

## Introduction to Teachers

- What is HOPE?
  - *Health Occupations and Professions Exploration (HOPE)* is a career pathways program designed to aid underrepresented groups of high school students in understanding and researching different careers in health care. *HOPE* activities include
    - Participation in a case study with a health care career identity
    - Panel discussion and networking with health care professionals
    - Participation in a variety of hands-on activities led by health care professionals
    - Playing an interactive game to explore life and educational and career choices
  - For more information **visit:**[www.hopemadisonwi.org](http://www.hopemadisonwi.org)
- What is the purpose of this manual?
  - The purpose of this manual is to provide teachers a guide to help them boost student engagement in all academic subject areas and learning. The manual will serve as a resource guide for:
    - Common Core Standards
    - Plot Twist Discussion Questions
    - Finding your Path Trivia Questions and Answers
    - Game Narrative for Careers
    - The HOPE Website and Resources

## ***Finding Your Path***

### **Follow Up Discussion Guide: Health Care Career Exploration**

The game narrative has several plot twists that you can explore with students. Note that your students will all have different game narratives while playing the game and not all plot twists will appear in the printable player log. Before facilitating a discussion on *Finding Your Path*. Make it a point of emphasis for students to keep track of these plot twists as they happen throughout the game.

<b>Plot Twist – Discussion Questions</b>	
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You have just earned an employee of the month bonus, Hooray! A salary increase of 1%<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What is a bonus?</li><li>○ What is an employee of the month?</li><li>○ What is the salary increase?</li><li>○ What is your new salary?</li><li>○ How would you calculate your new salary? Show your steps.</li><li>○ Calculate your new salary? Show your work.</li><li>○ What are some other reasons why an employee would or would not earn a bonus?</li></ul></li></ul>
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Because of the unique work you have accomplished, you were invited to be a guest speaker for a National Conference in your field: you receive a \$1,000 honorarium<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What is a guest speaker?</li><li>○ What is the National Conference?</li><li>○ What field do you work in?</li><li>○ What is an honorarium?</li><li>○ If you received \$1,000 honorarium what would you do with it?</li></ul></li></ul>
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You just received your tax refund for the year, \$3,050<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What are taxes?</li><li>○ What is a tax return and tax refund?</li><li>○ What are some reasons why someone would or would not receive a tax refund?</li><li>○ If you received a \$3,050 tax refund, what would you do with it?</li></ul></li></ul>
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You completed a survey at work and won a \$1,000 shopping spree for your participation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What is a survey?</li><li>○ What is a shopping spree?</li><li>○ What are some reasons why a company would give someone money for taking a survey?</li></ul></li></ul>

+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You received a 2% annual cost of living raise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is a raise?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons the company would or would not give employees a cost of living raise?</li> <li>○ How would you calculate your new salary? Show your steps.</li> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You received an end-of-year company bonus of \$850 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is a bonus?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons the company would or would not give a bonus to an employee?</li> <li>○ If you received \$850 bonus what would you do with it?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You received an inheritance from a grandparent of \$25,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is an inheritance?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons why someone would receive an inheritance?</li> <li>○ How did gaining the money impact the game for you?</li> <li>○ What are some of the reasons why it did and/or didn't improve the quality of your avatar's life?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You were in an automobile accident and needed to pay a \$1,000 deductible to your car insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is an accident?</li> <li>○ What is car insurance?</li> <li>○ What is a deductible?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons a person would or would not be able to pay their deductible?</li> <li>○ How did losing money impact your avatar's life?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Your refrigerator at home blew out; now you must replace it, you pay \$ 1,500 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is an appliance?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons why a homeowner would be responsible for replacing their appliances if they broke?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You had to pay in for taxes this year, -1% income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What are taxes?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons why people pay taxes?</li> <li>○ How would you calculate your new salary? Show your steps.</li> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You were exhausted from work and took a much-needed vacation; this cost you \$3,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is a vacation?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons someone would or would not take a vacation?</li> <li>○ If you could take a vacation, where would you go?</li> <li>○ How did spending money impact your avatar's life?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You were injured and out of work for three months, you had enough paid time off to cover a month of leave, but you had to go unpaid for the final two months, - 17% income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is an injury?</li> <li>○ What is paid time off?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons a person would or would not get paid after an injury?</li> <li>○ How would you calculate your new salary? Show your steps.</li> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You were enjoying outdoor activities until you injured yourself requiring immediate inpatient surgery, you have health insurance but needed to pay your \$2,000 deductible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is an injury?</li> <li>○ What is health insurance?</li> <li>○ What is a deductible?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons why someone would or would not be able to pay their deductible?</li> <li>○ How did losing \$1,000 impact your avatar's life?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● You were given a new benefits package option for health insurance; you will now have to pay out 3% more for the same coverage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What are the benefits?</li> <li>○ What is health insurance?</li> <li>○ What are some reasons why a person would or would not pay for health insurance coverage?</li> <li>○ How would you calculate your new salary? Show your steps.</li> <li>○</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Teachers should allow students to navigate through the *HOPE Website*:

