

Patient Care Technician

INDUSTRY FACTS



What do patient care technicians do?

With the ever increasing demand on the healthcare industry, patient care technicians are a vital part of today's medical workforce.

Under the supervision of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals, a patient care technician (PCT) helps look after sick and injured patients.

Their primary duties include the following:

- Basic patient care like bathing, feeding, and catheter care
- Acquiring, distributing, and administering patient care supplies
- Collecting laboratory specimens
- Ensuring the cleanliness of patient rooms and conducting safety checks
- Monitoring and recording changes in patient health and vital signs
- Performing EKG and phlebotomy procedures

Where do patient care technicians work?

Patient care technicians have many options available for work location and environment. Most PCTs work in a hospital, home care agency, or a nursing home, while others work in doctors' offices, clinics, or rehabilitation centers. Additional job placement opportunities can be found through specialized training, including dialysis, emergency room, and ICU specialization.



How much do patient care technicians earn?

Patient care technician salaries can vary greatly depending on location and employer. According to ZipRecruiter, the average national salary as of late 2018 is \$31,500* a year. In some cases, annual salaries can reach as high as \$52,000 but usually range between \$24,000 and \$34,000 per year.

Is the patient care technician field growing?

There's never been a better time to start your career as a patient care technician. As the national population continues to age, more and more assistants will be needed to perform routine administrative and clinical duties. The Bureau of Labor Statistics expects employment of PCTs to grow 29% from 2016 to 2026,**, which is much faster than a 7% average growth rate for all other occupations.

*ZipRecruiter.com, <https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries/PCT-Salary>

**U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

"I was very impressed with what CareerStep had to offer. Affordable pricing for a comprehensive program, combined with the support and flexibility I needed. A perfect choice!"

JESSICA, CAREERSTEP LEARNER

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PROGRAM DETAILS

Improve Your Life

In as little as 3 months, you can prepare for a successful new career as a patient care technician. Our training program will provide you all the tools and knowledge you need to launch into a career path with unprecedented growth opportunities, stability, and financial security. It even includes up to 100 hours in a clinical externship to gain hands-on experience before you hit the workforce.

Prepare For A Better Job

Get the training you need without racking up a mountain of student debt. Our Patient Care Technician program was created with an end goal in mind—the knowledge you need to get certified and get working fast. Your coursework will give you the tools you need to be successful:

- Learn the duties and responsibilities of patient care technicians
- Gain an extensive knowledge of a wide variety of medical procedures, including monitoring vital signs, collecting blood, pain management, care of surgical patients, and more
- Prepare to sit for the National Healthcare Association's CPCT/A (Certified Patient Care Technician/Assistant) exam—1 free voucher included with the program.

Learn At Home

Online training minimizes the challenges of taking time out to return to school. The online training format offers distinct advantages:

- Study on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Enjoy the flexibility to adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

Achieve Success With Unlimited Support

Our program is designed to help you accomplish your goal of getting a job. Our learning advisors will help you throughout your course with questions, places you get stuck, and exam preparation. And with the optional clinical externship, we will work with local employers to get you hands-on experience with your newly-learned skills.

Program Modules and Approximate Completion Hours

Module	Hours
Medical Terminology, Anatomy, and Physiology	6
Healthcare and the Role of the Patient Care Technician	6
Professionalism, Work Ethic, and Communicating With the Healthcare Team	7
Body Structure, Function/Growth, and Development	4
Understanding the Patient; Patient Psychology; and Patient Rights, Ethics, and Laws	6
Assisting With the Physical Examination	4
Measuring and Recording Vital Signs	7
Assisting With Admission and Discharge, Pain Management, Comfort, Rest, and Sleep	5
Assisting With Grooming, Hygiene, Nutrition, Fluids, and Bed Making	7
Assisting With Urinary Elimination, Bowel Elimination, and Oxygen Needs	9
Basic Emergency, Wound, Rehabilitative, Restorative, and Pressure Ulcer Care	18
Obtaining and Monitoring an Electrocardiogram	9
Workplace Safety, Body and Positioning Mechanics, and Fall Prevention	7
Asepsis and Infection Control	5
Blood Collecting and Processing	11
Specimen Collecting and Testing	7
Patient Care for Women, Children, and Those With Special Needs	7
Care for Patients With Chronic Conditions and End-of-Life Care	5
Final Exam	-
Externship	100
TOTAL	230