

## Human Services Cluster



*Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care and consumer services.*

**Data Sources**  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
CareerInfoNet  
CareerClusters  
The College Board  
Tracer

# Medical & Public Health Social Workers

*Our society hates to think about illness and death. We want to imagine that we'll live forever—young and pain free. Medical and public health social workers are among those rare beings willing to look illness and death in the face. Sure, they do all they can to help people get well, but when illness is terminal (deadly), they turn their attention to helping their clients die peacefully.*

Are you compassionate, and do you have a good bedside manner? If so, a career as a **medical and public health social worker** may be for you.

**Medical and public health social workers help people cope with serious illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, cancer and AIDS.**

### **Are You Ready To...?**

- Counsel people with diverse backgrounds and illnesses
- Arrange for at-home services for people discharged from hospitals
- Advise family caregivers
- Keep records and complete paperwork
- Work with other professionals

### **It Helps To Be...**

Someone who can see the beauty and courage in people with serious illnesses, even if their bodies are sick and weak. Be ready to go to bat for your clients, helping them get the services and programs they need.

### **A Day In The Life...**

- Advocate for clients or patients to resolve crises
- Collaborate with other professionals to evaluate patients' medical or physical condition and to assess client needs
- Plan discharge from care facility to home or other care facility
- Modify treatment plans to comply with changes in clients' status
- Supervise and direct other workers

### **Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area**

**Median Hourly Wage: \$27.27**

*That comes out to more than \$56,719 a year.*

**In 2016, we had 708 Medical & Public Health Social Workers. By 2026, we'll need 887.**

*Could you be one of the 179?*

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# Medical & Public Health Social Workers

## After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, most employers for medical and public health social workers require a **bachelor's degree** and a **master's degree in social work**.



## Top 5 Industries for Medical & Public Health Social Workers

1. General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
2. Home Health Care Services
3. Nursing Care Facilities
4. Outpatient Care Centers
5. Individual and Family Services

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

<http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx>.

## Related College Majors

- Gerontology
- Human Services
- Premedicine
- Public Administration
- Public Health
- Public Policy Analysis
- Social Work

## Related Industry Certifications

- Academy of Certified Social Workers Credential
- Certified Addiction Specialist
- Certified Eating Disorders Specialist
- Certified Relationship Specialist
- Clinical Social Worker in Health Care
- Fellow in Thanatology

## Related Careers

- Child, Family and School Social Workers
- Dietitians and Nutritionists
- Health Educators
- Medical Scientists
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers

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