<http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/>. The website has several different resources you can explore with students.

<b>HOPE – Resources</b>	
<b><u>Career Education Grouping</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Career-Education-Grouping-Activity-Answers.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Career-Education-Grouping-Activity-Answers.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Career Education Grouping: Answers</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Career-Education-Grouping-Activity-Answers.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Career-Education-Grouping-Activity-Answers.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Histology Word Search</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Histology-Word-Search.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Histology-Word-Search.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>HOPE Road Map Activity</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/HOPE-Road-Map-Activity.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/HOPE-Road-Map-Activity.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Paper Version: Roll of Life Game Guide</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Roll-of-Life-Guide-9-2017.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Roll-of-Life-Guide-9-2017.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Paper Version: Roll of Life Game</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Roll-of-life-my-career-9-2017.pdf">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Roll-of-life-my-career-9-2017.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Health Care Career Information</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/health-career-posters/">http://www.hopemadisonwi.org/health-career-posters/</a></li> </ul>
<b><u>Bureau of Labor Statistics</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.bls.gov/">https://www.bls.gov/</a></li> </ul>

## Finding Your Path and Achieving State Standards

*We know that teaching to standards is an integral part of your role as an educator. We hope that Finding Your Path video game can be a valuable tool in your teaching resources. The game can be used as an educational tool to meet a wide variety of Standards. In this section, we have outlined each subject area using Wisconsin Common Core standards as an example. Additionally, we have included a framework for facilitating a discussion after students have engaged with the game and questions that can be used to assess students' understanding of their experience with Finding Your Path.*

### Wisconsin Common Core Standards Science

Standard	Connection to Finding Your Path
<b>Standard SCI.SEP1:</b> Students ask questions and define problems, in conjunction with using crosscutting concepts and disciplinary core ideas, to make sense of phenomena and solve problems.	If taught in alignment with scientific investigations practices, students might be able to answer trivia questions that are in conjunction with crosscutting concepts and disciplinary core ideas.
<b>SCI.SEP1.A.h.</b> Students ask a question to formulate, refine, and evaluate empirically testable questions. This includes the following: Ask questions that arise from careful observation of phenomena, or unexpected results, to clarify and seek additional information. Ask questions that arise from examining models or theories to clarify and seek additional information and relationships. Ask questions to determine relationships, including quantitative relationships, between independent and dependent variables.	If taught in alignment with scientific investigations practices students, might be able to ask questions that arise from careful observation of the unexpected results from their game decisions for their avatar. Also, students might be able to find additional information from the game and through their printable player log that they can use determine how relationships between educational, familial, and financial game decisions impact their avatars overall quality of life.
<b>Standard SCI.CC1:</b> Students use science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and <i>patterns</i> to make sense of phenomena and solve problems. Students observe patterns in systems at different scales and cite patterns as empirical evidence for causality in supporting their explanations of phenomena. They recognize classifications or explanations used at one scale may not be useful or need revision using a different scale, thus requiring improved investigations and experiments. They use mathematical representations to identify and analyze patterns of performance to re-engineer a designed system.	If taught in alignment with science and engineering practices students might be able to answer trivia questions that are in conjunction with disciplinary core ideas, and patterns, students might be able to use from the game and through their printable player log use, to make sense of the financial, familial, and educational games decisions to analyze how they impacted the overall quality of life their avatar.

