

Health Careers

ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

dynamic + diverse = in demand



2014 GUIDE OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS





“Experience the *satisfaction* of a helping profession.”

The **Health Career Guide** provides key information on over 60 health care professions in the Province of Prince Edward Island. As a student, you may find this information extremely valuable, as you determine a career path that best suits you. There is a wide range of professions and we encourage you to consider each of them as you explore the career opportunities that Prince Edward Island has to offer and will continue to offer within the health care sector. Please use this booklet as a guide only; the post-secondary institutions listed are not all encompassing, and may change. Additionally, salary figures are based on 2014 estimates. It is strongly advised that as career seekers, you do your own research when you determine the areas you are interested in exploring further.

Please visit the PEI Health Sector Council website (www.peihsc.ca) or contact our office for additional health career information.

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CANCER CARE

If cancer was an easily understood illness, effective treatment and successful intervention might be a less complicated matter. In reality, cancer requires the attention of many health care professionals to maintain and improve on the level of success that has taken many years of research, discovery and innovation to achieve.

MEDICAL DOSIMETRIST

A Dosimetrist has specialized skills for the planning of radiation oncology treatments through the use of computer software.

The Medical Dosimetrist is a member of the radiation oncology team who has knowledge of the overall characteristics and clinical relevance of radiation oncology treatment, is cognizant of procedures commonly used in brachytherapy and has the education and expertise necessary to generate radiation dose distributions and dose calculations in collaboration with the medical physicist and radiation oncologist. The Medical Dosimetrist develops with further study and training beyond that of a radiation therapist.

approximate salary: \$65,000 - \$81,000

high school preparation: High school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: The American Association of Medical Dosimetrists (also applies to Canada) lists several ways of qualification for the field of Medical Dosimetry, including combinations of university studies in science, radiation therapy and on-the-job training.

educational institute in canada offering a program:

Canadian Association of Radiation Technologists offers a Dosimetry Specialty Certificate Program. (Candidate must have a minimum of 2 years work experience post-certification as a radiation therapist.)

MEDICAL PHYSICIST

Medical Physicists work in an exciting and dynamic field utilizing physics and advanced technology for the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

The work of a Medical Physicist often involves the use of photons, electrons, x-rays, ultrasound, magnetic and electric fields, infra-red and ultraviolet light, heat and lasers in diagnosis and therapy. The majority of Medical Physicists work in hospital diagnostic imaging departments, cancer treatment facilities, or hospital-based research establishments. Visit the Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists website at www.medphys.ca for further information.

approximate salary: \$99,000 - \$178,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science in Physics, Master of Science in Physics (preferably Medical Physics), Doctorate in Biomedical Physics (optional) (preferably Medical Physics), 2 year residency in Medical Physics, Canadian College of Physicists in Medicine Certification or equivalent.

educational institute in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS

MEDICAL RADIATION THERAPIST

Advanced computer systems and radiation therapy equipment require the skills of a Medical Radiation Therapist to use this equipment in the treatment of cancer, based on a prescription from the radiation oncologist.

Radiation Therapists deliver a precisely measured dose of radiation to a defined tumour volume. They provide ongoing clinical assessments, education and support to patients.

approximate salary: \$67,000 - \$84,000

high school preparation: A high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: Students are eligible to apply after completing a minimum of 1 year towards a science degree.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- University of New Brunswick, NB
- The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences jointly with the University of Toronto, ON
- The Michener Institute for Applied Health jointly with Laurentian University, ON

PHYSICIST ASSISTANT (JUNIOR MEDICAL PHYSICIST)

Working under the direction of a medical physicist, the Physicist Assistant is a part of the prevention and diagnostic team.

A Physicist Assistant applies scientific knowledge, engineering and technological skills to help diagnose and treat many kinds of diseases and health conditions under the direction of a certified medical physicist.

approximate salary: \$53,000 - \$66,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Physics and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science in Physics and Graduate Degree in Physics or related field.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE (Bachelor Degree)
- Dalhousie University, NS

A career in Cancer Care does not necessarily mean a career in one of these four professions. The health care team at the Prince Edward Island Cancer Treatment Centre is very diverse with all members playing a vital role. The team also includes Physicians, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Dietitians, Pharmacists, Social Workers and Biomedical Engineers - to name a few.



CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

In the treatment of disease, the role of clinical laboratory science is essential to accurate diagnosis and treatment of the patient. Advances made in laboratory testing processes have provided greater clarity and more detailed information in determining the direction of treatments.

CYTOTECHNOLOGIST

Cytotechnologists are laboratory professionals who study cells and cellular anomalies. Using a microscope, they examine slides of human cells for any indication that a cell is abnormal and/or diseased (i.e. cancerous or precancerous lesions, infectious agents or inflammatory processes).

approximate salary: \$46,000 - \$61,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A bachelor's degree or college program in Diagnostic Cytology and a professional certification by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science is required.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences, ON
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST

The Medical Laboratory Technologists perform a broad range of laboratory tests and investigations which assists physicians with the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease on a variety of specimens including blood, urine and other body fluids and tissues.

The profession of Medical Laboratory Technology covers a number of specialties including: Histology, Clinical Chemistry, Hematology, Immunology, Transfusion Medicine and Microbiology.

Due to a national shortage of qualified MLTs, the outlook for employment opportunities is very positive.

approximate salary: \$48,000 - \$62,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Post-secondary studies in medical laboratory science - usually a 3 year program at the community college level.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- College of the North Atlantic, NL
- Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick & Université de Moncton, NB
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS

MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANT

Medical Laboratory Assistants (MLAs) are part of the 'front line' laboratory staff members; they are often the first persons with whom patients and clients interact.

MLAs are specifically trained to provide support to the Medical Laboratory Technologist by carrying out phlebotomy procedures and assisting in the pre and post phases of the testing process. This includes: data entry, specimen collection, processing and sending reports.

approximate salary: \$39,000 - \$42,500

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A college diploma program in Medical Laboratory Assistant- usually 1 year and a professional certification by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science is required.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Oulton College, NB
- College of the North Atlantic, NL

“Medical Laboratory Technology is a rewarding career choice.”

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST

COMBINED TECHNICIAN

Combined laboratory and x-ray technologists conduct routine medical laboratory tests, perform general radiography, and electrocardiograms, and operate and maintain related equipment.

approximate salary: \$44,500 - \$59,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with Chemistry, Biology, Math, English, and some institutes require Physics.

academic requirements: Post-secondary studies in a 2 year Laboratory and X-ray certificate program.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, SK





DENTISTRY

There was a time when a trip to the Dentist was anticipated with trepidation and anxiety. Over the past century, technology and methodology have changed the semi-annual visit to the Dentist into a painless and effective way to ensure a lifetime of good oral health.

