What Is Health Careers Exploration?

Explore *(verb) - to become familiar with by testing or experimenting.*

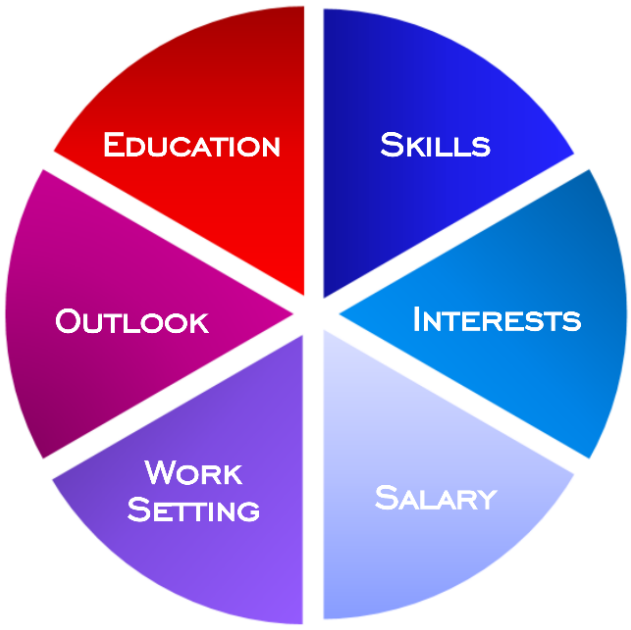
There are over 300 careers in health care! With so many options to choose from, there is a health career for everyone.

- Health professionals are in high demand. A health career **OUTLOOK** tells the number of new jobs added each year, and the demand to hire people qualified to do that job.
- To find a job that is right for you, it helps to think about your **INTERESTS**. Your interests include things that you are good at, that you enjoy doing, and that you'd like to try. No matter what your interests, there's a job in health care that could be right for you.

Once you know your interests, you can consider other important factors in choosing a career, such as skills, work setting, education, and salary.

- **SKILLS**: As you explore health careers, you will learn about the skills needed in different jobs. Certification training, like CPR/AED certification, is a way to demonstrate your skills. Certifications are recognized and valued by employers.
- **WORK SETTING**: People in health care work in many different settings – for example, hospitals, clinics, offices, labs, & schools. Job shadowing, which is time spent with professionals watching them do their job at their place of work, is one way to explore different work settings.
- **EDUCATION**: There are health careers at all levels of education. With planning, you can move from one level to the next, acquiring credentials (for example: a certificate, a degree, a license) that allow you to work in health care while you continue your education. Or, you can plan a straight path to your career goal. Identifying programs and training during and after high school that are a good fit with your interests and needs will ensure you complete your education.
- **SALARY**: While it is not the only factor, it is important to think about how you want to live in the future. How much would you need to earn to maintain that lifestyle?

These pieces all fit together to make up HEALTH CAREER EXPLORATION!



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