



**RISE - UP: *Realize... Imaging... Serve... Explore* Your Education**

*RISE Charter School of Corvallis*

*Pathway & Distance Learning Academies*



## Medical Pathway:

Exploring the medical field in career education provides students with insights into one of the most rewarding and diverse industries in the world. Careers in medicine span a wide range of roles, education levels, and work environments—from hands-on clinical care to behind-the-scenes support and research.

Here's a detailed guide to understanding the medical career pathway in the context of career exploration:

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### Overview of Medical Careers

Medical careers involve promoting, maintaining, and restoring health through the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of illness, injury, and other physical or mental impairments. The field is essential, constantly evolving, and offers lifelong career potential.

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### Why Explore Medical Careers in Career Education?

- **High Demand:** The healthcare industry continues to grow due to aging populations and medical advancements.
  - **Job Stability:** Most roles are essential and offer long-term security.
  - **Variety:** Opportunities exist for different interests, strengths, and education levels.
  - **Meaningful Work:** Professionals make a significant impact on people's lives.
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## Core Skills Developed in Medical Pathways

- Empathy and patient care
  - Scientific and biological knowledge
  - Problem-solving and critical thinking
  - Teamwork and communication
  - Technical proficiency (e.g., using medical equipment or data)
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## Categories of Medical Careers

### 1. Clinical and Direct Patient Care - Professionals who diagnose and treat patients:

- Doctor/Physician
- Registered Nurse (RN)
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Physician Assistant (PA)
- Dentist
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist

### 2. Allied Health Professions - Support patient care in specialized ways:

- Medical Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist
- Respiratory Therapist



- **Phlebotomist**
- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)**
- **Surgical Technologist**

### **3. Medical Support and Administration - Handle organizational and technical needs:**

- **Medical Coder/Biller**
- **Health Information Technician**
- **Medical Office Assistant**
- **Hospital Administrator**

### **4. Laboratory and Research - Contribute through diagnostics and innovation:**

- **Medical Lab Technician**
- **Biomedical Scientist**
- **Genetic Counselor**
- **Clinical Research Coordinator**

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## **Educational Pathways**

### **High School Level**

- **Health Science CTE Courses**
- **Anatomy, Biology, Chemistry**
- **Job shadowing and internships**
- **Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) participation**

### **Post-Secondary and Professional Levels**



- **Certificates/Diplomas: CNA, EMT, Phlebotomy Tech (few months to 1 year)**
  - **Associate Degrees: Nursing (ADN), Radiologic Technology, Medical Assisting (2 years)**
  - **Bachelor's Degrees: Pre-Med, Public Health, Health Sciences (4 years)**
  - **Graduate/Doctorate: MD, PA, DPT, PharmD, etc. (6–12+ years total)**
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## **Job Outlook and Opportunities**

- **High Growth: Healthcare support and practitioner roles are among the fastest-growing occupations according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.**
  - **Salaries Vary:**
    - ◆ **CNA: ~\$35,000/year**
    - ◆ **RN: ~\$80,000/year**
    - ◆ **Physician: \$200,000–\$300,000+/year**
  - **Work Environments: Hospitals, clinics, private practices, research labs, home care, public health organizations**
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## **Career Exploration Tools and Programs**

- **HOSA – Future Health Professionals**
- **Job shadowing/mentoring opportunities in hospitals**
- **Internships with clinics or elder care facilities**
- **Simulation labs and health science labs in schools**
- **Dual enrollment in allied health or pre-nursing programs**



# Corvallis School District #1

1151 Eastside Highway  
Corvallis, MT 59828