

## Hard to Fill Positions in Healthcare And the Path to Getting There

**Physical Therapist:** Masters Degree from a physical therapy program and passing a state licensing exam. Salary Range: \$70,242 - \$96,387—Career Ladder: Physical Therapist Aid (High School Diploma) or Physical Therapist Assistant (State License—requires either AA degree or 3 years experience and some college work.)

**Occupational Therapist:** Masters Degree in Occupational Therapy and passing a state licensing examination. Salary Range: \$71,968 - \$95,576. Career Ladder—Occupational Therapy Aid (High school diploma or GED and on the job training,) Occupational Therapy Assistant (Associate degree, completion of field work and state issued license required.

**Radiological Technologist:** Two years of training at a community college or vocational school, (SRJC has this program) and passing a state licensing exam. Salary Range: \$50,357 - \$76,918. Though there are no direct career ladder positions one could begin as a Certified Nursing Assistant and then move to a Technologist position.

**Respiratory Therapy Technician:** Completion of a two respiratory care program at a community college or vocational school and passing a state licensing examination. Salary Range: \$48,256 - \$64,355. Though there are no direct career ladder positions one could begin as a Certified Nursing Assistant and then move to a Technologist position.

**Speech Language Pathologist:** Master's degree in speech-language pathology, supervised clinical experience, clinical fellowship and pass a state licensing examination. Speech Pathologists who work in schools need a specialized teaching credential. No direct career ladder position. Salary Range: \$65,749 - \$95,909. Career Ladder—Speech Language Pathology Assistant (Associates Degree)

**Pharmacist:** A doctorate of pharmacy is required. Pharmacy school programs are six years long and require 1500 hours of practical working experience and they must pass a state licensing exam. Salary Range: \$110,926 - \$133,245. Career ladder—Pharmacy Technician (SRJC Pharmacy Tech program is two semesters). Pharmacy Aide (on the job training)

**Ultra Sound Technician/Diagnostic Medical Sonographer:** Complete a three year training program at a community college or vocational school. Shorter programs lasting one or two years are offered to people who have previous training or experience in radiological technology or related medical field. Salary Range: \$61,589 - \$89,710. Career Ladder—Radiological Technician (see above).

**Clinical Lab Scientist/Medical Technologist:** Bachelor's degree, one year of clinical experience and passing a state licensing examination. Salary Range: \$63,107 - \$85,945. Career Ladder—Medical Laboratory Technician (Associates degree from a community college or a certificate from a hospital or vocational school.)

**Nuclear Medicine Technician:** Must pass a state licensing exam before they can work in this field. There are two types of training available for this position. Many first become a radiological technologist, which requires at least a two-year program at a college or university. Then, they specialize in nuclear medicine technology, which requires on additional year of education. People who are not already radiological technologists generally need a four-year college degree in the field. Salary Range: \$74,880 - \$101,649. Career Ladder—described above.