



uBEATS Teacher's Guide:

Careers in Nursing

This teacher guide is a supplementary text to support the use of the uBEATS “Careers in Nursing” module for grades 6-12.

To help students develop the knowledge necessary for an incredible future in health care, we created UNMC Building Excellence in Academics Through STEM (uBEATS), an online health science resource for Nebraska students.

UNMC uBEATS modules are short (15 minutes or less), interactive online health science modules to supplement curriculum taught in grades 6 – 12. These do not replace curriculum, but they are a supplement for teachers and students incorporating evidence-based information and UNMC expert guided material. Each module is chunked into sections with formative and summative assessments with immediate feedback provided.

Tips on how to utilize uBEATS modules:

- Internet access is required to view uBEATS modules.
 - For those who have access to one-to-one technology, modules can be used in or outside of the classroom as a topic introduction, extension, or review. For classrooms without individual student devices, modules can be used in whole group instruction. Formative assessment questions can use the teacher’s preferred call-and-response method and summative assessment questions can be displayed on the board and answered individually by students or printed and distributed to students after viewing the module.

Objectives

1. Identify several careers in Nursing.
2. Explore pathways to different certifications and credentials within Nursing.
3. Assess the salary range, duties, education level, and completion time for certain programs in the Nursing field.

Introduction

The dynamic world of nursing is constantly evolving and offers many types of opportunities in nursing. No matter what path you take, you'll become an integral part of the healthcare community by positively impacting people's lives. Let's explore the exciting possibilities that await you in the nursing profession!

Please remember that every state has their own licensing and credential requirements to practice nursing. Some programs can be started with a high school diploma or GED and others require more certifications. Pay varies depending on years of experience, the location of your work and credentials. The salary data shared in this module are based on national averages for nurses employed full-time. We encourage you to continue your research for your nursing career after you complete this module.

Prior Knowledge

Before beginning this module, the teacher should understand the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) featuring [Three-Dimensional Learning](#).

Dimension 3: Disciplinary Core Ideas—Life Sciences. [A Framework for K-12 Science Education](#)

Indeed, some knowledge of science and engineering is required to engage with the major public policy issues of today as well as to make informed everyday decisions, such as selecting among alternative medical treatments or determining how to invest public funds for water supply options. In addition, understanding science and the extraordinary insights it has produced can be meaningful and relevant on a personal level, opening new worlds to explore and offering lifelong opportunities for enriching people's lives. In these contexts, learning science is important for everyone, even those who eventually choose careers in fields other than science or engineering.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2012. A Framework for K-12 Science Education: Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/13165>.

Science and Engineering Practices [NGSS](#)

8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Crosscutting Concepts [NGSS](#)

2. Cause and Effect
3. Scale, Proportion, and Quantity
7. Stability and Change

Key Terms/Vocabulary

Nursing professional, certification, credentials, anatomy, physiology, empathy, compassion, problem-solving, critical thinking, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Psychiatric Aide, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX), Surgical Assistant, Registered Nurse (RN), Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Diagnostic Medical Sonographer, Cardiovascular Technologist, Respiratory Therapist, Associate Degree in Nursing (ASN), Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN), Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).

Science Standards

Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science 2024 [Nebraska Science Standards](#)

- SC.HSP.17.1. Gather, analyze, and communicate evidence of the connection between health science careers and engineering.

Nebraska Health Science Standards

- HS.HS.6.1.c. Describe the various healthcare career pathways
- HS.HS.7.1.a. Compare various careers from multiple pathways
- HS.HS.7.1.b. Compare job outlook projections for healthcare careers on a local, state, and national level.
- HS.HS.8.4.b. Compare levels of healthcare professionals and their roles within the healthcare system.

Nebraska Family and Consumer Education Standards

- HSE.MS.8.3 Explain the connections between education, career, and lifetime earnings.
- HSE.MS.8.12 Use the Nebraska Career Education Model, Nebraska Career Connections and related resources to investigate and learn about the world of work.
- HSE.HS.27.1 Apply career-readiness skills and identify potential career opportunities.
- HSE.HS.29.2 Apply career readiness skills to develop a personal career plan.

National Health Science Standards (NCHSE)

- 4.3.1 Research levels of education, credentialing requirements, and employment trends in health professions.
- 4.3.2 Distinguish differences among careers within a health science pathway.
 - Biotechnology research and development
 - Diagnostic services
 - Health informatics
 - Support services
 - Therapeutic services

Extensions of the lesson

To help students become more familiar with the Key Terms of this module, the teacher can use the vocabulary list for a classroom Word Wall, or integrate the vocabulary into review sessions.

Encourage students to check current events for the latest news involving the nursing profession.

As student misconceptions become apparent, the teacher may need to reinforce these concepts:

- The nursing profession is constantly evolving and offers a broad range of opportunities for nursing careers.
- Please remember that every state has their own licensing and credential requirements to practice nursing. Some programs can be started with a high school diploma or GED and others require more certifications.
- Pay varies depending on years of experience, the location of your work and credentials.
- Advancement along these levels of nursing involves more education, specific certification, more sophisticated job responsibilities, and higher annual salary.
 - Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). National salary range: \$28,030-\$45,940
 - Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). National salary range: \$40,490- \$72,650.
 - Registered Nurse (RN). National salary range: \$61,250-\$129,400.
 - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). National salary range: \$80,000-\$158,000.

Enrichment

- Take some time to explore UNMC's [Careers in Healthcare](#) to find out which career possibilities catch your attention.
- Study the [Careers-Listed in Alphabetical Order](#) on the bottom of page 2 of the [Careers in Healthcare](#) handbook and select three careers for comparison. Click on each of the three careers to read about the [Nature of the Profession](#) and the [Annual Mean Wage](#). Which one of these three careers seems more suited to you than the others?
- Use the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to find additional information about the Registered Nurse profession.
- Visit the website of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)'s [College of Nursing](#) to learn more about education opportunities leading to a career in nursing.