DENTAL ASSISTANT

The primary role for the Dental Assistant is to assist the dentist at the chair side. As a member of the dental team, dental assistants provide other functions that include but are not limited to: providing information on the prevention of dental diseases, providing intra-oral care such as the application of fluoride on teeth to prevent tooth decay, taking radiographs, and making dental impressions of the mouth. In addition, Dental Assistants are responsible for instrument sterilization and, in many practices, help manage the dental office.

approximate salary: \$34,000 - \$39,000

high school preparation: High school diploma or equivalent with Grade 12 academic English (min. 65%) and Grade 11 or 12 academic Biology (min. 65%).

academic requirements: Dental Assistants must complete a college dental assistant program.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE (14 month program)
- Oulton College, NB (11 month program)
- Dental Assistants College of Saint John Inc., NB (10.5 month program)
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS (12 month program)
- Cape Breton Business College, NS (11 months program)
- Keyin College, NL (62 week program)

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Hygienists are members of the oral health care team who provide dental hygiene treatment and information related to the prevention of diseases and disorders of the teeth and mouth. These include, but are not limited to, treatment of gum diseases, application of fluorides and/or dental sealants to prevent tooth decay, scaling and polishing, and oral health education. In addition, Dental Hygienists provide oral health education in communities, especially in vulnerable population groups.

approximate salary: \$43,000 - \$79,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Biology, Chemistry, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Diploma or university undergraduate degree in Dental Hygiene. A prerequisite for entering some of these programs is a minimum of 1 year of university study, with 3-credit university-level courses in Biology, Chemistry, and English with a minimum "C" grade or equivalent with a minimum 65% average.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS (2 year diploma program or undergraduate degree program)
- Oulton College, NB (20 month program)

“ It’s a great job as a mother, good salary and flexible hours. ”

DENTAL HYGIENIST

DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST AND TECHNICIAN

Dental Laboratory Technologists and Technicians are members of the dental team who design, fabricate and repair dental appliances (such as dental crowns and bridges, orthodontic appliances, dentures, and other dental appliances) as prescribed by dentists.

approximate salary: \$37,000 +

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on English, Mathematics and Biology.

academic requirements: College diploma in Dental Technology.

educational institute in canada offering a program:

- George Brown College, ON (3 year program)

“Dentistry is a great profession because it combines art and science. It is a very rewarding career!”

DENTIST

DENTIST

Dentists lead the dental team in the delivery of dental services to individuals and the community. It is the Dentist's role to diagnose, treat, prevent and control disorders of the teeth and mouth in general.

approximate salary: \$90,000 - \$140,000 +

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A 4-year Doctorate program in Dental Surgery. A bachelor's degree is required before acceptance into a dental program. Extraordinary students may be admitted to the program with 10 full-year academic classes at the undergraduate level.

educational institute in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS



DENTURIST

Denturists examine patients and design, construct and repair removable dentures. Most Denturists work in private practice.

approximate salary: \$56,000 +

high school preparation: High school diploma with academic English, Mathematics and Biology.

academic requirements: College diploma

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- George Brown College, ON (3 year program)
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB (3 year program)
- Vancouver Community College, BC (20 month program)





DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

The discovery of the X-ray more than a century ago created a revolution in medical diagnosis that has advanced appreciably in recent years. There are four diagnostic imaging specialties on Prince Edward Island including Radiological Technology, Magnetic Resonance Technologist, Nuclear Medicine Technologist and Sonographers. Technologists/Sonographers become certified by passing national examinations and belonging to a provincial and/or national association. Technologists of the future may benefit from holding multiple modality certifications to align with the new equipment that vendors are innovating.

RADIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

Covering the broadest spectrum of procedures and applications in diagnostic imaging, the Radiological Technologist uses highly specialized equipment to perform a wide variety of imaging procedures.

The profession of Radiological Technology covers a number of specialties including: static and fluoroscopic imaging (bones, chests, spines and barium procedures), mammography, angiography, and computerized tomography (CT scans) and operating room procedures.

approximate salary: \$48,000 - \$66,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: A Bachelor of Applied Science in Radiography is required. A period of supervised practical training and certification by the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists is mandatory in Prince Edward Island.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- CCNB Campbellton in partnership with the Université de Moncton, NB
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- College of the North Atlantic, NL

MAGNETIC RESONANCE TECHNOLOGIST

Further education beyond that required for a more traditional diagnostic imaging career can qualify a candidate as a Magnetic Resonance Technologist.

A Magnetic Resonance Technologist works in an evolving field using magnetism, radio waves and computers to acquire cross-sectional images of the body. Standard imaging now include breast imaging, cardiac and pediatric specialties.

approximate salary: \$49,000 - \$75,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on English, Mathematics and Sciences.

academic requirements: To enter a Magnetic Resonance Imaging program, candidates typically must be a registered technologist in Medical Radiography, Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy or Sonography. Training consists of both classroom and clinical experience for a period of 9 to 12 months. An exception to this is at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology where students can apply directly from high school to a 2 year diploma program.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences, ON (Distance Education)
- Red River College of Applied Arts, Science and Technology, MB
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB
- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC (Distance Education)
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Fanshawe College, ON
- Cambrian College, ON

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST

Diagnosis imaging and some treatment procedures are covered under the specialization of Nuclear Medicine Technologist.

Nuclear Medicine Technologists carry out specific diagnostic imaging and treatment procedures. They prepare and administer radiopharmaceuticals, use gamma camera technology to diagnose and manage diseases such as cancer, heart and thyroid disorders.

approximate salary: \$49,000 - \$64,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics with an overall average greater than 75%.

academic requirements: Degree or diploma program in nuclear medicine.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- University of New Brunswick in partnership with the New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences/University of Toronto, ON
- Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Polytechnic, AB
- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC
- Collège Ahuntsic, QC

SONOGRAPHER

Understanding and capturing images of internal organs and tissues is acquired through the specialized training of a Sonographer.

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers use sound waves (ultrasound) to create images that will assist in the diagnosis and treatment of the cardiovascular system, digestive tract, and aid in the monitoring of pregnancies. Specialized procedures such as biopsies of the breast, prostate and other organs are performed in ultrasound.

approximate salary: \$54,000 - \$70,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Biology, Physics, Mathematics and English. No grade below 70% in any of these courses and an overall minimum average of 75%.

academic requirements: Diploma or bachelor's degree.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- College of the North Atlantic, NL (Post Diploma)

“It’s interesting to literally see inside someone. Just like everybody looks different on the outside, they look different inside too.”

SONOGRAPHER

HEALTH INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Analyzing and reporting information, managing records, coordinating treatment schedules and managing the administrative elements of our health care system are the career options that fall under the heading of health information and communication.



HEALTH INFORMATION SPECIALIST

The primary mandate of a Health Information Specialist is to collect, analyze and report on health care data in order to support decision-making.

Health Information Specialists are comprised of a variety of disciplines who concentrate on working with health care delivery personnel on the identification of relevant quality and outcome indicators; the development of measurement tools; the selection of appropriate data collection methodologies, the analysis of health-related information; reports and trend lines. Health Information Specialists work closely with key stakeholders to foster knowledge dissemination and to support managerial decisions with relevant information on a wide variety of health care priorities.

approximate salary: \$58,000 - \$73,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Mathematics, English, Sciences and Computer Science.

academic requirements: A university degree in health or social sciences supplemented with course work in analytics, research techniques and data validation processes is required. A master's degree is preferred, but not essential. Strong analytic thinking and statistical knowledge are critical, in addition to group facilitation and presentation skills.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

There are a variety of universities in Atlantic Canada that offer programs in health and social sciences. A student considering the profession of Health Information Specialist may wish to find out which university and program most appeals to his/her own interest.

