

Personal Support Services

Individuals working in this field are essential to family and friends who are helping a loved one to remain as independent as possible. They provide one-on-one services, in-home support, and care.

Careers within this section include:

- **Personal Care Service Provider and Homemaker/Companion**

Personal Care Service Provider and Homemaker/Companion



To be a successful Personal Care Service Provider or Homemaker/Companion you should

- Be a compassionate person
- Be in good health
- Have a great deal of patience
- Take direction well
- Be a good team player



What would I do?

Personal Care Service Providers (PCSPs) provide one-on-one services to individuals, helping them with personal hygiene (bathing, toileting, etc.) and mobility (walking, wheelchairs, transfers). They assist with medications, shopping, food preparation, and other routine activities. PCSPs provide “consumer-directed care” with the recipient or a family member providing the training, direction, and supervision of the worker. When the PCSP is employed by a home health agency, some of the training and supervision is provided by the agency.

Homemakers and Companions are in-home support personnel who do not provide hands-on care but instead do light housework, grocery shopping, errands, laundry, and meal preparation, as well as offer companionship and general supervision of the patient or client.

All of these professionals play a critical role in helping individuals to remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.

Where would I work?

PCSPs, Homemakers, and Companions usually provide care in the home, or in a group home or other residential care facility. PCSPs may work independently, but sometimes they work for a home health agency or other qualified agency. Homemakers and Companions usually work for a home health agency or home care agency.

What would I earn?

\$15,000–\$25,000

What do I need to know?

A high school diploma is preferred.

What schools can I attend?

Training is available from home health agencies, Granite State Independent Living, and other qualified agencies. PCSPs are often trained by the consumer or their authorized representative, such as a family member.

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

Where can I find more information?

Granite State Independent Living
PO Box 7268
Concord, NH 03302-7268
(603) 228-9680
(800) 826-3700
www.gsil.org

Homecare Association of New Hampshire
8 Green Street, Suite 2
Concord, NH 03302
(603) 225-5597
(800) 639-1949
www.homecarenh.org

Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute
349 East 149th Street, Suite 401
Bronx, NY 10451
(718) 402-7766
www.paraprofessional.org