

Health Science Cluster



Planning, managing and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services and biotechnology research and development.

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Medical Assistants

Medical assistants are often the backbone of doctors' offices. Some assistants sit at the front desk and check patients in when they arrive for an appointment. Others show patients to the exam room, take histories, prepare them for the doctor's exam, and even assist during the exam. Still other assistants handle insurance forms and referrals or billing.

If you are interested in a career that combines both administrative and healthcare duties, a career as a **medical assistant** may be for you.

Medical assistants keep doctors' offices and clinics running smoothly. Their tasks are often clerical but also involve patient contact and care.

Are You Ready To...?

- Answer phones
- Complete insurance forms
- Change dressings
- Look after equipment and instruments used in examining rooms
- Balance office tasks with your responsibility to patient needs
- Learn new technology and skills quickly

It Helps To Be...

A good communicator who is organized and discreet. Medical assistants are often the first and last person a patient sees in a doctor's office. They also handle personal records and documents for billing and insurance, and must therefore be respectful of patient privacy.

A Day In The Life...

- Record patients' medical history, vital statistics, or information such as test results in medical records.
- Interview patients to obtain medical information and measure their vital signs, weight, and height.
- Set up medical laboratory equipment.

Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area

Median Hourly Wage: \$15.71

*That comes out to more than
\$32,672 a year.*

**In 2016, we had
2,560 Medical Assistants.
By 2026, we'll need 3,370.**

Could you be one of the 810?

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Medical Assistants

After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, many employers look for medical assistants who have completed a **one- or two-year program in medical assisting.**



Top 5 Industries for Medical Assistants

1. Offices of Physicians
2. General Medical & Surgical Hospitals
3. Offices of Other Health Practitioners
4. Outpatient Care Centers
5. Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

[http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/
CareerPlanning.aspx.](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx)

Related Majors

- Dental Assisting
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcription
- Nursing (RN)
- Physician Assistance

Related Industry Certifications

- Certified Coding Associate
- Certified Lab Technician
- Certified Medical Assistant
- Biomedical and Health Informatics Certification
- Certified Phlebotomist
- Medication Aide
- Registered Medical Assistant

Related Careers

- Dental Assistants
- Health Information Technicians
- Licensed Practical Nurses
- Medical Transcriptionists
- Medical and Health Services Managers
- Pharmacy Technicians

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