HEALTH RECORDS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Health Records Information Management professionals provide advice, leadership, guidance and assistance to all health care programs and services for managing recorded information in all physical and electronic formats in accordance with relevant legislation, regulations and world-class best practices.

approximate salary: \$41,000 - \$47,000

high school preparation: High school diploma with academic grade 12 Science, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A 2-year college program in health information. Employers may require a Canadian Health Information Management Association certification.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- Canadian Healthcare Association, ON (Distance Education)

“Health Information Management is a great career for someone interested in healthcare, but not frontline, but more the statistical side of health.”

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

HEALTH UNIT COORDINATOR

Health Unit Coordinators coordinate the activities and documentation for patients on the ward (unit) with other services and departments in the hospital or health care facility.

approximate salary: \$38,000 - \$41,000

high school preparation: High school diploma or equivalent.

academic requirements: Completion of a 1 or 2 year college program or other specialized courses for secretaries or medical secretaries.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE
- Academy of Learning College, PE

There are a variety of clerical, administrative type positions within the health care sector of Prince Edward Island. If a career in clerical work is of interest to you, we encourage you to seek out the opportunities that are available in an assortment of settings such as finance, purchasing, nutrition, scheduling, etc. Holland College, Eastern College and Academy of Learning offer various programs that will put you on the right path to a successful career in the area of clerical work.

MEDICAL SECRETARY

A clear understanding of medical procedures and terminology is a part of the training process that qualifies a candidate to serve as a Medical Secretary in a clinic, hospital, doctor's office or in another medical setting.

Medical Secretaries perform a variety of secretarial and administrative duties, which may include the transcribing of medical reports with speed and accuracy.

approximate salary: \$38,000 - \$43,000

high school preparation: High school diploma or equivalent.

academic requirements: Completion of a 1 or 2 year college program or other specialized courses for secretaries or medical secretaries.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Academy of Learning College, PE
- Holland College, PE
- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Oulton College, NB
- Keyin College, NL
- College of the North Atlantic, NL
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- Eastern College (PE, NB, NS & NL)



THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

The first steps in the intervention process and the specialized treatments that may follow are included in this summary. The members of this group deliver professional treatment and guide the process and progress of the patient to recovery or effective management of an ongoing condition.

CHIROPRACTOR

Chiropractic is a growing profession that is in high demand. As most people know, chiropractors successfully treat back pain; however, chiropractors are trained and successfully treat many conditions which affect the muscles, joints, and nerves.

Chiropractic includes the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of biomechanical disorders of the neuromuscular system. Methods of treatment include the use of imaging, laboratory and clinical diagnostic procedures, joint manipulation or other manual therapies and exercise, and patient education.

approximate salary: \$60,000 - \$100,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Students are required to complete a minimum of 3 years of university with a minimum CGPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale before they are eligible for admission into a Chiropractic program. Most applicants have completed a baccalaureate or graduate degree.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College , ON
- L'Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, PQ

“It’s a great time to be a Chiropractor because I am part of an innovative health care model which helps people live healthier and happier lives. Working as a Chiropractor is a truly rewarding and satisfying job!”

Chiropractor

FAMILY PHYSICIAN

More often than not, the medical intervention process begins in the office of the Family Physician. In many cases, this professional is the central health care manager in the referral process of the doctor-patient partnership.

Family Physicians diagnose and treat the diseases, physiological disorders and injuries of patients.

approximate salary: \$155,000 +

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: A bachelor’s degree is recommended prior to applying into a medical program. After graduating from an approved medical school, 2 years of family medicine residency training is required. Completion of the qualifying examinations of the Medical Council of Canada and licensing by the provincial authority are required.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR

Recent years have seen strong growth in the natural healing of patients who have added this approach to their well being. Continuing demand for this alternative medicine opens up another opportunity to be a part of the health care team.

Naturopathic Doctors (NDs) are primary health care practitioners who are trained to diagnose disease and use modern scientific knowledge with traditional and natural forms of medicine. NDs work collaboratively with other health care practitioners. For more info visit www.cand.ca

approximate salary: \$70,000 - \$250,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: To be eligible for admission to a Naturopathic Doctor program, candidates require a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of around 3.3 on a 4.0 scale to be competitive.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, ON (4 year program)
- Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine, BC (4 year program)



SPECIALIST PHYSICIAN

On the other side of the referral process from the family physician is the Specialist Physician who specializes in specific organs and systems of the body.

approximate salary: \$231,000 +

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: A bachelor's degree is strongly recommended prior to applying into a medical program. Graduation from an approved medical school and specific speciality training are required. Specialists in clinical medicine: 4 - 5 years of speciality residency training is required; specialists in surgery: 5 - 6 years of speciality residency training is required and 2 years of sub-specialty training may also be required.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

Below is a list of specialists on Prince Edward Island:

- Addictionologist
- Anesthetist
- Dermatologist
- Emergency Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Hematopathologist
- Internist
- Medical Microbiologist
- Medical Oncologist
- Neurologist
- Obstetrician/Gynecologist
- Ophthalmologist
- Orthoped
- Palliative Care Medicine
- Pathologist
- Pediatrician
- Physiatrist
- Plastic Surgeon
- Psychiatrist
- Radiation Oncologist
- Surgeon
- Urologist

MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Like our physical health, our mental health and well being may require professional attention. Significant advances in this field of health care have created several rewarding career opportunities.



ADDICTION COUNSELLOR

Problematic substance use and addiction are realities of everyday life that require the skills of qualified Addiction Counsellors.

Addiction Counsellors work with individuals who are experiencing problematic substance use and/or addiction and/or problem gambling as well as family members negatively affected by someone's problematic substance use and/or gambling.

approximate salary: \$44,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on English.

academic requirements: An undergraduate degree in Psychology, Social Work or a related field. Possess a solid foundation of addiction treatment, theory, the recovery process, and problem gambling, as well as previous experience in individual and group counseling. Certification in Addictions Counselling would be an asset.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

Many schools in Atlantic Canada offer various programs in health and social service related fields that can lead to a career in addiction counselling, for example:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- St. Thomas University, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

ADDICTION WORKER

Addiction Workers work with nurses in In-patient Withdrawal Management or Out-patient Withdrawal Management programs, as well as work to provide a safe, home-like environment in the Addiction Extended Care Facilities and Shelter.

approximate salary: \$37,000 - \$39,000

high school preparation: High school diploma

academic requirements: A post-secondary degree in social science (such as Psychology or Sociology) or nursing, or a 2-year Practical Nursing or Resident Care Worker diploma, or equivalent. Additionally, knowledge of addictions, CPR, first aid, WHMIS and non-violent crisis intervention are required.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- Canadore College, ON
- Stenberg College, ON
- Everest College, ON
- McMaster University, ON

AUTISM SUPPORT WORKER

To assist with the challenges of children and adults with autism, the Autism Society of Canada has compiled a series of programs that can qualify a course candidate as an Autism Support Worker.

