

Types of Nursing Careers

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I currently am on the waiting list for my local community college's adn program. I am taking my pre-required classes in the meantime. nursing is a second career for me, and I still don't know "exactly" what kind of nursing I want to do. I have been looking for a list like this for a long time. I hope it will help others out also.

Agency Nurses

Agency Nursing is essentially where a nurse will register or sign up with an agency or similar group and tell them what hours they are available to work. The nurses are then contacted and offered work on a shift to shift basis.



Agency Nurses are now in high demand, particularly, in the case of nurses with specialized training or experience. See also: travel nursing

Ambulatory Care Nurses

Ambulatory Care Nurses care for patients whose stay in the hospital or other facility will last for less than 24 hours.

Ambulatory Care Nurses care for individuals, families, and groups in a variety of settings outside the hospital. Ambulatory care nursing is a nursing specialty with its own professional society, standards of practice, certification, performance measurement criteria, and body of literature for evidence-based practice.

With patients living longer with chronic diseases, complications, and comorbidities, patient care is shifting to the outpatient setting, bringing sicker patients into the ambulatory care arena. Hospital stays are shorter today with follow up care being handled in ambulatory care settings. The need for more and better prepared RNs has never been greater.

[American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing](#)
[Ambulatory Care Questions and Articles](#)

Nurse Anesthesia

Nurse Anesthetists work with surgeons, dentists, podiatrists, anesthesiologists, and other doctors to provide anesthesia to patients before, during, and after surgery or child birth.

[American Association of Nurse Anesthetists](#)
[Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists \(CRNA\) Questions and Articles](#)

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About a Nurse



"Yes, I did spend \$600 on antibacterial soap. You would, too, if you were around germs all day."

Thank You...

...nurses for guiding nursing students through clinicals.



Said a nurse...

"I felt shock, relief, horror and love all at one time."

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Cardiac Care Nurses

The Cardiac Care Nurse works with other members of the medical staff in assessing, intervening, and implementing nursing care for the cardiac patient.

[American College of Cardiovascular Nursing](#)

Case Management Nurses

Case Management is a collaborative process of assessment, planning, facilitation and advocacy for options and services to meet an individual's health needs through communication and available resources to promote quality cost-effective outcomes.

[American Case Management Association](#)

Critical Care Nurses

Critical Care nurses provide care for patients and families who are experiencing actual or potential life-threatening illness. More specific fields that fit into the critical care category include cardiac care, intensive care, and neurological and cardiac surgical intensive care.

[American Association of Critical Care Nurses](#)

Emergency Nurses

Emergency Nurses assess patients, provide interventions and evaluate care in a time limited and sometimes hectic environment. Emergency Nurses work independently and interdependently with various health professionals in an attempt to support patients and their families as they experience illness, injury or crisis.

[Emergency Nurses Association](#)

Forensics Nurses

Forensic Nurses provide medical care to victims of crime, collect evidence after crimes occur, and provide medical care to patients within the prison system.

[International Association of Forensic Nurses](#)

Gastroenterology Nurses

Gastroenterology (GI) Nurses provide care to patients with known or suspected gastrointestinal problems who are undergoing diagnostic or therapeutic treatment and/or procedures. GI Nurses practice in physician offices, inpatient and outpatient endoscopy departments, ambulatory endoscopy centers and inpatient hospital units.

[Society of Gastroenterology Nurses Association](#)

Geriatrics Nurses

Geriatric Nurses care for elderly patients in a number of settings which include the patients home, nursing homes, and hospitals. Geriatric Nurses face constant challenges because their patients are often very ill, very complex, and very dependent on the nurses skills.

[American Geriatrics Society](#)

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Holistic Nurses

Holistic Nurses provide medical care for patients while honoring the individual's subjective opinions about health, health beliefs, and values. Holistic nursing requires nurses to integrate self-care, self-responsibility, spirituality, and reflection into their daily nursing care.

[American Holistic Nurses Association](#)

HIV/AIDS Nurses

HIV/AIDS Nurses provide healthcare for patients who are HIV or AIDS positive. These nurses usually have specialized training in HIV/AIDS.

[Association of Nurses in AIDS Care](#)

Informatics Nurses

Nursing Informatics is a broad field which combines nursing knowledge with the use of computers. Jobs in this field could range from the implementation of a new computer network within a hospital to the sales of computer systems to hospitals by an outside computer company.

[American Nursing Informatics Association](#)

Legal Nursing

Legal Nursing combines the use of the legal system with a thorough knowledge of the nursing field. Legal Nurses are usually seasoned veterans of the nursing field who work with attorneys to review medical documents and determine if medical negligence occurred.

