

CareerOneStop (Example for Nursing)

Chris Jones (imaginary student) is interested in evaluating a career in nursing. Chris has underlined facts that are particularly important to him and has indicated with a plus or minus whether this factor is a positive or a negative consideration for him. Neutral factors are not marked.

Registered Nurses: Florida

+ Chris finds helping other to be personally rewarding.

Occupation Description

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required. Include advance practice nurses such as: nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Advanced practice nursing is practiced by RNs who have specialized formal, post-basic education and who function in highly autonomous and specialized roles.

State and National Wages

Location	Pay Period	2003				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$17.51	\$20.32	\$24.53	\$29.41	\$35.11
	Yearly	\$36,400	\$42,300	\$51,000	\$61,200	\$73,000
Florida	Hourly	\$17.59	\$19.70	\$22.94	\$26.82	\$31.88
	Yearly	\$36,600	\$41,000	<u>\$47,700</u>	\$55,800	\$66,300

Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Survey](#); [Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation](#)

Column Heading percentages are percentile levels. For example, in the above chart, 10% of nurses in U.S. earn \$36,400 or less (the lowest paid 10%) per year, while the highest paid 10% (90 percentile) earn \$73,000 or more annually.

+ Chris feels this compensation level will more than meet his financial needs.

State and National Trends

United States	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings ¹
	2002	2012		
Registered nurses	2,284,500	2,907,600	+ 27 %	110,120
Florida	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings ¹
	2002	2012		
Registered nurses	131,470	175,530	<u>+ 34 %</u>	<u>7,160</u>

¹Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections](#); [Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation](#)

+ Chris views the strong growth in projected employment and the number of job openings for registered nurses as a major plus for this job.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

The most important knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) are listed for **Registered Nurses**.

Knowledge:

+ Chris view the knowledge requirements as a good fit for him since he enjoys science in school and gets mostly "A"s on his report card (a good fit).

- **Medicine and Dentistry** - Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.
- **Psychology** - Knowledge of human behavior and performance; individual differences in ability, personality, and interests; learning and motivation; psychological research methods; and the assessment and treatment of behavioral and affective disorders.
- **Customer and Personal Service** - Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
- **English Language** - Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- **Biology** - Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.

Skills:

+ Chris has been told that he is easy to talk to and has excellent listening skills (a good fit).

- **Active Listening** - Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
- **Reading Comprehension** - Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
- **Critical Thinking** - Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- **Instructing** - Teaching others how to do something.
- **Speaking** - Talking to others to convey information effectively.

Abilities:

- Chris is sometimes a little shy and uncomfortable speaking to groups.

- **Problem Sensitivity** - The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.
- **Oral Expression** - The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
- **Inductive Reasoning** - The ability to combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events).
- **Oral Comprehension** - The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
- **Deductive Reasoning** - The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.
- **Speech Clarity** - The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you.
- **Speech Recognition** - The ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.
- **Written Expression** - The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.

Source: [Occupational Information Network: Registered Nurses](#).

Tasks and Activities

Occupation specific tasks and the most important generalized work activities are listed for **Registered Nurses**

Occupation Specific Tasks:

+ *Chris is not disturbed by the sight of blood, enjoys "hands-on" types of activities and one-on-one interactions of care giving.*

- **Administer local, inhalation, intravenous, and other anesthetics.**
- **Assess the needs of individuals,** families and/or communities, including assessment of individuals' home and/or work environments to identify potential health or safety problems.
- **Conduct specified laboratory tests.**
- Consult and coordinate with health care team members to assess, plan, implement and evaluate patient care plans.
- Consult with institutions or associations regarding issues and concerns relevant to the practice and profession of nursing.
- **Deliver infants** and provide prenatal and postpartum care and treatment under obstetrician's supervision.
- Direct and coordinate infection control programs, advising and consulting with specified personnel about necessary precautions.
- Direct and supervise less skilled nursing/health care personnel, or supervise a particular unit on one shift.
- Engage in research activities related to nursing.
- **Hand items to surgeons** during operations.
- Inform physician of patient's condition during anesthesia.
- Instruct individuals, families and other groups on topics such as health education, disease prevention and childbirth, and develop health improvement programs.
- Maintain accurate, detailed reports and records.
- Modify patient treatment plans as indicated by patients' responses and conditions.
- **Monitor all aspects of patient care,** including diet and physical activity.
- Monitor, record and report symptoms and changes in patients' conditions.
- Observe nurses and visit patients to ensure that proper nursing care is provided.
- Order, interpret, and evaluate diagnostic tests to identify and assess patient's condition.
- Perform administrative and managerial functions, such as taking responsibility for a unit's staff, budget, planning, and long-range goals.
- **Perform physical examinations,** make tentative diagnoses, and treat patients en route to hospitals or at disaster site triage centers.
- **Prepare patients for, and assist with, examinations and treatments.**
- Prepare rooms, sterile instruments, equipment and supplies, and ensure that stock of supplies is maintained.
- Prescribe or recommend drugs, medical devices or other forms of treatment, such as physical therapy, inhalation therapy, or related therapeutic procedures.
- **Provide health care, first aid, immunizations** and assistance in convalescence and rehabilitation in locations such as schools, hospitals, and industry.
- Provide or arrange for training/instruction of auxiliary personnel or students.
- Record patients' medical information and vital signs.
- Refer students or patients to specialized health resources or community agencies furnishing assistance.
- Work with individuals, groups, and families to plan and implement programs designed to improve the overall health of communities.

