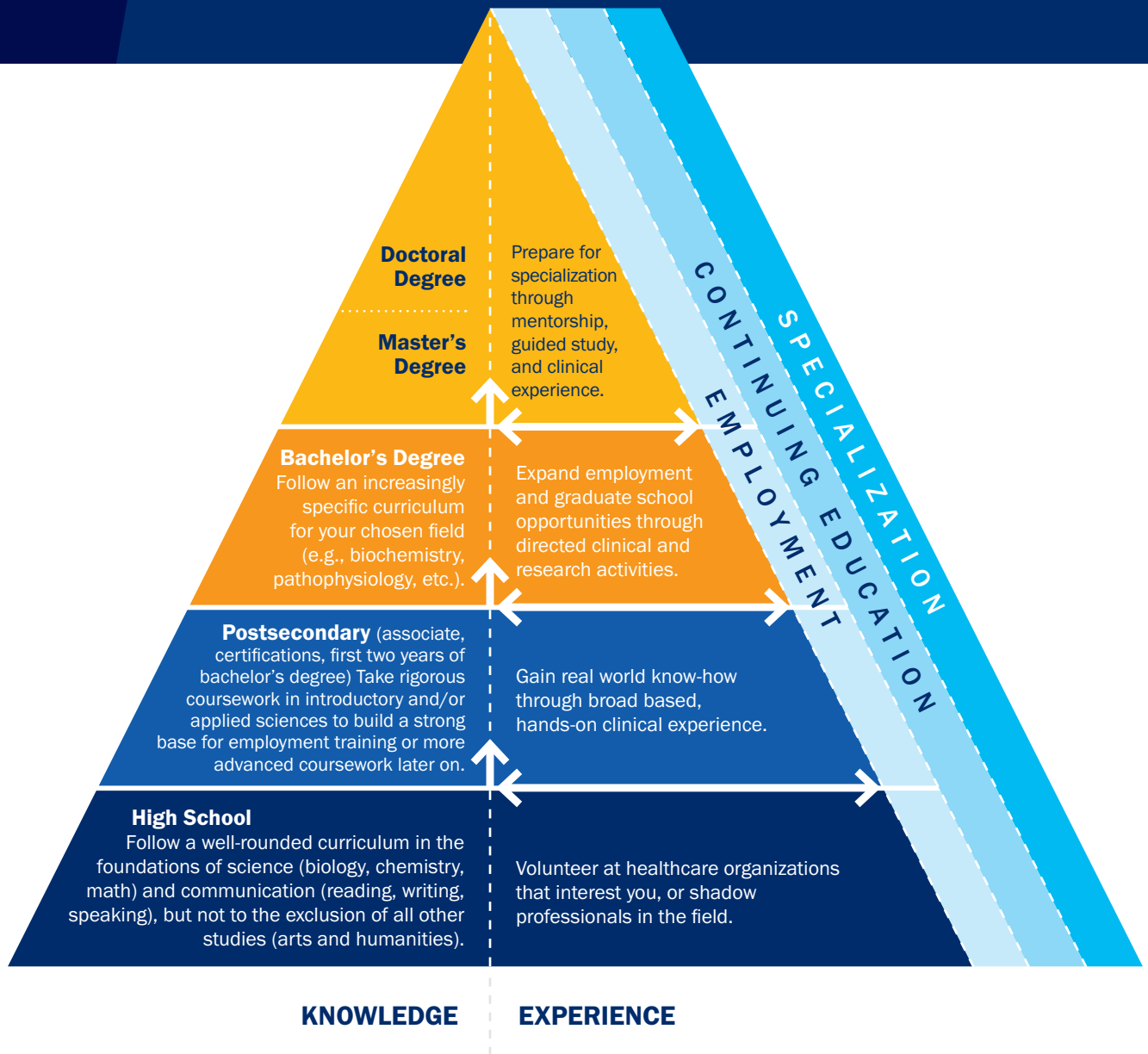


HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS PYRAMID



The healthcare field today is a team-oriented environment with numerous dedicated professionals playing different roles in the well-being of the patient. Be sure you know *why* you want to work in healthcare; your personal mission will sustain you throughout your work. The point at which you will transition from your primary education into the field will vary based on the degree of specialization you seek. A long-term commitment to your community will help your career as well. Regardless, a strong base in the sciences is crucial, and a commitment to continued education throughout your career will also be important.

