

## CAREER OUTLOOK

According to the US Department of Labor, nursing is the largest health care related occupation in the country. It is also a profession that is experiencing a nation-wide shortage. Employment opportunities for registered nurses are excellent and are expected to grow 21%-35% through the end of the decade. As the "baby-boom" generation becomes increasingly older, the number of people who will require medical care is projected to grow very rapidly. There will also be a demand for nursing educators who will be responsible for teaching the next generation of talented nurses. Another area of expected growth is in advanced training and specialization.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Nurses Association  
600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Suite 100 W.  
Washington, DC 20024-2571  
Phone: (202) 651-7000  
Web: [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)

Mississippi Nurses Association  
31 Woodgreen Place  
Madison, MS 39110  
Phone: (601) 898-0670  
Web: [www.msurses.org](http://www.msurses.org)

National Organization for Associate Degree  
Nursing  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive-Suite 8  
Reston, VA 20190-5202  
Phone: (703) 437-4377  
Web: [www.noadn.org](http://www.noadn.org)



## MHA HEALTH CAREERS CENTER

6425 LAKEOVER ROAD (39213)  
P.O. Box 16444  
JACKSON, MS 39236-6444  
PHONE (601) 982-3251  
FAX (601) 368-3200

[WWW.MSHEALTHCAREERS.COM](http://WWW.MSHEALTHCAREERS.COM)

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*Promoting Health  
Careers in Mississippi*

*A division of Mississippi Hospital Association*

**REGISTERED NURSE - ASSOCIATES**

## POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Registered nurses (RNs) are the backbone of almost every health care facility in the nation. RNs provide patients with treatment and education, as well as participating in patient care evaluation and discharge planning. Responsibilities of a registered nurse may include understanding, administering, and evaluating the effects of a wide range of medicines, operating and interpreting intricate life saving equipment, and being caring and sympathetic to patients with severe injuries and illnesses. There are many specialties that an RN may choose such as intensive care, pediatrics, gerontology, surgical care, psychiatry, oncology, orthopedics, administration, or education. Registered nurses are also in charge of supervising other nursing staff such as licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and certified nursing assistants (CNAs). Anyone interested in entering this field of nursing should be well organized, able to work well under pressure, able to form and maintain good interpersonal relationships, and have the ability to handle emergencies calmly. Academic ability and good study habits are also necessary for any student who is considering a career in nursing. Nursing is one of the most challenging and rewarding health careers and requires hard work and dedication to be successful.

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

Registered nurses work in hospitals, nursing homes, public health departments, clinics, schools, physicians' offices, home health agencies, rehabilitation centers, mental health institution, the military, and industrial or corporate sites.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a registered nurse should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, foods and nutrition, health occupations/medical professions education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in an associate's degree in nursing should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Qualified LPNs are also able to join programs that offer advancement to the registered nurse level. Programs are two years in length at community colleges and universities, and are taught under the leadership of a nursing faculty. Upon completion of the program, students will hold an Associate Degree and are eligible to apply to take the national licensure exam to become a Registered Nurse. These programs are a complete entity and are not designed as the first half of a baccalaureate degree, but students may continue their education by enrolling in a BSN completion program which will result in a baccalaureate degree.

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Copiah-Lincoln CC PO Box 649 Wesson, MS 39191 Phone: (601) 643-5101	MS Gulf Coast CC Gautier and Jefferson Davis Campuses PO Box 100 Gautier, MS 39553 Phone: (228) 497-7660
East Central CC PO Box 129 Decatur, MS 39327 Phone: (601) 635-3237	Northeast Mississippi CC Cunningham Boulevard Booneville, MS 38829 Phone: (662) 720-7215
Hinds CC 1750 Chadwick Drive Jackson, MS 39204 Phone: (601) 372-6507	Northwest Miss. CC PO Box 7009 Senatobia, MS 38668 Phone: (662) 562-3283
Holmes CC 1060 Avent Drive Grenada, MS 38901 Phone: (601) 226-1841	Pearl River CC 101 Hwy 11 North Box 5120 Poplarville, MS 39470 Phone: (601) 795-1017
Itawamba CC 602 W Hill Street Fulton, MS 38843 Phone: (662) 862-8000	Southwest Miss. CC College Drive Summit MS 39666 Phone: (601) 276-2000
Jones County Jr. College 900 South Court Street Ellisville, MS 39437 Phone: (601) 477-4099	Alcorn State University PO Box 18399 Natchez, MS 39122 Phone: (601) 442-3901
Meridian CC Drawer #358 Meridian, MS 39307 Phone: (601) 484-8747	Mississippi University for Women PO Box W-1614 Columbus, MS 39701 Phone: (662) 329-4750
Mississippi Delta CC PO Box 668 Moorhead, MS 38761 Phone: (662) 246-6407	

## SALARY RANGE

Average Annual Salary--\$42,600  
Salary Range--\$35,600-\$45,400