<p><b>Standard SCI.CC2:</b> Students use science and engineering practices, disciplinary core ideas, and <i>cause and effect</i> relationships to make sense of phenomena and solve problems.</p>	<p>If taught in alignment with science and engineering practices, students may be able to make sense of the cause and effect behind the decisions; they make with their avatar.</p>
<p><b>SCI.CC2.h</b> Students understand empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and to make claims about specific causes and effects. They suggest cause and effect relationships explain and predict behaviors in complex natural and designed systems. They also propose causal relationships by examining what is known about smaller scale mechanisms within the system. They recognize changes in systems may have various causes that may not have equal effects.</p>	<p>If taught in alignment with science and engineering practices students may be able to use evidence from the printable player log to make claims about why they made specific game decisions, suggest the cause and effect of those game decisions, and recognize why their different game decisions might not have the same results.</p>

**Wisconsin Common Core Standards  
Health Science**

Standard	Connection to Finding Your Path
<p><b>Standard CD1:</b> Students will consider, analyze and apply an awareness of self-identity skills and talents</p> <p><b>Standard CD1.a3.h:</b> Evaluate various occupations, and career pathways to identify personal, academic and career goals based on personal strengths, amplitudes and passions.</p>	<p>While playing the game, students will be able to consider and analyze the awareness of the skills, talents, celebrations, and challenges that their avatar will face. Also, students will be able to choose occupations and career pathways for their avatar based on stuff, experiences, and type of family that they want in the game.</p>
<p><b>Standard CD2:</b> Students will identify the connection between educational achievement and work opportunities in order to reach personal and career goals.</p> <p><b>CD2.a.3.h:</b> Evaluate how performance and connections within the learning community enhance future opportunities.</p> <p><b>CD2.a.4.h:</b> Determine those opportunities that best support attainment of a specific career goal.</p> <p><b>CD2.b7.h:</b> Interpret and analyze the impact of current education. Training and work trends on life, learning, and career plans.</p>	<p>While playing the game student will be able to identify connections between educational achievement and work opportunities with the educational game decisions they make. Students will also have the opportunity to evaluate how their avatar’s performance at work can enhance their future opportunities in the game and be able to attain specific career goals.</p> <p>If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources students might be able to analyze the local and regional education training programs If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources students will have access to information about local and regional education and training</p>

<p><b>CD2.b.8.h:</b> Access education and training to acquire new skills necessary to career advancement.</p> <p><b>CD2.b.9.h:</b> Analyze local and regional labor market and job growth information to select a career pathway for potential advancement</p>	<p>programs And, students will have access to local and regional labor market statistics.</p>
<p><b>Standard CD3:</b> Students will create and manage a flexible and responsive initialized learning plan to meet their career goals.</p> <p><b>CD3.a.10.h:</b> Analyze how career plans may be affected by personal growth, external events and changes in motivation and aspirations.</p> <p><b>CD3.a.12.h:</b> Evaluate changes in local, national and global employment trends, societal needs and economic conditions related to career goals.</p> <p><b>CD3a.13.h:</b> Recognize how chance opportunities integrate with learning and career goals.</p> <p><b>CD3.b.5.h:</b> Evaluate the relationship between educational achievement and career development.</p>	<p>While playing the game students might be able to initialize a learning plan for their avatar and set career goals. They may also analyze how their avatar’s life narrative may have been affected by choosing different careers or academic pathways, overcoming challenges, and other chance events.</p> <p>If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources students may be able to evaluate changes in industry trends related to different careers. In addition, students may be able to use the HOPE website resources student to evaluate how educational achievement is or is not related to career development.</p>
<p><b>Standard CD4:</b> Student will identify and apply employability skills.</p> <p><b>CD4.b.5.h:</b> Use multiple resources to locate job opportunities</p>	<p>While playing the game students will be able to identify employability skills.</p> <p>If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources students may be able to locate the educational and training programs that led to job opportunities.</p>