Autism Support Workers work with children and adults with autism either one-on-one or in small groups. They use systematic methods to promote development and change behaviour.

approximate salary: \$19,000 - \$24,000

high school preparation: High school diploma

academic requirements: There are various career paths available for someone seeking a career as an Autism Support Worker. The Autism Society of Canada's website is a great resource for someone interested in this profession.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Le Collège Acadie Î.-P.-É., PE (Online training from la Cité Collégiale, ON)
- University of New Brunswick, NB

Visit the Autism Society of Canada website for more information on institutions in Canada offering training in Autism Support Work.

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL WORKER

Community Residential Workers are trained to work with people experiencing intellectual disabilities, illnesses, autism, learning disabilities and other special conditions.

approximate salary: \$32,000 - \$45,000

high school preparation: High school diploma or equivalent with academic English (min. 65%) and volunteer work experience.

academic requirements: 1 to 2 year college diploma

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE (Human Services Program)
- Le Collège Acadie, Î.-P.-É.
- Island Career Academy, NS

“It's an opportunity to work with individuals, families, groups and communities to empower them in the development of the skills, resources and supports to maximize their potential.”

CHILD PROTECTION SOCIAL WORKER

HOME SUPPORT WORKER

A Home Support Worker provides an important relief for individuals and families who require ongoing or temporary assistance during periods of incapacitation, convalescence or family disruption.

approximate salary: \$ 19,000 - \$38,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma and Emergency First Aid and Heart Saver CPR certifications.

academic requirements: Some secondary school may be required.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Marguerite Connolly Training and Consulting, PE
- Eastern College, PE
- Keyin College, NL



PSYCHOLOGIST

Psychologists study the behaviour, emotions and thinking processes of humans to better understand their behaviour, and provide assessment and treatment for mental disorders. A Psychologist studies these processes from a scientific viewpoint. A Clinical Psychologist is licensed to provide assessment, diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of human problems.

Psychologists' work can involve individuals, families, groups, and large organizations in government and industry. Some psychologists work primarily as researchers and faculty at universities and at government and non-governmental organizations. More work primarily as practitioners in clinics, hospitals, schools, correctional facilities, employee assistance programs, and private offices. Some psychologists are active in both research and practice.

approximate salary: \$50,000 - \$111,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on English, Biology and Mathematics. Volunteer work experience is an asset.

academic requirements: In Prince Edward Island, Clinical Psychologists must hold a Doctorate degree in Psychology, complete two years of supervised practice, and complete written and oral licensing examinations. Psychological Associates hold a Master's degree. A Master's degree is a minimum of 2 years after a Bachelor's degree and a Doctoral degree is 4 to 5 years after a Master's degree.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

The University of Prince Edward Island offers an undergraduate degree in Psychology and most university psychology departments (outside of PEI) offer degrees up to the doctoral level. They all differ in terms of study opportunities. Dalhousie University and University of New Brunswick offer accredited Ph.D.'s in Clinical Psychology. A student contemplating a career in Psychology may wish to find out which university appeals to his/her own interest.

SOCIAL WORKER

A Social Worker is a professional who believes in the social justice, human rights, dignity and worth of all people.

Social Workers work with individuals, families, groups, and communities to empower them in the development of skills, resources and supports to maximize their potential. They operate in a variety of settings such as child protection services, hospitals and mental health agencies. Child Protection provides the greatest employment opportunities within the field of social work of PEI.

approximate salary: \$40,000 - \$79,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on English, Biology, Mathematics and volunteer work experience.

academic requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Social Work (BSW) is the entry degree for the field; a Master's Degree (MSW) is necessary for more advanced positions. A Bachelor's Degree is often required, prior to entry into a BSW program. Dalhousie requires students to have completed 5 full university credits prior to applying for the BSW program.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- St. Thomas University, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL
- Université de Moncton, NB
- Université Saint-Anne, NS
- St. Francis Xavier, NS

DID YOU KNOW: There are 272 Registered Social Workers employed on Prince Edward Island.

CHILD PROTECTION SOCIAL WORKER

Child Protection Social Workers play a critical role in our community, protecting those who are unable to protect themselves – the children. Child protection is a very rewarding field of social work practice.

Child Protection Social Workers conduct child protection investigations, develop clinical assessments, construct case plans in accordance with the need to ensure children's safety and enhance parenting functioning, provide direct service to children in care of the Director of Child Protection, assess and support foster families, and are involved in adoptions and birthparent counselling. Child Protection provides the greatest employment opportunities within the field of social work on PEI.

approximate salary: \$51,000 - \$68,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on English, Biology and Mathematics. Volunteer work experience is an asset.

academic requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Social Work (BSW) is the entry degree for the field; a Master's Degree (MSW) is necessary for more advanced positions. A Bachelor's Degree is often required, prior to entry into a BSW program.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- St. Thomas University, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL
- Université de Moncton, NB
- Université Saint-Anne, NS

YOUTH WORKER

Youth Workers implement plans of care for children and youth, assess and respond to recreational and social needs of children and youth, and assist parents/guardians and others in their dealings with children and youth. Youth Workers provide structure, guidance, and assistance to clients living in group homes. They also assist in supporting youth, their families, and foster families in dealing with behavioural, emotional, and psychological issues. Youth Workers are employed in a variety of settings such as child protection services, residential services, and sometimes brief in-home supportive services to families and foster families.

approximate salary: \$38,000 - \$52,000

high school preparation: High school diploma (min. of 65% in English), volunteer work experience and CPR.

academic requirements: 1 or 2 year college program in youth care and/or a Bachelor's Degree in a social science discipline.

educational institutes in prince edward island offering a program:

- Holland College, PE (Child and Youth Care Worker Program - 10 months)
- Eastern College, PE (Child and Youth Care with Addictions Support Worker - 82 weeks)
- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- Le CollègeAcadie Î.-P.-É



“ Being a youth worker is a great profession because you deal with young people every day, and dealing with young people keeps you young at heart. ”

YOUTH WORKER



NURSING & NURSING SUPPORT SERVICES

The nursing profession partners and collaborates with other health care providers to deliver effective health care to Islanders. The occupations that fall under the general term of nursing & nursing support services help fulfill the growing need for specialized skills to deliver effective health care delivery on PEI.

NURSE PRACTITIONER (NP)

Nurse Practitioners are Registered Nurses with advanced education. They have the knowledge and skill to diagnose and treat illnesses and help manage health concerns. NPs manage chronic disease by educating patients, prescribing medication, and by ordering and interpreting tests. NPs work autonomously and collaboratively with interdisciplinary teams and perform specific procedures within their scope of practice.

Nurse Practitioners work in a variety of settings (eg. primary care, long term care, hospitals, etc).

approximate salary: \$85,000 - \$100,000

high school preparation: Applicants must have successfully completed Grade 12 in a university preparatory program with an overall average of 70% in the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and one other academic subject, and no individual grade lower than 65% in each of these courses.

academic requirements: After receiving a baccalaureate in nursing, a Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner and a passing score on the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Exam is required.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Université de Moncton, NB

Note: A Master's Degree in Nursing with NP stream is required.

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

A Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is a registered nurse who holds a master's or doctoral degree in nursing with expertise in a clinical nursing specialty. The CNS is qualified to work in specific fields of clinical practice, specialized client populations and specialized types of treatment.