[American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants](#)

Midwifery Nurses

Midwives are nurses that are specially trained to deal with childbirth and providing prenatal and postpartum care. The midwife is qualified to deliver babies by themselves unless there are extenuating circumstances which require the midwife to consult with a physician.

[American College of Nurse-Midwives](#)

Military Nurses

Military Nurses work in a variety of settings, ranging from family practice at a local military base to providing emergency care for the wounded during war times.

Neonatal Nurses

Neonatal Nurses provide care for newborns by assessing the patient to ensure good health, providing preventative care to prevent illness, and caring for the babies which are sick. The neonatal nurse is responsible for anticipating, preventing, diagnosing and minimizing illness of newborns.

[National Association of Neonatal Nurses](#)

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Neuroscience Nurses

Neuroscience Nurses care for patients using new therapies and innovative technologies to treat diseases of the nervous system.

[American Association of Neuroscience Nurses](#)

Nurse Practitioner Nurses

Nurse Practitioners are advanced practice nurses who have obtained their masters degree and are qualified to prescribe medication, and interpret diagnostic and laboratory tests.

[American Academy of Nurse Practitioners](#)

[American College of Nurse Practitioners](#)

Occupational Health Nurses

The Occupational Health Nursing is responsible for improving, protecting, maintaining and restoring the health of employees. by providing this care for employees, the occupational health nurse is able to influence the health of the organization.

[American Association of Occupational Health Nurses](#)

Oncology Nurses

Oncology Nurses provide health care for cancer patients at all stages of treatment and remission.

[Oncology Nursing Society](#)

Pediatric Nurses

Pediatric Nurses care for children in all aspects of health care. Pediatric nurses practice in a variety of settings which include hospitals, clinics, schools, and in the home.

[Association of Pediatric oncology Nurses](#)

[National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners](#)

Perioperative Nurses

Perioperative Nurses work in operating rooms in tertiary care hospitals, community and rural hospitals, day care surgery units and specialized clinics. They often provide post-anesthetic care in rural hospitals or specialized units where nurses provide total patient care.

[American Society of Perianesthesia Nurses](#)

[The Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses](#)

Psychiatric Nurses

Psychiatric Nurses provide care for patients and families with psychiatric and mental illnesses. these nurses practice in a variety of settings which include hospitals, and institutions.

[International Society of Psychiatric - Mental Health Nurses](#)

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Research Nurses

Research Nurses perform clinical and basic research to establish a scientific basis for the care of individuals across the life span-from management of patients during illness and recovery to the reduction of risks for disease and disability, the promotion of healthy lifestyles, promoting quality of life in those with chronic illness, and care for individuals at the end of life.

National Institute of Nursing Research

School Nursing

School Nurses work with students and faculty of schools providing medical care and other support in an in-school environment.

National Association of School Nurses

Transplant Nurses

Transplant Nurses work in a variety of settings and function in various aspects of transplant procedures. They assist in the transplantation of various body parts which include, but are not limited to: liver, kidney, pancreas, small bowel, heart, and lungs.

International Transplant Nurses Society

Trauma Nurses

Trauma Nurses care for patients in an emergency or critical care setting. these nurses generally care for patients who have suffered severe trauma such as a car accident, gun shot wound, stabbing, assault, or other traumatic injury.

Trauma Nurse

Travel Nursing Nurses

Travel Nurses work for an agency that provides nurses to hospitals and other health care facilities across the country. Travel nurses usually get to choose which locations they are willing to travel to and are typically given assignments which last for 13 weeks or more. travel nurses usually make a very good salary, receive paid housing accommodations, sign-on bonuses, and other excellent benefits.

Travel Nurse

Urology Nurses

Urology Nurses care for patients in such specialties as oncology, male infertility, male sexual dysfunction, kidney stones, incontinence, and pediatrics. Urology nurses may also participate in such urological surgeries as surgery for cancer, general urology, plastic, infertility, brachytherapy, lithotripsy, and pediatric surgery.

American Nephrology Nurses Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates

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Women's Health Nurses

Women's Health Nurses participate in fields such as OB/GYN, mammography, reproductive health, and general women's health. These nurses practice in a variety of settings.

[Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses](#)

Wound/Ostomy/Continence Nursing

Wound ostomy and continence (WOC) nursing is a specialty involved with caring for patients with acute and chronic wounds (fistulas, vascular ulcers, pressure ulcers, neuropathic wounds, surgical wounds, lacerations), bowel or bladder diversionary ostomies, or continence conditions involving skin care issues. WOC nurses provide a multidisciplinary approach to treatment across a continuum of care and in a number of settings.

[Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society](#)

[Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Certification Board \(WOCNCB\)](#)

How To Choose Your Nursing Career Video

