

Mapping Your Career Pathways: Job Requirements

Note: These are the basic requirements. Certain work environments, such as hospitals, and full-time schedules for some jobs may require 1-2 years of experience in a similar role or more education, such as an associate's degree.

Entry-Level

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- 100-hour CNA training
- 16-hour clinical rotation
- CNA certification exam

Credentials:

- Certified Nursing Assistant

Also known as: Personal Care Associate (hospital)

Can lead to: Medical Assistant, Radiation Technologist, Registered Nurse

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$24,580 – \$42,140 Per Hour \$11.82 - \$20.26

Dental Assistant

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- 9-12 month, full-time training program (or 3,500 hours of related work experience in less than 2 years plus 300 clinical hours)
- Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) qualifying exam

Credentials:

- GED or High School Diploma
- Certified Dental Assistant
- Current CPR

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$29,370 – \$58,440 Per Hour \$14.12 – \$28.10

Home Health Aide

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- N/A

Credentials:

- Optional: National Association for Home Care (NAHC) Certification

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$20,510 – \$32,570 Per Hour \$10.10 – \$15.66

Also known as: Caregiver, Companion, Live-in Aide, Personal Care Attendant, Personal Care Aide

Can lead to: CNA, Dental Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Sterile Processing Technician

Medical Billing and Coding Specialist:

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Medical coding training program
- 2 years of medical coding or related experience

Credentials:

- AAPC Certification
- GED or High School Diploma

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$27,100 – \$40,790 Per Hour \$13.03 – \$19.61

Patient Care Technician (PCT)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- GED course or High School
- 100 hour CNA plus 12 week EKG and Phlebotomy training

Credentials:

- Certified Nursing Assistant
- EKG and Phlebotomy certifications
- GED or High School Diploma

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$23,000 – \$37,000 Per Hour \$11.06 – \$17.79

Can lead to: Dental Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Sterile Processing Technician

Pharmacy Technician

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- High school or GED course
- 1,200 hours supervised work experience in a pharmacy or training plus clinical

Credentials

- Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Certification
- State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Registration
- GED or High School Diploma

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$22,300 – \$48,210 Per Hour \$10.72 – \$23.18

Sterile Processing Technician (SPT)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- 60-hour training program
- Certification Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD) Exam

Credentials:

- GED or High School Diploma
- Sterile Processing Technician

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$27,000 – \$57,000 Per hour \$12.98 – \$27.40

Can lead to: Radiologic Technologist, Surgical Technologist

Mid-Career

Medical Assistant (MA)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Non-degree MA certification training (9-18 months) or associate's degree (18-24 months)
- American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) Exam

Credentials

- Certified Medical Assistant
- High school diploma or GED

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$25,930 – \$49,110 Per Hour \$12.46 – \$23.61

Can lead to: (with college degree) Medical Office Manager, Registered Nurse, Respiratory Therapist

Medical Records and Health Information Technician

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Associate's degree in Health Information Management
- Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) Exam

Credentials:

- Associate's degree
- Registered Health Information Technician

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$29,300 - \$73,540 Per Hour \$14.09 – \$35.36

Radiologic Technologist (Rad. Tech.)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Associate's degree in a radiologic specialty (Sonography, Radiography, etc.)
- American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) exam

Credentials:

- Associate's degree
- Radiologic Technologist

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$45,640 – \$91,250 Per Hour \$21.94 – \$43.87

Surgical Technologist (Surg. Tech.)

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- 62-credit training program (1-2 years).
- National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) Exam

Credentials:

- High School Diploma (or GED)
- Surgical Technologist

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$35,170 – \$75,720 Per Hour \$16.91 – \$36.41

Late-Career

Medical Office Manager

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Associate's degree
- 3-5 years of experience in acute care
- Certified Physician Practice Manager (CPPM) Exam

Credentials:

- Associate's degree
- Certified Physician Practice Manager

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$43,000 – \$81,000 Per Hour \$20.67 – \$38.94

Registered Nurse

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (minimum of 4 years)
- 1-3 years of related experience
- National Council Licensure Examination - Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN)

Credentials:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Registered Nurse

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$55,530 – \$101,740 Per Hour \$26.70 – \$48.91

Respiratory Therapist

Education, Training and Work Experience:

- Associate's degree in Respiratory Care
- 1 year of experience in acute care
- National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) Exam

Credentials:

- Associate's degree
- Registered Respiratory Therapist

Compensation for Connecticut Wage Ranges: Annual \$53,090 – \$89,860 Per Hour \$25.52 – \$43.20