**Wisconsin Common Core Standards  
English**

Standard	Connection to Finding Your Path
<p><b>Literature: Key Ideas and Details</b> CCR Anchor Standard 2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with key ideas, details of literature standards, could</p>



<p>development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.</p> <p>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.</p> <p>CCR Anchor Standard 3: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.</p> <p>Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.</p>	<p>provide themes that students could use to summarize key supporting details and ideas. The printable player log can also provide a complex narrative that students could use to summarize key supporting details and write an objective summary of the text with complex characters who age over the course of the game, who interact with other characters, and who advance the plot of the game narrative.</p>
<p><b>Literature: Craft and Structure</b></p> <p>CCR Anchor Standard 4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.</p> <p>Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).</p>	<p>While playing the game there are complex setting changes throughout game life that, if taught alignment with craft and structure literature standards, could provide examples that shape meaning or tone of the game. The printable player log will also provide language that evokes a sense of time and place in the avatars game life.</p>
<p><b>Informational Text: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</b></p> <p>CCR Anchor Standard 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.*</p> <p>Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums (e.g., a person’s life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.</p> <p>Text Types and Purposes</p> <p>College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</p>	<p>If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources and the Informational Text, integration of knowledge and ideas in the narrative of the game may provide visual subject matter from the text and other mediums like the game that students could use to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) write arguments to support claims in the analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</li> <li>(2) write claims and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both.</li> <li>(3) write words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence.</li> <li>(4) write concluding statements or sections of text that follows from and supports the argument</li> </ol>

<p>Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</p> <p>a. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.</p> <p>b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.</p> <p>c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.</p> <p>d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</p> <p>e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.</p>	<p>presented.</p>
<p><b>Text Types and Purposes</b>  <b>CCR Anchor Standard 3:</b> Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences  Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <p>a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.</p> <p>b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.</p> <p>c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.</p> <p>d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details,</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with types and purpose literature standards, provides narratives for imagined experience or events, that include well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.</p>

<p>and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.</p> <p>e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.</p>	
<p><b>Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas</b>  <b>CCR Anchor Standard 5:</b> Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.  Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with various types of literature standards, provides digital media and visual displays of data that students can use to enhance their understanding of findings and evidence and add interest.</p>
<p><b>Vocabulary Acquisition and Use</b>  <b>CCR Anchor Standard 4:</b> Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.</p> <p>Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9-10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.</p> <p>a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</p> <p>b. Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).</p> <p>c. Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.</p> <p>d. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).</p> <p><b>CCR Anchor Standard 6:</b> Acquire and use accurately a range of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with vocabulary acquisition and use literature standards, provides the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases and if taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources provides students with a specialized set of reference materials.</p> <p>If taught in alignment with the HOPE website resources students are given the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases which provide students with a specialized set of reference materials.</p>

<p>reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.</p> <p>Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression</p>	
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## Wisconsin Common Core Standards

### Social Studies

<p><b>Standard SS.Inq5:</b> Wisconsin students will be civically engaged.</p> <p><b>SS.Inq5.a.h</b> Explore opportunities, informed by the knowledge and methods of the social sciences, for personal or collaborative civic engagement with community, school, state, tribal, national, and/or global implications</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with social studies standards, provides opportunities for students to explore game narratives using their knowledge of social science.</p>
<p><b>Standard SS.BH1:</b> Wisconsin students will examine individual cognition, perception, behavior, and identity (Psychology).</p> <p><b>SS.BH1.a.h</b> Analyze biological and environmental factors that influence a person's cognition, perception, and behavior.</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with social studies standards, provides opportunities for students to explore game narratives using their knowledge of social behavior and environmental factors that influences their avatar's overall quality of life.</p>
<p><b>Standard SS.BH3:</b> Wisconsin students will assess the role that human behavior and cultures play in the development of social endeavors (Anthropology).</p> <p><b>SS.BH3.a.h</b> Analyze the means by and extent to which groups and institutions can influence people, events, and cultures in both historical and contemporary settings.</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with social studies standards, provides opportunities for students to explore how local and regional health institutions can influence their avatar in a game setting.</p>

