

Explore a Career as a **REGISTERED NURSE**

Target Occupation Profile

What do Registered Nurses do?

Registered Nurses (RNs) use a large base of knowledge to assess, plan, and intervene to promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. RNs are employed in a wide variety of professional settings, often specializing in their field of practice. Registered nurses' duties and titles often depend on where they work and the patients they work with. For example, an oncology nurse may work with cancer patients or a geriatric nurse may work with elderly patients. Some RNs combine one or more areas of practice. When providing direct patient care, nurses observe, assess and record symptoms, gauge reactions, and monitor progress which provides the basis for care planning and intervention. They also serve as health educators and advocates for patients, families, and communities.

Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment options as a registered nurse, but first you will need to earn a minimum of an associate degree, and many employment opportunities will require a bachelor degree. An associate degree in nursing (ADN) includes courses in anatomy, nutrition, chemistry and microbiology, among others. State licensure as a RN is through the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

As a Registered Nurse you will:

- Administer medications
- Care for the needs of your patients
- Communicate as part of a team
- Conduct research in support of improved patient outcomes
- Direct and supervise care delivered by other healthcare personnel
- Maintain patient charts and file paperwork
- Perform physical exams and health histories
- Provide health counseling and education

Registered Nurses are in demand in Cook County!

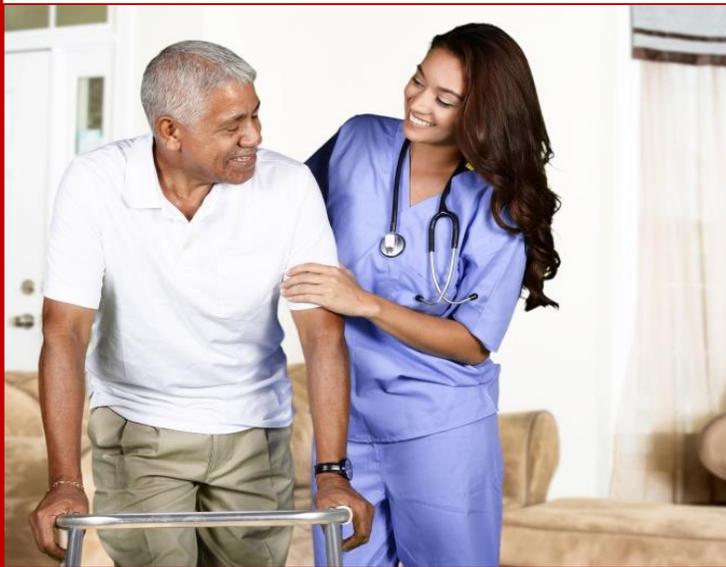
Cook County employment of registered nurses is expected to increase through the year 2020. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recognizes registered nursing as among the top 10 U.S. occupations with the largest job growth.

Registered Nurse

Training Providers

There are many training providers available in Cook County to supply you with the training you need for a career as a registered nurse.

To access a list of training providers for this occupation and many more, please visit Illinoisworknet.com and select the 'Training and Credentials' menu option to view 'WIOA Approved Training Programs.'



Types of Employers

There are many types of employers looking to hire registered nurses in Cook County, including:

- Doctor offices
- Government agencies
- Home healthcare services
- Hospitals
- Nursing care facilities
- Outpatient clinics

Wages & Openings

Registered Nurse Employment Data for Cook County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$24.95
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$36.18
Average Annual Job Openings Cook County	1,982
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	2,883

*Source: Emsi, 2017.2



Opportunities

After you receive your degree as a registered nurse, you will have many opportunities for additional certifications and advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Chief Nursing Officer
- Clinical Nurse Manager
- Critical Care Nurse
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Patient Educator



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