

Allied Health

A variety of professionals contribute to meeting the health care needs of patients. Allied health practitioners work closely with other health professionals to provide specific therapies and comprehensive health care.

Careers within this section include:

- **Athletic Trainer**
- **Audiologist**
- **Occupational Therapist**
- **Occupational Therapy Assistant**
- **Physical Therapist**
- **Physical Therapy Assistant**
- **Respiratory Care Practitioner**
- **Speech-Language Pathologist**
- **Speech-Language Pathology Assistant**

Athletic Trainer



To be a successful Athletic Trainer you should

- **Have strong communication skills**
- **Work well as an individual and as part of a team**
- **Be able to provide feedback**
- **Be in good physical condition**



What would I do?

Certified Athletic Trainers are highly educated and skilled allied health care professionals, specializing in the prevention, assessment, treatment, and rehabilitation of injuries of physically active people and athletes. Athletic Trainers strive to prevent injuries and enhance athletic performance by using their knowledge of injuries, illnesses, nutrition, strength training, conditioning, and sports psychology. Athletic Trainers develop clinical and team education programs related to injury prevention, emergency response, general and individualized health care, injury rehabilitation, and health care administration.

Where would I work?

Settings for Athletic Trainers include high schools, colleges, universities, health centers, physician offices, fitness centers, sports medicine clinics, hospitals, amateur and professional sporting events, and industrial settings.

What would I earn?

\$18,293–\$36,073

What do I need to know?

Athletic Trainers must graduate from a college or university with an accredited athletic training curriculum, including exercise physiology, kinesiology, and sports medicine programs. Athletic training programs consist of core courses in anatomy and biology and include clinical experience under the supervision of a certified Athletic Trainer.

What schools can I attend?

Colby-Sawyer College
100 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
(603) 526-3000
www.colby-sawyer.edu

Keene State College
229 Main Street
Keene, NH 03435-2602
(603) 352-1909
(800) KSC-1909
www.keene.edu

New England College
7 Main Street
Henniker, NH 03242
(603) 428-2211
(800) 521-7642
www.nec.edu

Plymouth State University
17 High Street
Plymouth, NH 03264-1595
(603) 535-5000
(800) 842-6900
www.plymouth.edu

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 200
Dallas, TX 75247-6196
(214) 637-6282
(800) 879-6282
www.nata.org



Audiologist



To be a successful Audiologist you should

- **Have strong academic skills, with an emphasis on the sciences**
- **Be able to counsel parents and teachers of school-age patients**
- **Have the organizational skills to keep up with a considerable amount of paper work**

What would I do?

Audiologists evaluate hearing and balance difficulties. They also provide rehabilitative communication assistance such as prescribing, fitting, and repairing hearing instruments. Audiologists may prescribe other assistive hearing equipment and/or instruction in improved communication techniques such as speech reading.

Where would I work?

Audiologists work in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, speech and hearing centers, or in private practice.

What would I earn?

\$46,883–\$55,785

What do I need to know?

The current entry-level degree to the profession is a master's degree. Those entering the profession will be required to complete a clinical doctorate (eight years after high school) and be licensed with the state of New Hampshire before they are able to work independently.

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no academic institutions in New Hampshire offering a program for Audiologists. In the past, New Hampshire students have attended out-of-state schools such as Boston University or Northeastern University in Boston, MA, or the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

Academy of Dispensing Audiologists
3008 Millwood Avenue
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 252-5646
(800) 455-8629
www.audiologist.org

American Academy of Audiology
11730 Plaza America Drive, Suite 300
Reston, VA 20190
(703) 790-8466
(800) 222-2336
www.audiology.org

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
10801 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
(800) 638-8255
www.asha.org

Occupational Therapist



To be a successful Occupational Therapist you should

- Be creative and enjoy working with people
- Be patient and supportive of those experiencing disabilities
- Be able to keep accurate and extensive records
- Be energetic and ambitious
- Enjoy problem solving



What would I do?

Occupational Therapists (OTs) help children and adults acquire, regain, or maintain daily living and working skills. OTs help people increase motor skills, dexterity, strength, and independence. They also help patients acquire skills such as cooking, cleaning, using computers, and utilizing adaptive equipment.

Occupational Therapists may specialize in working with specific types of injuries, such as hand injury or brain injury; specific populations such as geriatrics or pediatrics; or a specific area, such as rehabilitation, mental health, or developmental disabilities. Others may train employees to use proper ergonomics, help people with poor vision maintain their independence, make buildings and homes more accessible, and promote health and wellness.