<p><b>Standard SS.Econ1:</b> Wisconsin students use economic reasoning to understand issues.</p> <p><b>SS.Econ1.a.h</b> Perform a cost-benefit analysis on a real-world situation, using economic thinking to describe the marginal costs and benefits of a particular decision.</p> <p><b>SS.Econ1.b.h</b> Evaluate how incentives determine what is produced and distributed in a competitive market system.</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with social studies standards, provides opportunities for students to explore game narratives using their knowledge of economic reasoning to evaluate the incentives behind their game decisions.</p>
<p><b>SS.Econ3.b.h</b> Evaluate the structure and functions of money in the United States, including the role of interest rates.</p>	<p>While playing the game students create a printable player log that, if taught alignment with social studies standards, provides opportunities for students to explore the structure and functions of money in a US context.</p>

## Finding Your Path in-game Quizzes

### Total Quiz Questions: 35

1. How much blood (in liters) does an adult human body contain?
  - a. 2-4 liters
  - b. 4-6 liters
  - c. 6-8 liters
  - d. 8-10 liters

Correct Answer: 4-6 liters

2. Which one of the below careers prepares body tissues (by cutting and staining them) on a slide to be reviewed by a pathologist?
  - a. Registered Nurse
  - b. Histology Technician
  - c. Radiation Therapist
  - d. Physical Therapist

Correct Answer: Histology Technician

3. Which one, out of the following careers, is responsible for working the Cardiopulmonary bypass machine during heart and lung surgery? *(Note: A Cardiopulmonary bypass machine is a machine that keeps the blood flowing through a patient's body oxygenated without going through the heart, so that the heart can remain still during the surgery.)*
  - a. Phlebotomist
  - b. Surgical Assistant
  - c. Perfusion Technologist
  - d. Respiratory Therapist

Correct Answer: Perfusion Technologist

4. What is a 2-year degree called?
  - a. Associate's Degree
  - b. Bachelor's Degree
  - c. Master's Degree
  - d. Doctorate Degree

Correct Answer: Associates degree

5. What population of people does Geriatric refer to?
- a. Children
  - b. Adolescents
  - c. Adults
  - d. Elderly

Correct Answer: Elderly

6. On Average, how many times a day does your heart beat?
- a. 1,000 times per day
  - b. 10,000 times per day
  - c. 100,000 times per day
  - d. 1,000,000 times per day

Correct Answer: 100,000 times per day

7. What is Kinesiology?
- a. The study of the eating habits of mammals
  - b. The study of physics
  - c. The study of children's mental growth
  - d. The study of the mechanics of body movements

Correct Answer: The study of the mechanics of body movements

8. What percentage of humans are left-handed?
- a. Approximately 10%
  - b. Approximately 20%
  - c. Approximately 30%
  - d. Approximately 40%

Correct Answer: Approximately 10%

9. What is the total length of all the blood vessels in your body (if you outstretched them all)
- a. 20,000 miles
  - b. 40,000 miles
  - c. 60,000 miles
  - d. 80,000 miles

Correct Answer: 60,000 miles

10. Which of the below Majors/Degrees will prevent you from working in health care?
- a. Finance Major

- b. Meteorology degree
- c. Marketing Major
- d. None of these

Correct Answer: None of these

11. What is the job growth outlook for Medical Interpreters?

- a. 5% between 2012-2022
- b. 20% between 2012-2022
- c. 33% between 2012-2022
- d. 46% between 2012- 2022

