



Start Your Career Path in Nursing

Professionals in the field of nursing have a wide variety of responsibilities and roles based on specialty and level of education. Roles can range from direct patient care and case management to public education, quality measures development and administrative positions. Nursing is one of the most in-demand health careers with extensive career opportunities through multiple levels of education and professional practice. *Remember, no career path is the same. For the most up-to-date information, contact the school or business.*

High School



**Virginia Partnership
for Health Science Careers**

 Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree or Certification

Care Assistants & Aides



Certified Medication Aide



Certified Nursing Assistant



Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)



Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN/RN)*



Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN/RN)*

*Must pass National Board Certification Exam.

Post-RN BSN Completion

Entry via BSN

 Registered Nurse (RN)



Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)**

**These are examples of advanced nursing roles. Each of these roles require additional education and clinical experience.

***DNP or PhD in Nursing allows opportunities in research, leadership, and academia.

Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

Nurse Practitioner (NP)

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)

Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)

 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) or PhD in Nursing***



= Certification Required



= Education Required



= Fee Payment Required

Reach out to a counselor at your high school, local community college, or four-year college or university. For more information, visit: virginiahealthcareers.org

Starting your nursing career journey in high school?

Visit virginiahealthcareers.org to learn more.

CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) Programs**

Salary Range: \$30k – \$42k

Certification

High School Career and Technical Education in Your Area

Centra College of Health

ECPI (East Coast Polytechnic Institute)

Galen College of Nursing

Goodwill GoodCare Program

High School Vocational

Mountain Gateway Community College

New River Community College

TAP (Total Action for Progress)

Virginia Western Community College

LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) Programs**

Salary Range: \$38k – \$68k

Licensure

Centra College of Health

Galen College of Nursing

Mountain Gateway Community College

New River Community College

Virginia Western Community College

RN (Registered Nurse) Programs**

Salary Range \$45k - \$90k

Licensure

ECPI

Ferrum College

Liberty University

Mountain Gateway Community College

Radford University Carilion

University of Lynchburg

Virginia Western Community College

Advanced Practice Programs**

Salary Range: \$102k – \$142k

Master of Science in Nursing Degree (MSN)

Centra College of Health

Galen College of Nursing

Liberty University

Radford University

University of Lynchburg

Doctorate Programs**

Salary Range: \$89k – \$142k

Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree (DNP)

Centra College of Health

Galen College of Nursing

Liberty University

Radford University

University of Lynchburg

Salary ranges are based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for Virginia and reflect either median earnings or an overall range. Figures are intended as general benchmarks and should not be interpreted as guaranteed earnings.

The programs listed are regional examples and may change over time. This list is intended to serve as a general guide and resource.

*Admissions process required.

**For the most up-to-date information, contact the school or business.



Degrees & Certificates Guide

AS - An Associate of Science degree is a two-year degree that combines general coursework with major-specific classes.

AAS - An Associate of Applied Science degree is a two-year college degree that focuses on a specific technical skill of applied science.

Certificate - A certificate of study is a postsecondary credential that shows completed practical training and gained skills in a specific field and carries credit.

Career Studies Certificate - A careers studies program is a short-term program that improves job skills (12-18 academic credits, 15-18 months to complete).

FastForward - FastForward is a short-term workforce training program that offers industry credentials and certifications in a shorter time period (non-credit).