming technologists, and often continue into training to become a nurse or physician’s assistant. Technologists can specialize within their fields, for example in a specific type of surgery or equipment.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?

Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?

Hospitals (Northwestern, Loyola), doctors’ offices, dentists’ offices, medical laboratories (Abbott, Brain Lab, Quest Diagnostics), dialysis centers and MRI centers

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
69 W. Washington, Suite 2860, Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 603-0200/TOP@workforceboard.org
www.workforceboard.org

¹ Radiology and nuclear medicine techs are licensed by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency; Surgical techs are licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

The TOPs reflect the priorities of The Partnership’s WIA Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) and do not represent a complete list of important or high demand occupations.
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AIDE and ASSISTANT
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jobs in 2012</th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
<th>Entry Level Wage</th>
<th>Mid-Level Wage</th>
<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy Assistants</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$50,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy Aides</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td>$37,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


JOB DUTIES

- Work under the direction of an occupational therapist to evaluate the capabilities of individuals in recovery or with disabilities, and implement treatment plans to help patients master basic living skills and function independently.
- Focus areas may include helping patients learning to feed, dress and groom themselves, communicate, or learn to use adaptive equipment.
- Select therapy activities to fit patients' needs and capabilities, and provide encouragement to patient as they attain therapeutic goals.
- Communicate with other healthcare professionals on patient progress.

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about these occupations.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
OT assistants must complete an associate’s degree program and pass a national certification exam in order to be licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. “Occupational therapy aide” is not a regulated profession, and not as clear a job title. Therefore, requirements will depend on employer.

Skills/Aptitude
Must have medical subject matter knowledge, and be service oriented and like helping people. Should be good at active listening and making judgments based on patient feedback.

Other Requirements
Background check may be required. Job varies widely from client to client, each with unique goals and capabilities and treatment plans.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?
Certified occupational therapy assistants may obtain a master’s degree and pass an additional national certification exam to become an occupational therapist.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?
Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?
Occupational therapy offices, hospitals, nursing care facilities (Lydia Healthcare, Crestwood Care)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?
OT Assistant: Certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA), occupational therapy assistant (OTA)  
OT Aide: Occupational therapy technician (OT tech), rehabilitation aide (rehab aide), rehabilitation services aide, rehabilitation technician (rehab tech), restorative aide
PHARMACY ASSISTANT
TARGET OCCUPATION PROFILE

Pharmacy Assistants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jobs in 2012</th>
<th>Expected Growth by 2022</th>
<th>Yearly Openings</th>
<th>Entry Level Wage</th>
<th>Mid-Level Wage</th>
<th>Experienced Wage</th>
<th>Average Yearly Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7,397</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>$9-11</td>
<td>$14-15</td>
<td>$20-21</td>
<td>$29,800-$31,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


JOB DUTIES

- Verify completeness and accuracy of prescriptions and refill requests
- Maintain patient profiles and lists of medications; make sure that there is no danger of drug interaction.
- Maintain stock of medications and dispose of outdated medications in inventory.
- Mix, package, and label pharmaceuticals
- Provide in person and over the phone customer service, responding to questions or requests.
- Maintain and clean equipment, work areas, or shelves.
- Perform clerical tasks, such as filing and completing insurance claim forms.

Visit www.onetonline.org for more information about this occupation.

IS THIS JOB A GOOD FIT FOR ME?

Education
Pharmacy technicians and aides must be licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. For licensure, Pharmacy Technicians are only required to have a high school diploma.

Skills/Aptitude
Must have pharmaceutical subject matter knowledge, and be good at active listening and critical thinking. Should be familiar with computers, and have a customer service orientation.

Certifications
Certified Pharmacy Technicians, however, need to complete an approved training program and pass one of several competency tests, including those offered by the Institute for the Certification of Pharmacy Technicians and the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board. Some employers prefer to hire Certified Pharmacy Technicians that have attended training programs and others prefer to train on the job.

Other Requirements
Background check may be required.

ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT?

Pharmacy assistants in a hospital may have more responsibilities, including reading charts, delivering medicine to patients, and preparing IV medications.

One pathway to advancement is to enroll in pharmacy school and become a pharmacist.

WHERE CAN I GO TO GET TRAINING?

Visit www.chicagolandwiatraining.com to search for WIA-certified training providers in Cook County, based on occupation, program cost, location, completion rate, employment, and wages.

WHO ARE THE LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY?

Pharmacies and drug stores (Walgreens, CVS), hospitals, pharmacies in supermarkets or discount stores (Dominick’s, Target)

WHAT OTHER JOB TITLES SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN HELP WANTED ADS?

Certified pharmacy technician (CPhT), pharmaceutical care associate, pharmacy assistant

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CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP
Revised June 2013

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