Correct Answer: 46% between 2012- 2022

12. True or False: You must attend Medical School to work for a health care organization.

- a. True
- b. False

Correct Answer: False

13. Question What is the term used for children – under age 18?

- a. Phlebotics
- b. Pediatrics
- c. Geriatrics
- d. Kinderactrics

Correct Answer: Pediatrics

14. How many pairs of chromosomes do humans have?

- a. 23
- b. 24
- c. 46
- d. 52

Correct Answer: 46



15. What is the largest organ of the human body?

- a. Brain
- b. Liver
- c. Lungs
- d. Skin

Correct Answer: Skin

16. What model is the U.S. health care system based on?

- a. Beveridge Model (Government owned Health care)
- b. Bismarck Model (Employer-based health insurance)
- c. National Health Insurance Model (Government-based health insurance)
- d. Out-of-Pocket Model
- e. All of the Above

Correct Answer: All the above

17. What does a Phlebotomist do?

- a. Deliver medication to patients
- b. Study blood
- c. Schedule appointments
- d. Draw blood from patients

Correct Answer: Draw blood from patients

18. What is the average age of a student entering medical school?

- a. 23
- b. 24
- c. 25
- d. 26

Correct Answer: 24

19. In the state of Wisconsin, who can prescribe medication?

- a. Physicians
- b. Nurse Practitioners
- c. Physician Assistants
- d. Dentists
- e. All of the Above

Correct Answer: All the above

20. How many bacteria cells are in the human body?

- a. 30-50 million
- b. 30-50 billion
- c. 30-50 trillion
- d. 30-50 quadrillion

Correct Answer: 30-50 trillion

21. Which organism has the most genes?

- a. Water Fleas
- b. Humans
- c. Crocodiles
- d. Ducks

Correct Answer: Water fleas

22. Which organ is donated the most?

- a. Lung
- b. Kidney
- c. Pancreas
- d. Liver

Correct Answer: Kidney

23. What does an epidemiologist specialize in?

- a. Diseases that affect the kidneys
- b. Diseases that affect the liver and pancreas
- c. Diseases in a population or area
- d. Care of newborn babies

Correct Answer: Diseases in a population or area

24. Question What kind of doctor is an Otolaryngologist?

- a. Ear, nose, throat doctor
- b. Eye doctor
- c. Foot doctor
- d. Heart doctor

Correct Answer: Ear, nose, throat doctor

25. Which is a health care provider in the state of Wisconsin?

- a. A nurse
- b. A social worker

- c. A dietician
- d. An athletic trainer
- e. All of the above

Correct Answer: All of the above

26. What is the study of skin and its disorders called?

- a. Dermatology
- b. Hematology
- c. Pathology
- d. Oncology

Correct Answer: Dermatology

27. How long would DNA from one cell in your body be if it was unraveled and stretched out?

- a. Around 2 feet
- b. Around 6 feet
- c. Around 10 feet
- d. Around 16 feet

Correct Answer: Around 6 feet

28. How many patients does UW Health serve?

- a. About 200,000
- b. About 400,000
- c. About 600,000
- d. About 900,000

Correct Answer: About 600,000

29. Question EMT stands for Emergency Medical Technician.

- a. True
- b. False

Correct Answer: True

30. An audiologist is a physician.

- a. True
- b. False

Correct Answer: False

31. UW Health University Hospital is a:

- a. Community Hospital
- b. Federal Hospital
- c. Level I trauma center
- d. Municipal-funded hospital
- e. All of the Above

Correct Answer: Level I trauma center

32. How many beds does UW Health at The American Center (TAC) have?

- a. 26
- b. 36
- c. 56
- d. 76

Correct Answer: 56

33. Question What is the top cause of death in Wisconsin?

- a. Accidents
- b. Heart Disease
- c. Stroke
- d. Cancer

Correct Answer: Cancer

34. The American Family Children's Hospital is a children's hospital with a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

- a. True
- b. False

Correct Answer: True

## Finding Your Path in-game Quizzes

### Total Quiz Questions: 35

1. How can you tell if a substance is a compound?

Answer: B. compounds are two or more different types of elements combined

- A. compounds are substances only made of one type of substance
- B. compounds are two or more different types of elements combined
- C. compounds are the same as elements
- D. compounds look the same as elements