CNS's use in-depth knowledge and skill, advanced sound judgement and clinical experience in a nursing specialty to assist in providing solutions for complex health care issues. They work in a variety of settings such as hospitals, home care, long term care, etc.

approximate salary: \$58,000 - \$76,000

high school preparation: Applicants must have successfully completed Grade 12 in a university preparatory program with an overall average of 70% in the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and one other academic subject, and no individual grade lower than 65% in each of these courses.

academic requirements: Clinical Nurse Specialists must first obtain their degree in nursing and be registered nurses who go on to complete a graduate program (master's level or above).

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE (Master's Degree)
- University of New Brunswick, NB (Master's Degree)
- Dalhousie University, NS (Master's or Doctoral Degree)
- Memorial University, NL (Master's Degree)
- Université de Moncton, NB (Master's Degree)

REGISTERED NURSE (RN)

The Registered Nurse is a central member of the health care team who provides comprehensive holistic nursing care to meet the needs of individuals and families.

RN's coordinate health care, deliver direct services and support clients in their self-care decisions and actions in situations of health, illness, injury, and disability in all stages of life. They contribute to the health system through their work in:

- Clinical practice - hospitals, long term care facilities, primary care, home care, public health, etc.
- Education - academic and clinical areas such as universities, colleges, hospitals, long term care facilities, etc.
- Administration - in academic and practice areas as directors, managers, supervisors, clinical leaders, etc.
- Research and policy - in academic areas such as universities and in organizations within corporate services and administration, etc.

approximate salary: \$57,000 - \$85,000

high school preparation: Applicants must have successfully completed Grade 12 in a university preparatory program with an overall average of 70% in the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and one other academic subject, and no individual grade lower than 65% in each of these courses.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) or Bachelor of Nursing (BN), with a passing score on the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination. Beginning in January, 2015, this exam will be changed to National Council Licensure Examination.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Université de Moncton, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Cape Breton University, NS
- St. Francis Xavier University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE (LPN)

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) provide nursing care to individuals, families and groups. They study from the same body of nursing knowledge as RNs focusing on the foundational knowledge. Through their initial education, LPNs develop the knowledge, skill, judgment and ability to contribute in all phases of the continuum of care from prevention to acute treatment and palliative care. LPNs in PEI work under the direction of an RN or other duly qualified health care practitioner and assume full responsibility for their own practice.

LPNs work in a variety of health care and educational settings in the health system such as hospitals, long term care, home care, primary care, etc.

approximate salary: \$38,000 - \$48,000

high school preparation: Grade 12 or equivalent with credits at or above the general level. Grade 12 academic English (min. 70%), grade 11 or 12 academic Biology (min. 70%), grade 11 or 12 academic Chemistry and grade 11 academic Mathematics (min. 65%).

academic requirements: Successful completion of a Canadian practical nursing diploma program and a passing score on the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (national entrance exam). Students should have strong numeracy, literacy and time management skills.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE
- Le Collège Acadie Î.-P.-É., PE
- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Oulton College, NB
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- College of the North Atlantic, NL

RESIDENT CARE WORKER (RCW)/ PATIENT CARE WORKER (PCW)

Resident Care Workers (RCW) and Patient Care Workers (PCW) are members of a collaborative, interdisciplinary health care team responsible for providing physical, emotional, psychological and social care to residents and patients under the supervision of RNs or LPNs. This includes assisting with activities of daily living and ensuring residents/patients comfort and safety. RCW/PCWs are responsible and accountable for the tasks and support functions assigned to them under the direction and supervision of an RN or LPN. RCWs and PCWs are generally employed working with residents in long term care, as well as with patients in hospitals, mental health units, etc.

approximate salary: \$20,000 - \$43,000

high school preparation: Grade 12 or equivalent with credits at or above the general level.

academic requirements: Completion of a relevant college or private institution training program.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Eastern College, PE (36 week program)
- Holland College, PE (8 month program)
- Marguerite Connolly Training and Consulting, PE (36 week program)
- Le Collège Acadie Î.-P.-É., PE (32 week program)
- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- College of the North Atlantic, NL
- Cape Breton Business College, NS
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- Université Sainte-Anne, NS



Note: The Resident Care Worker/ Patient Care Worker profession in other provinces has different titles. For example, in Nova Scotia they are Continuing Care Assistants.

NUTRITION

Registered Dietitians are experts in nutrition that play a vital role in promoting healthy eating and preventing and managing chronic disease within the health care sector. Food Service Supervisors are professionals who ensure that the food provided in health care facilities meets the nutritional needs of patients, residents and staff.



REGISTERED DIETITIAN

A Registered Dietitian uses the science of nutrition to help people make healthy food choices to both promote health and prevent and/or treat disease.

Dietitians work in a variety of settings including health care facilities, government, food service, private practice, food industry and in universities. Registered Dietitian roles include assessing nutrition needs of clients/patients, counselling patients, developing food and nutrition programs and policies to improve community health, managing food production and distribution, and conducting research. The dietetics profession is growing rapidly in response to an increasing recognition of the important role of nutrition in health and disease, escalating rates of obesity and chronic disease and an aging population.

Registered Dietitians are the only nutrition professionals in PEI that are regulated by the provincial government.

approximate salary: \$53,000 - \$68,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with Grade 12 English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and 1 other Grade 12 subject.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science majoring in Foods and Nutrition and accredited Dietetic Internship Program.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE - Department of Applied Human Sciences, Integrated Dietetic Internship Program (4.5 year program)
- Université de Moncton, NB
- Mount Saint Vincent University, NS
- St. Francis Xavier University, NS
- Acadia University, NS

FOOD SERVICE SUPERVISOR

A Food Service Supervisor is responsible for the supervision of staff related to the preparation, serving and delivery of meals, as well as assisting with the implementation of diet orders and menu completion.

A Food Service Supervisor in the health care field will usually work in a hospital or long-term care setting and depending on the size of the facility may have direct responsibility of the Nutrition Services Department or receive direction from a dietitian. Supervisors are involved in the planning of meals in accordance with nutrition needs of the patient/client while ensuring that safe and sanitary work procedures are followed.

approximate salary: \$40,000 - \$56,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with Grade 12 English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and 1 other Grade 12 subject.

academic requirements: A Food Services Supervisor Course from an accredited institution or a Bachelor of Science majoring in Foods and Nutrition.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- Langara College, BC
- Humber College, ON
- University of Guelph, ON



PHARMACY

Keeping up with the growing list of medications used in medical interventions is the specialized role of today's pharmacies.

PHARMACIST

Partnering with medical professionals, a Pharmacist provides drug therapy and drug information to improve the health of patients.