Where would I work?

Occupational Therapists work in hospitals, outpatient clinics, rehabilitation centers, mental health centers, nursing homes, schools, home health agencies, and community settings.

What would I earn?

\$40,102–\$58,864

What do I need to know?

Occupational Therapists currently must earn a bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctorate degree from a professional program. After January 1, 2007, a master's or doctorate degree will be required. Field work of at least six months is needed in order to sit for the national certification examination to become an Occupational Therapist.

What schools can I attend?

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Occupational Therapy Association
PO Box 31220
4720 Montgomery Lane
Bethesda, MD 20824-1220
(301) 652-2682
(800) 377-8555
www.aota.org



Occupational Therapy Assistant



To be a successful Occupational Therapy Assistant you should

- **Enjoy working with people**
- **Be willing to work under supervision**
- **Be flexible and creative**

What would I do?

Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) work with Occupational Therapists to help children and adults gain skills needed to take part in daily activities and meaningful occupations. They are also responsible for monitoring and recording patients' progress and reporting any concerns to the supervising Occupational Therapist. The field of Occupational Therapy makes it possible for individuals to regain independence and enjoy life to its fullest.

Where would I work?

Occupational Therapy Assistants work in hospitals, outpatient clinics, rehabilitation centers, community mental health centers, nursing homes, schools, and home health agencies.

What would I earn?

\$27,768–\$36,712

What do I need to know?

Occupational Therapy Assistants must earn a two-year associate's degree from an accredited occupational therapy assistant program. Field work of at least 16 weeks is required in order to sit for the national certification examination to become an Occupational Therapy Assistant.

What schools can I attend?

New Hampshire Community Technical College-
Claremont
One College Drive
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7744
(800) 837-0658
www.claremont.nhctc.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Occupational Therapy Association
4720 Montgomery Lane
PO Box 31220
Bethesda, MD 20824-1220
(301) 652-2682
(800) 377-8555
www.aota.org

Physical Therapist



To be a successful Physical Therapist you should

- Like working with people
- Have strong communication skills
- Be able to work independently and as part of a team
- Be creative



What would I do?

Physical Therapists (PTs) help patients recover from physical injuries or diseases. PTs develop a plan of care which may include the use of exercises, functional training, electrical stimulation, ultrasound, and massage. PTs promote physical fitness and health by teaching patients stretching, strengthening exercises, injury prevention, and body mechanics.

Where would I work?

Physical Therapists may work in hospitals, physical therapy offices, sports facilities, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, and home health agencies.

There are also areas of certified specialization within the physical therapy field, which include: cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, clinical electrophysiology, geriatrics, neurology, orthopedics, pediatrics, sports therapy, aquatics, OB/GYN, industrial rehabilitation, and veterinary medicine.

What would I earn?

\$45,427–\$59,904

What do I need to know?

Physical Therapists are required to have a master's or doctoral degree. Entrance into physical therapy programs is highly competitive. During the education process, a clinical internship is required to obtain a degree.

What schools can I attend?

Franklin Pierce College
20 College Road
Rindge, NH 03461-0060
(603) 899-4050
(800) 437-0048
www.fpc.edu

New England College
7 Main Street
Henniker, NH 03242
(603) 428-2211
(800) 521-7642
www.nec.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Physical Therapy Association
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1488
(703) 684-2782
(800) 999-2782
www.apta.org



Physical Therapy Assistant



To be a successful Physical Therapy Assistant you should

- **Like to work with people and have an outgoing personality and strong communication skills**
- **Be patient, encouraging, and creative**
- **Have stamina, good physical dexterity and coordination, and enjoy physical activity**
- **Have good decision-making abilities and be able to follow directions**
- **Be organized and self-motivated**

What would I do?

Physical Therapy Assistants assist physical therapists with patient treatment. Their duties include helping patients use special equipment and perform stretching and strengthening exercises. They monitor patients' progress and report outcomes to the supervising Physical Therapist.

Where would I work?

Physical Therapy Assistants may work in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health agencies, and sports facilities.

What would I earn?

\$31,657–\$42,140

What do I need to know?

Physical Therapy Assistants obtain an associate's degree from an accredited educational institution, then complete a national licensure exam. Admission into physical therapy assistant programs is highly competitive.

What schools can I attend?