Generalized Work Activities:

- **Assisting and Caring for Others** - Providing personal assistance, medical attention, emotional support, or other personal care to others such as coworkers, customers, or patients.
- **Documenting/Recording Information** - Entering, transcribing, recording, storing, or maintaining information in written or electronic/magnetic form.
- **Getting Information** - Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources.
- **Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge** - Keeping up-to-date technically and applying new knowledge to your job.
- **Organizing, Planning, and Prioritizing Work** - Developing specific goals and plans to prioritize, organize, and accomplish your work.

Detailed Work Activities:

+ Chris enjoys one-on-one, "hands-on", care giving. He is good at following procedures and is detailed-oriented. He is fascinated by the human body, enjoyed anatomy class and felt comfortable dissecting various animals and body parts in science lab.

- administer injections
- administer medications or treatments
- assist in examining or treating dental or medical patients
- care for mentally ill patients
- collect clinical data
- communicate technical information
- conduct patient assessments
- deliver babies
- explain testing procedures to patient
- follow clinical radiation safety procedures
- follow dental or medical office procedures
- follow infectious materials procedures
- follow institutional care procedures
- follow life support procedures
- follow patient observation procedures
- identify body response variations
- instruct on topics such as health education or disease prevention
- interpret medical laboratory test results
- inventory medical supplies or instruments
- lift or transport ill or injured patients
- maintain dental or medical records
- make presentations on health or medical issues
- monitor medical oxygen equipment
- obtain information from clients, customers, or patients
- order medical laboratory tests
- prepare medical treatment room
- prepare patient reports
- prepare patients for tests, therapy, or treatments
- prepare supplies or equipment for surgery
- recognize childhood diseases
- record medical history or data
- set up incubators in hospitals
- set up medical oxygen equipment
- set up patient care equipment
- take vital signs
- treat medical condition of patient
- understand properties or composition of drugs
- understand technical operating, service or repair manuals
- use behavior modification techniques
- use clinical problem solving techniques
- use counseling techniques
- use interpersonal communication techniques
- use knowledge of investigation techniques
- use knowledge of medical terminology
- use knowledge of nursing terminology
- use medical lab techniques
- use nursing practices or procedures
- use personal care procedures
- use research methodology procedures in health care
- use sanitation practices in health care settings
- weigh patients

- Chris is not yet comfortable making presentations to larger groups.

+ Chris enjoys "hands-on" opportunities for care giving.

Education and Training

Occupation: Registered Nurses

Most Common Educational/Training Level: Associate degree

Related Instructional Programs:

- Adult Health Nurse/Nursing
- Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Critical Care Nursing
- Family Practice Nurse/Nurse Practitioner
- Maternal/Child Health and Neonatal Nurse/Nursing
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Midwife/Nursing Midwifery
- Nursing Science (MS, PhD)
- Nursing, Other
- Nursing/Registered Nurse (RN, ASN, BSN, MSN)
- Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing
- Pediatric Nurse/Nursing
- Per-operative/Operating Room and Surgical Nurse/Nursing
- Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse/Nursing
- Public Health/Community Nurse/Nursing

+ Chris looks forward to college and the additional training it will provide to help him care for others.

Distribution of Educational Attainment

Occupation	Percent of employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is-		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Registered Nurses	1.8%	40.1%	58.1%
Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners	4.6%	15.5%	79.9%
Healthcare Practitioner and Technical	14.1%	35.2%	50.7%
Total, All Occupations	42.4%	27.8%	29.8%

Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections](#) (Education/Training Level, Educational Attainment); [National Center for Education Statistics](#) (Typical Instructional Programs)