Pharmacists compound and dispense pharmaceuticals and other health care products, and provide consultative services to both clients and health care providers in the community and hospital setting. The profession is expanding its scope into prescribing, adjusting doses based on laboratory tests, providing immunizations and more.

approximate salary: \$84,000 - \$112,000

high school preparation: Academic high school with emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy is required. Minimum of 1 university year of general science is required prior to applying to a pharmacy program. Graduates must pass a national examination and a provincial legal examination.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Pharmacy Technicians assist the licensed pharmacist with administrative duties in operating a pharmacy and help prepare medications and other health care products for patients.

approximate salary: \$27,000 - \$43,000

high school preparation: High school diploma

academic requirements: 1 year college diploma

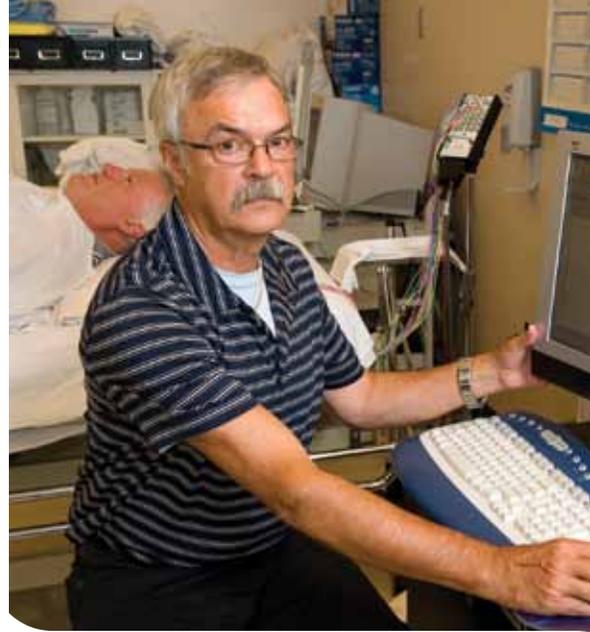
educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Eastern College, PE
- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Oulton College, NB
- Keyin College, NL
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS
- Cape Breton Business College, NS

Provinces are now working nationally to regulate (provincially) “Pharmacy Technicians” – the programs are being accredited based on competencies developed by pharmacy regulators. There will be a national exam and a jurisprudence exam. The “scope” of a Pharmacy Technician will expand, as they operate more independent than they do now, freeing up the pharmacist to further expand their own scope. Accreditation will be required to be a “Technician”, however, there still will be “Assistants” who will function as they do now.

SPECIAL TECHNOLOGIES, SERVICES & SUPPORTS

This category includes those professions that provide a specialized service within the health care sector of Prince Edward Island.



ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAM (EEG) TECHNOLOGIST

The documentation and evaluation of impulsive and evoked electrical activity from the brain and its nervous system requires the expertise of a trained EEG Technologist.

Electroencephalogram (EEG) Technologists use sensitive electronic diagnostic equipment to document and evaluate the electrical activity of the brain and nervous system. This information is then used by physicians to diagnose diseases, injuries and abnormalities.

approximate salary: \$48,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: College diploma in Electroneurophysiology. Certification is required in PEI, which can be obtained by successfully completing the Canadian Board of Registration of Electroencephalograph Technologists, Inc. (C.B.R.E.T. Inc.) written and practical examinations. Visit the C.B.R.E.T. Inc. website for additional academic requirements.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC (2 year program)
- Collège Ahuntsic, QC

ELECTROMYOGRAPHY (EMG) TECHNOLOGIST

Physicians use the expertise of an Electromyography Technologist to understand the electrical activity of the muscles and nervous system.

Electromyography (EMG) Technologists use electronic diagnostic equipment to test the electrical activity of a patient's muscles and nerves.

approximate salary: \$48,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: College diploma in Electroneurophysiology. Certification is required in PEI, which can be obtained by successfully completing the Board of Registration of EMG Technologists of Canada written and practical examinations.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC (2 year program)
- Collège Ahuntsic, QC

“ Doing EEG & EMG testing is very interesting and challenging as every patient is different and you never know what to expect. Very challenging and rewarding. ”

EEG TECHNOLOGIST

CARDIOLOGY TECHNOLOGIST

A Registered Cardiology Technologist is educated and skilled in the applied science of performing cardiac testing, ambulatory monitoring and evaluating the human heart and its function. The Cardiology Technologists works with other health care professionals involved in the diagnostic testing, monitoring, and evaluation of heart function.

The Cardiology Technologist may use a variety of electronic monitoring equipment for:

- Electrocardiography
- Exercise tolerance testing/ stress test
- Holter monitor analysis
- Arrhythmia monitor analysis
- Pacemaker clinics
- Blood pressure analysis

approximate salary: \$29,000 - \$46,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Completion of a 1 year diploma program; registration with the Canadian Society of Cardiology Technologists (CSCT).

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Everest College, ON
- Mohawk College, ON
- British Columbia Institute of technology, BC (offers distant education)
- Stenberg College, BC (offers distant education)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER (CERTIFIED PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR (C))

Growing environmental awareness has resulted in new opportunities to participate in the important work of creating physical environments that contribute to a lifetime of better health.

Environmental Health Officers promote and protect the health and safety of Islanders and visitors through inspections, education and consultation of public and private services and facilities. Work includes inspections at restaurants, slaughterhouses, milk processing plants, markets, festivals, swimming pools, tattoo shops, tanning salons, child care centres, nursing homes and community care homes along with teaching food safety education courses, investigating public health complaints, issuing boil water advisories and restricting youth access to tobacco.

approximate salary: \$46,000 - \$58,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Science and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Typically a 4 year Bachelor Degree in Environmental/Public Health is required. A 2 year fast track degree is often an option if the candidate already has a Bachelor's Degree in Science. Successfully obtaining national certification by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors is a requirement for most jobs in this field. Information on this can be found at www.ciphi.ca

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Cape Breton University, NS
- Ryerson University, ON
- Concordia University College of Alberta, AB
- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC
- First Nations University of Canada, SK

PARAMEDIC

Paramedics use their knowledge and skills to administer medical care to ill or injured patients prior and during transportation to health care facilities.

Paramedics are trained to deliver care to the sick and injured in a variety of environments. The primary role of a Paramedic is to provide a number of stabilization procedures prior to arriving at the hospital while working for ground ambulance services. This includes administering medications and performing procedures that decrease patient suffering and improve outcomes.

approximate salary: Primary Care Paramedics: \$34,000 - \$51,000
Advanced Care Paramedics: \$44,000 - \$63,000

high school preparation: High school diploma or equivalent with credits at or above the general level with Grade 12 academic Science and English, and Grade 11 academic Mathematics. Students must be 19 years of age by program start. Valid drivers license and a current CPR-Basic Rescuer Level C and a standard First-Aid Course.

academic requirements: 1 year college program

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE (Primary Care Paramedic Program - 10 months or Advanced Care Paramedic Program - 13 months)
- Medavie HealthEd, NB & NS
- Oulton College, NB
- College of the North Atlantic, NL
- Keyin College, NL

PROSTHETIST/ORTHOTIST

Orthotists design many types of artificial devices used to support or correct the function of a limb or torso, while Prosthetists fabricate artificial limbs to replace missing limbs or those too damaged to be repaired.

Prosthetists and Orthotists are employed in hospitals, rehabilitation centres or private facilities to design, fabricate and fit prosthetic (artificial limbs) and orthotic appliances (braces or splints/supports).

approximate salary: \$57,000 - \$71,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A 2-year college program and 22 months of internship. Many applicants to the program already possess a health or science related undergraduate degree.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- George Brown College, ON
- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC

“Working in prosthetics can be very rewarding. It’s an amazing feeling when you get to see someone walk again for the first time after losing a limb on a device that you were able to make for them.”