Healthcare Professions Education Index

While not comprehensive, the following index indicates the level of education necessary to follow employment in that profession (see model on reverse).* Many employers will help cover the costs of further education or specialization.

Education Level: High School

Home Health Aide
Personal Care Aide

Education Level: Postsecondary

Certified Nursing Assistant
Clinical Lab Technician
Dental Assistant
Dental Hygienist
Dental Laboratory Technician
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
Dispensing Optician
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
Informatics Nurse**
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologist (MRI)
Massage Therapist
Medical Assistant
Medical Transcriptionist
Neurodiagnostic Technologist
Nuclear Medicine Technologist
Nurses Aide/Assistant
Nutrition and Dietetic Technician
Occupational Therapy Aide
Ophthalmic Laboratory Technician
Ophthalmic Medical Technician
Optician
Pharmacy Technician
Phlebotomist
Radiation Therapist
Radiologic Technologist
Respiratory Therapist
Sonographer
Surgical Assistant
Surgical Technologist

Education Level: Either Postsecondary or Bachelor's

Pediatric Nurse**
Registered Nurse

Education Level: Bachelor's

Case Manager
Clinical Lab Scientist
Dietitian
Dietitian Nutritionist
Exercise Physiologist
Kinesiotherapist
Occupational Health Nurse**
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Physical Therapy Assistant
Public Health Nurse**
Social Worker

Education Level: Master's

Anesthesiologist Assistant
Art Therapist
Clinical Nurse Specialist
Cytotechnologist
Genetic Counselor
Geriatric Nurse
Music Therapist
Nurse Administrator
Nurse Manager
Nurse Midwife
Nursing Informaticist
Orthotist
Pathologists' Assistant
Pediatric Nurse Specialist
Perfusionist
Physician Assistant
Prosthetist
Psychometrist
Recreational Therapist
Rehabilitation Counselor

Education Level: Master's or Doctoral

Occupational Therapist
Speech Language Pathologist

Education Level: Doctoral

Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (D.N.P.)
Anesthesiologist (D.O., M.D.)
Audiologist (Au.D.)
Chiropractor (D.C.)
Dentist (D.D.S.)
Dermatologist (D.O., M.D.)
Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)
Emergency Medicine (D.O., M.D.)
Family Medicine (D.O., M.D.)
Family Nurse Practitioner (D.N.P.)
Healthcare Researcher (Ph.D.)
Internal Medicine (D.O., M.D.)
Medical Doctor (M.D.)
Neuromuscular Manipulative Medicine (D.O., M.D.)
Nurse Anesthetist (D.N.P.)
Nurse Midwife (D.N.P.)
Nurse Researcher (Ph.D.)
Obstetrics and Gynecology (D.O., M.D.)
Optometrist (O.D.)
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon (D.D.S., D.M.D.)
Orthodontist (D.D.S., D.M.D.)
Pathologist (D.O., M.D.)
Pediatrics (D.O., M.D.)
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (D.N.P.)
Pharmacist (Pharm.D.)
Physical Therapist (D.P.T.)
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (D.O., M.D.)
Podiatrist (D.P.M.)
Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (D.N.P.)
Psychologist (Ph.D.)
Radiologist (D.O., M.D.)
Surgeon (D.O., M.D.)
Urologist (D.O., M.D.)
Veterinarian (D.V.M.)

* The required level of education may vary by state and/or employer.

** Post-RN specialization

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