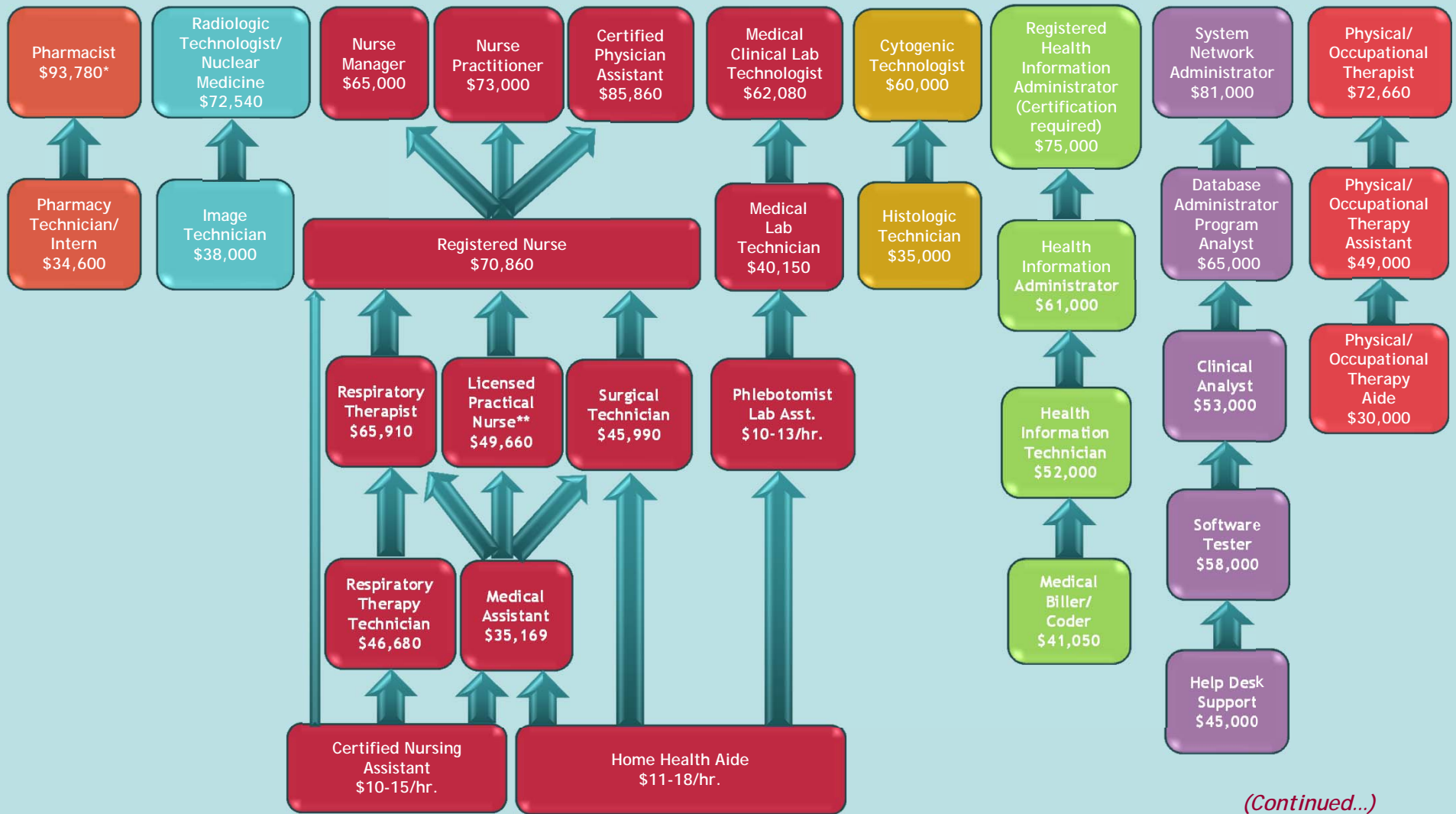


Metro North Healthcare Career Ladders



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Healthcare Employment in the Metro North Region

Trends

The Healthcare and Social Assistance sector is the largest single employment sector in both Massachusetts and the region, employing approximately 51,000 individuals – or 13.6% total employment – in the Metro North region alone.

In the most recent occupational projection survey, healthcare employers in Massachusetts projected a 43% increase in job openings between 2006 and 2016. Specifically, eight sector industries -- including private hospitals, residential care facilities, and offices of healthcare practitioners -- are expected to account for over 45,000 of those openings. While many of these jobs will be the result of replacement demand and not growth, worker retirements and the increased healthcare needs of an aging population will ensure long-term employment opportunities in this sector for the foreseeable future.

Despite the economic recession of the past few years, employment in this sector has continued to grow. Between December of 2009 and December of 2010, healthcare employment in the Boston-Cambridge-Quincy New England City and Town Area (NECTA) Bureau of Labor Statistics region increased by over 10,000 jobs. Current demand occupations identified by hospitals and other healthcare providers in the region include medical laboratory technologists and medical laboratory technicians, pharmacists, radiation and imaging technicians, clinical nurse educators, certified physician assistants and advanced clinical practitioners. Area hospitals are continuing to increase the educational and credential requirements for many of these job openings. Fifty four percent (54%) of all 2010 job postings in this sector required a minimum of an Associates Degree. Always in demand are certified nursing assistants and personal and home health/home care aides.

Wages

In the Metro North region, the average annual wage for workers in healthcare-related employment is \$49,824. It should be noted that this average wage reflects the great diversity in the types of jobs and educational and occupational skill requirements that characterize employment in this sector. Information on wage averages for specific occupations can be found on the Metro North Healthcare Career Ladders Chart.

Selected Resources

American Dental Education Association Healthcare Careers: <http://explorehealthcareers.org/en/home>

Career One-Stop: www.careeronestop.org

Commonwealth Corporation: www.commcorp.org

Health Professions Network: www.healthpronet.org

Massachusetts Council for Home Care Aide Services: www.mahomecareaiders.com

Mass Pulse Career Information: www.masspulse.com

Massachusetts Extended Care Federation: www.MassLongTermCare.org

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