2. Metal that can be drawn out into a thin wire would be described as \_\_\_\_\_?

Answer D. ductile

- A. shape
- B. luster
- C. malleable
- D. ductile

3. What is the density of a rock with a volume of 15cm<sup>3</sup> and a mass of 45 grams?

Answer: D. 3.0g/cm<sup>3</sup>

- A. 30g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- B. 0.3g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- C. 15g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- D. 3.0g/cm<sup>3</sup>

4. Potential energy is stored energy. What kind of energy do rubber bands and springs release?

Answer: A. mechanical energy

- A. mechanical energy
- B. nuclear energy
- C. chemical energy
- D. gravitational energy

5. What kingdoms are made of prokaryotic cells?

Answer: B. bacteria and archaea

- A. bacteria and fungi
- B. bacteria and archaea
- C. protists and plants
- D. animals and plants

6. After you chew your food, it travels down your throat and through the rest of your \_\_\_\_\_ system and goes through some physical and chemical changes that break it down to provide energy for your cells.

Answer: C. digestive

- A. circulatory
- B. nervous
- C. digestive
- D. respiratory

7. A dichotomous key contains a series of questions that people use to

Answer: C. identify organisms

- A. find similar organisms
- B. name organisms
- C. identify organisms
- D. describe organisms

8. When you inhale (take a breath), which body systems are working together?

Answer: C. muscular and respiratory

- A. muscular and skeletal
- B. nervous and reproductive
- C. muscular and respiratory
- D. endocrine and respiratory

9. In cells, which organelle listed below is most directly responsible for transporting materials out of the cell?

Answer: B. cell membrane

- A. mitochondria
- B. cell membrane
- C. chloroplasts
- D. nucleus

10. Which of the following functions is not carried out by all living cells?

Answer: D. movement

- A. reproduction
- B. respiration
- C. extracting energy from food
- D. movement

11. Which organelle contains the genetic material for inherited traits?

Answer: B. nucleus

- A. lysosomes
- B. nucleus
- C. mitochondria
- D. ribosome

12. How many protons are in one atom of sodium?

Answer: C. 21

- A. 7
- B. 11
- C. 21
- D. 1

13. What does NOT happen when substances react chemically to form new substances?

Answer: A. The reaction always produces a gas

- A. The reaction always produces a gas
- B. There are changes in properties
- C. heat energy may be released or absorbed
- D. chemical bonds are broken and new chemical bonds are formed

14. The study of the structure and shape of the body and body parts is called:

Answer: B. anatomy

- A. homeostasis
- B. anatomy
- C. irritability
- D. negative feedback

15. The smallest living unit of all living things is:

Answer: B. a cell

- A. the organism
- B. a cell
- C. an organ
- D. a tissue

16. Which of the following systems is matched most accurately to the life function it provides:

Answer: C. nervous system – responsiveness

- A. integumentary system – movement
- B. muscular system – maintaining boundaries
- C. nervous system – responsiveness
- D. respiratory system – digestion



17. Which of the following is NOT connective tissue:

Answer: C. nervous system – responsiveness

- A. blood
- B. skeletal muscle
- C. adipose
- D. cartilage

18. The most important minerals stored in bones are:

Answer: D. calcium and phosphorus

- A. calcium and iron
- B. sodium and phosphorus
- C. sodium and potassium
- D. calcium and phosphorus

18. Vertebrae are considered \_\_\_\_\_ bones, whereas ankle bones are considered \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: C. irregular; short

- A. short; flat
- B. compact; spongy
- C. irregular; short
- D. flat; short

19. Which of the following bone categories are generally cube-shaped:

Answer: C. short bone

- A. long bone
- B. irregular bone
- C. short bone
- D. flat bone

20. Muscle tissue that has involuntary regulation of contraction:

Answer: D. cardiac muscle and smooth muscle

- A. smooth muscle only
- B. cardiac muscle only
- C. skeletal muscle only
- D. cardiac muscle and smooth muscle

21. The muscle tissue type that consists of single, very long, cylindrical, multinucleate cells with obvious striations is:

Answer: C. skeletal muscle only

- A. smooth muscle only
- B. cardiac muscle only
- C. skeletal muscle only
- D. cardiac and smooth muscle

