



# KENTUCKY'S HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

## Direct Care Career Pathway

### NURSING

Higher-Skilled Occupations

**Nurse Practitioners & other Advanced Practice Nurses**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$125,424      Five-Year Openings: 1,248 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Master's Degree

**Medical & Health Services Managers**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$95,246      Five-Year Openings: 1,379 \*  
 Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years      On-the-Job Training: None  
 Minimum Education Required: Bachelor's Degree

Middle-Skilled Occupations

**Case Managers & Care Coordinators**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$47,074      Five-Year Openings: 480 \*  
 Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years      On-the-Job Training: Moderate-term  
 Minimum Education Required: Bachelor's Degree

**Registered Nurses**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$60,507      Five-Year Openings: 12,163 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Associate's or Bachelor's Degree

**Licensed Practical & Vocational Nurses**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$40,407      Five-Year Openings: 2,366 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Post-Secondary Non-Degree Award

**Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$31,077      Five-Year Openings: 909 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Post-Secondary Non-Degree Award

Entry-Level Occupations

**Plebotomists**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$30,897      Five-Year Openings: 529 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: None  
 Minimum Education Required: Post-Secondary Non-Degree Award

**Medical Assistants**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$30,125      Five-Year Openings: 1,822 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: None  
 Minimum Education Required: Post-Secondary Non-Degree Award

**Nursing Assistants**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$25,491      Five-Year Openings: 7,898 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Post-Secondary Non-Degree Award

**Home Health Aides**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$24,469      Five-Year Openings: 1,517 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Short-term  
 Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED

### ADVANCED MEDICAL PRACTICE

Higher-Skilled Occupations

**Physicians & Surgeons**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$194,077      Five-Year Openings: 1,505 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Internship/Residency  
 Minimum Education Required: Doctoral Degree

**Primary Care Practitioners \*\***  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$207,179      Five-Year Openings: 630 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Internship/Residency  
 Minimum Education Required: Doctoral Degree

**Physician Assistants**  
 Average Annual Earnings: \$101,143      Five-Year Openings: 242 \*  
 Work Experience Required: None      On-the-Job Training: Clinical Rotations  
 Minimum Education Required: Master's Degree

\* Some occupations cross multiple industries. Five-Year Openings projections provided here are cross-industry, not industry-specific.

\*\* Typically includes family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, geriatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology. Oral, visual, and behavioral health care doctors or other providers are also often integrated into physical health care provision settings.