PROSTHETIST

REGISTERED PROSTHETIC-ORTHOTIC TECHNICIAN

Prosthetic–Orthotic Technicians work in collaboration with Certified Prosthetist or Orthotist to design and fabricate various prosthetic (artificial limb) and orthotic (braces) devices. They are employed in hospitals, rehabilitation centres or private facilities.

approximate salary: \$48,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics.

academic requirements: A 2 year college diploma program. Graduates are eligible to write the national registration exam after working in the profession for 2 years under the supervision of a certified practitioner.

educational institute in canada offering a program:

- George Brown College, ON

ORTHOPEDIC TECHNOLOGIST

Orthopaedic Technologists are medically trained individuals who work under the direction of physician specialists, i.e. orthopedic, plastic and vascular surgeons, emergency physicians and physiatrists. They are experts in plaster and synthetic cast application and are responsible for instructing patients on this form of treatment. Orthopaedic Technologists provide care to patients with orthopaedic problems through the application, adjustment and removal of a variety of casts, splints and traction fittings.

Orthopaedic Technologists perform casting services primarily in hospital fracture /orthopedic ambulatory clinics; duties can vary from one place of employment to another.

approximate salary: \$47,000

high school preparation: High school diploma.

academic requirements: Must have certification from recognized school of Orthopaedic Technology and the school must be endorsed by the Canadian Society of Orthopedic Technologists (CSOT).

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

Students can register with the Canadian Society of Orthopedic Technologists (CSOT), and use self-directed learning through a mentoring program with a Certified Orthopedic Technologist currently employed in a hospital. Once 850 hours of mentoring have been logged, the student can apply to write the CSOT exams and complete the clinical component for certification.

The board of CSOT is currently working with Westervelt College in London Ontario, and hope to have a program available in fall of 2014 or early 2015.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER

Biomedical Engineers oversee the procurement, consultation, management, quality and safety of healthcare technology with respect to equipment used to diagnose and provide treatment to patients. This area encompasses equipment used in diagnostic imaging, operating rooms, laboratories, intensive care units, clinics, cancer care, etc.

approximate salary: \$49,000 - \$85,000 (non-management)
\$85,000 - \$110,000 (management)

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences (Physics, Biology, Chemistry), English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science in Engineering minimum; Masters of Science in Engineering preferred.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Memorial University of Newfoundland, NL

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIST

Biomedical Engineering Technologists fill an important role in the selection and maintenance of all equipment that is used in the diagnosis and treatment of patients within Health PEI facilities.

approximate salary: \$49,000 - \$61,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on Sciences, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Diploma in Electronics Engineering Technology (Biomedical) from an accredited post-secondary institution. Certification from the Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists of Prince Edward Island is required.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- College of the North Atlantic, NL (3 year program)
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB
- British Columbia Institute of Technology, BC

MEDICAL DEVICE REPROCESSING TECHNICIAN



Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians are responsible to ensure that instruments used by all medical personnel in a hospital or other healthcare facility are clean and sterile. This entails performing cleaning prior to sterilization, placing instruments in sterilizers such as autoclaves, and starting and monitoring autoclaves. Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians also examine equipment for defects and report problems to staff, test autoclaves and record results, order supplies, assemble trays, and ensure that sterile supplies are safe for patient use. A proficient Technician can greatly ease the burdens and stresses on surgeons and physicians performing procedures.

approximate salary: \$38,000 - \$43,000

high school preparation: Grade 12 and proficient in the English language.

academic requirements: Certificate in Medical Device Reprocessing which contains work based learning components from an accredited college.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, SK
- Vancouver Community College, BC
- Vancouver Island University, BC
- Algonquin College, ON





THERAPY

There are many therapies that help maintain specific organs and systems of our body at an optimum level throughout a lifetime.

AUDIOLOGIST

Audiologists are hearing health professionals who identify, diagnose and manage individuals with hearing loss, Audiologists are skilled in use of technology to support persons living with hearing loss.

approximate salary: \$56,000 - \$72,000

high school preparation: High school academic diploma with emphasis on Science, English and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Audiologists require a Master's Degree in Audiology. Students must possess a Bachelor's degree with a minimum average of B+ in the last 2 years of full-time studies to be considered into a Master's program. Many programs require volunteer and/or observation of Audiology prior to application.

educational institute in canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- University of British Columbia, BC
- University of Ottawa, ON
- University of Western Ontario, ON
- Université de Montréal, QC

More information about becoming an Audiologist can be found at www.canadianaudiology.ca

KINESIOLOGIST

The prescription of the right rehabilitative exercise as preventative treatment for a range of muscular and skeletal conditions requires the specialized assessment and therapeutic skill of a Kinesiologist.

Certified Kinesiologists are human movement professionals who assess movement, performance and function by applying the sciences of biomechanics, anatomy, physiology, psychology, and psychomotor behaviour. Certified Kinesiologists are involved in the rehabilitation, prevention, and management of disorders to maintain, rehabilitate, or enhance movement, function or performance in the areas of sport, recreation, work, and exercise.

Kinesiologists provide a wide-ranging set of services and work in a variety of settings, including: hospitals, rehabilitation clinics, insurance, health and safety consultancy firms, nursing homes, private practices, health and fitness clubs and industry.

approximate salary: \$30,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on English, Mathematics and Sciences.

academic requirements: Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Université de Moncton, NB
- Acadia University, NS
- Dalhousie University, NS
- St. Francis Xavier University, NS
- Memorial University, NL

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Occupational Therapists work with individuals of all ages to help maintain or improve their ability to participate in activities that are important to them. Occupational Therapists view “occupation” as everything you do to occupy your day. This may include self-care activities (bathing, dressing, toileting, grooming, cooking), leisure activities (hobbies, sports, social activities), and productive activities (paid or unpaid work, housework, school).

Examples of how an Occupational Therapist can help their clients include: making equipment recommendations to increase a client's safety and independence in their home; performing assessments and providing recommendations to assist preschoolers and school age children in attaining age appropriate skills; teaching clients new ways to cope with stress; performing cognitive and perceptual assessments and developing retraining programs for clients following a neurological event; and teaching clients new ways of doing things such as teaching safe bathing and dressing following a back injury.

approximate salary: \$53,000 - \$70,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Sciences.

academic requirements: Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy is required. For admission into the Dalhousie Master's program, a Bachelor's degree in any field at a recognized academic institution with a minimum B average on the last 20 credits of the degree is required.

educational institute in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Improving and restoring physical condition and mobility falls under the mandate of the Physiotherapist.

Physiotherapists assess, diagnose and treat symptoms of illness, injury and disability through a combination of specialized hands on clinical skills and an extensive knowledge of the body. Physiotherapists provide education, prescribe individualized therapeutic exercise programs and implement physical treatment techniques to maintain, improve or restore strength, function and movement, alleviate pain, and prevent physical dysfunction in patients.

approximate salary: \$53,000 - \$74,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Sciences and Mathematics..

academic requirements: Master's Degree in Physiotherapy. For admission into the Dalhousie program a 4 year undergraduate degree or equivalent with an overall grade of B in the most recent 60 credit hours is required. Degrees that have a focus on Neuroscience, Psychology, Human Movement Science, Exercise Science, Human Physiology, Health Promotion, Ergonomics and Anatomy are most favourable.

educational institute in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS

“It's exciting to watch your patient's progress and know you have played a role in their recovery. You have a sense of fulfillment every time your patient/client achieves a functional goal... like standing or walking again for the first time.”