Hesser College
3 Sundial Avenue
Manchester, NH 03103
(603) 668-6660
www.hesser.edu

New Hampshire Community Technical College-
Claremont
One College Drive
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7744
(800) 837-0658
www.claremont.nhctc.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Physical Therapy Association
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1488
(703) 684-2782
(800) 999-2782
www.apta.org

Respiratory Care Practitioner



To be a successful Respiratory Care Practitioner you should

- **Have compassion, courtesy, and flexibility**
- **Be able to articulate your thoughts, ideas, and opinions**
- **Be willing to follow instructions and be a team player**
- **Pay attention to detail**
- **Be able to work well under pressure**
- **Have mechanical aptitude and good manual dexterity**



What would I do?

Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP)—also known as Certified Respiratory Therapists (CRT) and Registered Respiratory Therapists (RRT)—evaluate, treat, and care for patients with breathing abnormalities. They set up and operate testing equipment that measures lung capacity and oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations. They compare measurements with the norm to determine if lung deficiencies exist and then relay the results to a physician. RCPs treat all types of patients, including premature infants, patients with chronic asthma or emphysema, and victims of a heart attack, stroke, or drowning. They also teach homecare patients and their families to use ventilators and other life support systems.

Where would I work?

Respiratory Care Practitioners may specialize in neonatal care, pediatric care, geriatric care, cardiopulmonary diagnostics, critical care, and subacute rehabilitation. Most RCPs work in hospitals, but a growing number of practitioners work in physicians' offices, respiratory therapy clinics, rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes, or homecare.

What would I earn?

\$38,000–\$46,000

What do I need to know?

Respiratory Care Practitioners must complete an associate's degree program or bachelor's degree program and pass the entry-level CRT and/or advanced-level RRT examination given by the National Board for Respiratory Care. In addition, Respiratory Care Practitioners must obtain state RCP licensure.

What schools can I attend?

New Hampshire Community Technical College-Clairemont
One College Drive
Clairemont, NH 03743
(603) 542-7744
(800) 837-0658
www.clairemont.nhctc.edu

Where can I find more information?

American Association for Respiratory Care
11030 Ables Lane
Dallas, TX 75229-4593
(972) 243-2272
www.aarc.org

Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
1248 Harwood Road
Bedford, TX 76021-4244
(817) 283-2835
www.coarc.com

National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc.
8310 Nieman Road
Lenexa, KS 66214-1579
(913) 599-4200
www.nbrc.org



Speech-Language Pathologist



To be a successful Speech-Language Pathologist you should

- **Have an eye for detail**
- **Be able to concentrate intently on your work**
- **Be able to work well with others**
- **Have strong communication skills**
- **Be able to accept a great deal of responsibility and perform well under pressure**
- **Be patient, thorough, and confident in your decisions**

What would I do?

Speech-Language Pathologists diagnose, prevent, and treat speech and swallowing disorders. They also help individuals improve their voice and/or language skills. Some Speech-Language Pathologists research methods of communication or develop equipment or techniques for treatment of speech and/or language disorders. Speech-Language Pathologists may work with Audiologists.

Where would I work?

Speech-Language Pathologists may work in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, speech and hearing centers, and physicians' offices. Some are self-employed.

What would I earn?

\$42,702–\$62,171

What do I need to know?

Speech-Language Pathologists have a minimum requirement of a master's degree. Admission into speech-language programs is highly competitive. Following completion of a degree program, Speech-Language Pathologists must pass a national examination and complete at least a nine-month, full-time internship to obtain a clinical certification. State licensure is also required.

What schools can I attend?

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
10801 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
(800) 638-8255
www.asha.org

Speech-Language Pathology Assistant



To be a successful Speech-Language Pathology Assistant you should

- **Have strong communication skills**
- **Be patient, supportive, and confident**
- **Have good organizational skills**
- **Be able to follow detailed instructions**
- **Be able to work well with others**



What would I do?

Speech-Language Pathology Assistants are support personnel who perform tasks assigned, directed, and supervised by Speech-Language Pathologists. They follow treatment plans, document patient performance, and report this information to the supervising Speech-Language Pathologist. They may assist with speech-language and hearing screenings, clerical duties, maintenance of equipment, research projects, and in-service training.

Where would I work?

Most Speech-Language Pathology Assistants work in preschools, elementary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities. They may also work in hospitals; private offices of Speech-Language Pathologists; or speech, language, and hearing centers.

What would I earn?

\$29,000–\$38,000

What do I need to know?

Speech-Language Pathology Assistants must complete an associate's degree or on-the-job-training. The education program must include 100 hours of fieldwork experience. Speech-Language Pathology Assistants must be supervised by a state-licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologist. As demand for speech-language pathology services increases, state licensing agencies may initiate recognition processes for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants.

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