

Careers in Healthcare

Healthcare is one of the biggest industries in the United States. Within healthcare, there are many paths from which to choose, including: direct patient care, administration, research, and public health (which is concerned with promoting and protecting the health of people and communities). Healthcare is a rapidly growing industry, with new opportunities arising in the areas of diagnostic, healing, rehabilitation, and preventative services.

RESOURCES AT BOSTON COLLEGE

- Premedical Programs Office
- Global Public Health Program
- Office of Health Promotion
- Mendel Society
- BC EMS
- Pre-Dental Society

SKILLS REQUIRED

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Empathy
- Ability to work under pressure
- Flexibility
- Attention to detail

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & JOB SEARCH SITES

- Boston Young Health Care Professionals: byhp.org
- Explore Health Careers: explorehealthcareers.org
- Massachusetts Hospital Association: MAHospitalCareers.com
- BC Nursing Jobs: liquidcompass.com/bcnursing
- American Public Health Association apha.org
- Association of Clinical Research Professionals: acrpnet.org

JOB SEARCH & INTERVIEW PROCESS

Volunteering and shadowing can help to gain exposure to healthcare professions and to demonstrate your passion for this industry. Many employers and graduate schools value this type of experience.

Different healthcare career paths may require an advanced degree and/or a certification or licensure exam. For career paths requiring a graduate degree, it is important to begin thinking about which classes to take early in your academic career. If you want to seek other opportunities before attending graduate school, you can participate in a post-baccalaureate program to gain more experience in the field. You can visit the Association of American Medical Colleges to explore different programs: <https://students-residents.aamc.org/postbacc/>.

Be prepared for behavioral interviews that will address many key skills for healthcare employees: teamwork, resilience, ability to work under pressure, etc. For research positions, you should feel comfortable describing specific lab techniques and skills you have developed.



MAJOR EMPLOYERS OF BC STUDENTS IN HEALTHCARE

Hospitals & Institutes

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Children's Hospital
- Boston Medical Center
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- New York Presbyterian Hospital
- New York University Medical Center
- Tufts Medical Center

Other Healthcare Organizations

- Athenahealth
- CVS Health
- Definitive Healthcare
- Epic
- GE Healthcare
- Meditech
- National Institutes of Health
- UnitedHealth Group

SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS WITHIN HEALTHCARE

Administrative – Healthcare organizations fulfill all functions of a business in order to run effectively: Healthcare management, marketing, finance, information technology, recruiting, consulting, and accounting.

Healthcare Practitioners – Healthcare practitioners take many different roles, including, but not limited to: physicians, dentists, physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, and pharmacists. These roles involve variations on examining and evaluating patients, performing diagnostic testing, developing treatment plans and prescribing medication.

Research and Development – Healthcare research and development takes place at biotechnology and pharmaceutical organizations developing new treatments, at medical device organizations designing new products, and in patient care settings implementing new interventions.

Public Health – Many career paths exist such as: Communications, education, epidemiology, research, policy makers, and environmental health.

Therapy and Rehabilitation – Many paths and roles exist in this space, such as physical and occupational therapists. These practitioners help people recovering from injury or surgery with pain management, regaining mobility and flexibility, as well as strength and conditioning.

*Please Note: This handout is intended to be a sampling of resources.
For additional information, please schedule an appointment through EagleLink.*

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