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY/ PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSISTANT

Working under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist, the Occupational Therapy/Physiotherapy Assistant works directly with patients/clients to help implement their treatment programs and assist them to reach their treatment goals, and to achieve their functional goals to resume their routines of daily living.

approximate salary: \$25,000 - \$42,000

high school preparation: Academic Grade 12 (min. 60% overall average) with an emphasis on English, Mathematics, Biology and another Science.

academic requirements: Diploma from a recognized Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy or Rehabilitation Assistant.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Eastern College, PE, NS & NB (77 week program)
- Nova Scotia Community College, NS (2 year program)
- College of the North Atlantic, NL (2 year, web-based program)
- Université Sainte-Anne, NS

REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPIST

Massage therapy treats specific conditions of the body, while promoting the well being of life.

A Registered Massage Therapist evaluates and treats musculoskeletal pathologies. They can be employed in multidisciplinary clinics, spas, resorts, and are often self-employed business owners.

approximate salary: \$20,000 - \$69,000

high school preparation: High school diploma with emphasis on natural sciences.

academic requirements: 2 year, 2200 hour college diploma

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- ICT Northumberland College, NS
- Canadian College of Massage & Hydrotherapy, NS
- Eastern College, NS
- ICT College, NB
- Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage, NB

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

A Respiratory Therapist assists patients with their breathing.

Respiratory Therapists work with physicians and other health care professionals in the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients with respiratory and associated disorders.

approximate salary: \$49,000 - \$67,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with an emphasis on English, Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics (or Biology for the Dalhousie program).

academic requirements: 3 year diploma program or 4 year bachelor degree.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- New Brunswick Community College, NB
- Université de Moncton in partnership with the New Brunswick Community College, NB
- College of the North Atlantic, NL

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Speech Language Pathologists are professionals in human communication development and use who evaluate and treat a wide range of speech and language disorders.

approximate salary: \$56,000 - \$84,000

high school preparation: High school diploma with an emphasis on Science and Mathematics.

academic requirements: Master's degree in Speech Language Pathology. The program at Dalhousie University involves 3 years of full-time study and leads to a Master of Science Degree in Human Communication Disorders. For admission to the Dalhousie program an undergraduate degree with a minimum B+ grade in the most recent 20 half credits is required. Undergraduate degrees in Psychology, Biology, Health Sciences, Kinesiology, Nursing, Linguistics or Education are favourable. Many programs require volunteer and/or observation of Speech Language Pathology prior to application.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- Dalhousie University, NS
- McGill University, QC
- University of Alberta, AB
- University of British Columbia, BC
- University of Ottawa, ON
- University of Toronto, ON
- University of Western Ontario, ON

More information about becoming a Speech Language Pathologist can be found at www.caslp.ca.

RECREATION COORDINATOR

Recreation coordinators work within municipalities, not for profit organizations and a variety of facilities to develop and support programs that promote sport, recreation and physical activity. They can be generalists and involved with a wide variety of programs and populations, or they can be very specific working with a set population on a set program.

approximate salary: \$25,000 - \$60,000

high school preparation: High School Diploma with a focus on Physical Education and Leadership courses.

academic requirements: Diploma or Bachelor's Degree from a Post-Secondary Institution.

educational institutes in atlantic canada offering a program:

- Holland College, PE
- University of Prince Edward Island, PE
- Université de Moncton, NB
- University of New Brunswick, NB
- Dalhousie University, NS
- Acadia University, NS
- St. Francis Xavier, NS





VISION CARE

Like other branches of health care, vision care has seen many advances, including laser and cataract surgery techniques that have greatly improved vision for many patients.

LICENSED OPTICIAN

Trained to fill the prescriptions of Optometrists and Ophthalmologists, the Optician is an eye care professional who provides lenses for the correction of vision defects.

Opticians fit clients with prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses, assist clients in the selection of eyeglass frames, arrange for the production of eyeglasses or contact lenses and mount lenses in eyeglass frames.

approximate salary: \$42,000 - \$50,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma

academic requirements: Six months to 2 year opticianry program, these courses may be taken full or part-time and, in some cases, are available through distance education.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- BC College of Optics, BC
- Douglas College, BC
- Georgian College, ON
- Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, AB
- Oulton College, NB

OPTOMETRIC ASSISTANT

An Optometric Assistant is an individual specially trained in assisting an optometrist in the provision of full-scope optometric care to patients.

approximate salary: \$29,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma

academic requirements: Certificate program or on-the-job training by employer.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

Canadian Association of Optometrists - Optometric Assistant Course (distance education - in order to enroll in the course, the candidate must currently be employed by an optometrist and remain employed by the optometrist throughout the duration of the course.)



OPTOMETRIST

Eye examinations are generally carried out by Optometrists who prescribe corrective lenses and deal with a range of diseases and disorders of the visual system.

Optometrists are vision specialists who examine the eye, diagnose and treat ocular problems, as prescribed by law; examine, diagnose and treat visual problems with spectacles, contact lenses or other modalities as required.

approximate salary: \$43,000 - \$200,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma with emphasis on Sciences, Mathematics and English.

academic requirements: Minimum of 3 years of university studies in a pre optometric science program, followed by a 4 year Doctor of Optometry Degree. Specialization beyond this is possible in many areas, such as binocular vision, paediatrics, low vision, etc.

educational institutes in canada offering a program:

- University of Waterloo, ON
- Université de Montréal, PQ

OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIAN

Ophthalmic Technicians help ophthalmologists collect data and measurements to allow the correct diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases and problems. They work at hospitals, clinics, or for Ophthalmologists in private practice.

approximate salary: \$40,000

high school preparation: Academic high school diploma.

academic requirements: Certificate program and on-the-job training by employer.

educational institute in canada offering a program:

- Centennial College, ON (Distance Education)

“ Helping kids with sight and school problems.
Helping people in general. The enjoyment of
seeing people when they can “see”. ”

OPTOMETRIST

references

Information on the health careers described in this guide was obtained from the following sources:

Labour Market Information: www.labourmarketinformation.ca
CanLearn: www.canlearn.ca

Additional information on job descriptions, salary ranges, academic requirements and training programs was obtained from professional associations, health sector professionals, labour officials and educational institutions.

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All information published herein is gathered from sources that are thought to be reliable, but the reader should not assume that the information is official or final. The PEI Health Sector Council does not assume responsibility for errors, and all information is subject to change without notice.

Thank you to all health care professionals who agreed to be showcased within this guide.

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Want to learn more about the career opportunities available in PEI's health care sector? Visit our Career Portal at www.peihsc.ca. See firsthand what a day in the life is really like for Island health care professionals.

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Health and Wellness

Your timing couldn't be more perfect; due to aging demographics and shifts in the pattern of growth and jobs, there will continue to be needs for skilled health care professionals to work in our dynamic health system. As a result, the Island's health system is investing in new people to join our health team.