22. The term central nervous system refers to the:

Answer: A. brain and spinal cord

- A. brain and spinal cord
- B. brain and cranial nerves
- C. spinal cord and spinal nerves
- D. autonomic and peripheral nervous systems

23. The point at which an impulse from one nerve cell is communicated to another nerve cell is the:

Answer: D. synapse

- A. collateral branch
- B. cell body
- C. receptor
- D. synapse

24. Preparing the body for the “fight-or-flight” response during threatening situations is the role of the:

Answer: C. sympathetic nervous system

- A. somatic nervous system
- B. cerebrum
- C. sympathetic nervous system
- D. afferent nervous system

25. The scientific method is:

Answer: A. A multi-step process for scientific discovery

- A. A multi-step process for scientific discovery
- B. An idea for an experiment
- C. A suggestion for how to discover something
- D. A method for lab safety

26. A hypothesis is:

Answer: B. a prediction written as an “If....Then....” statement

- A. a summary of what happened
- B. a prediction written as an “If....Then....” statement
- C. a question about an experiment
- D. a method for lab safety

27. The first step of the scientific method occurs when:

Answer: B. you observe something and wonder why it happens

- A. you make a prediction
- B. you observe something and wonder why it happens
- C. you create an experiment and get your materials ready
- D. you decide on your procedures and how to do an experiment

28. If you do not follow all steps of the scientific method, then:

Answer: B. your experiment will lack validity and may not be reliable

- A. your experiment will still be okay
- B. your experiment will lack validity and may not be reliable
- C. your experiment is totally fine, not all steps are needed
- D. your experiment is realisable

29. When you create an experiment, you must list:

Answer: A. all of your materials and procedures with specific and precise language

- A. all of your materials and procedures with specific and precise language
- B. think about what would make the experiment cool
- C. decide what kind of graph to make
- D. think about ways you can cut corners to get the results you want

30. When writing a conclusion, you must:

Answer: C. state if the hypothesis is correct, why, and why not

- A. tell what you think the person reading it wants to know
- B. explain if you liked the experiment
- C. state if the hypothesis is correct, why, and why not
- D. explain if you didn't like the experiment

31. When you analyze your data and results, you:

Answer: A. look for trends and patterns

- A. look for trends and patterns
- B. always use a bar graph
- C. write about what happened in the experiment
- D. all of the above

32. A dependent variable in an experiment is something that

Answer: B. you measure

- A. changes if you want it to
- B. you measure
- C. what you introduce to an experiment
- D. something that never changes

33. Which field of science studies the composition and structure of matter?

Answer C. Chemistry

- A. Physics
- B. Biology
- C. Chemistry
- D. Geology

34. A theory is a \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: B. well-tested explanation for a broad set of observations

- A. proposed an explanation for an observation
- B. well-tested explanation for a broad set of observations
- C. summary of the results of many observations
- D. procedure used to test a proposed explanation

35. Which step in the scientific method requires you to use your senses to obtain information?

Answer: C. making an observation

- A. revising a hypothesis
- B. designing an experiment
- C. making an observation
- D. stating a theory

36. Which of the following must be true for scientific results to be valid?

Answer: B. The results should be based on evidence.

- A. The results should be drawn in a graph.
- B. The results should be based on evidence.
- C. The results should support the ideas of other scientists.
- D. The results should match the predictions of the scientist.

37. An independent variable in an experiment is something that

Answer: C. what you introduce to an experiment

- A. something that isn't important
- B. what you measure
- C. what you introduce to an experiment
- D. something that never changes

## Finding Your Path In-game Careers & Narratives

On the following pages, you will find descriptions of each of the career's students are able to explore in Finding Your Path. It also includes some of the examples of the daily activities demonstrated in the game narratives. In total, there are 58 careers.

### Anesthesia Technologist

Anesthesia Technologists fall under the larger umbrella of Surgical Technologists. They prepare operating rooms and patients for surgery, assist with administration of anesthesia and may help monitor the patient during the procedure.

**Salary** \$31,000.00 per year

**Education Level** Associates Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Worked in the operating room with a patient that was undergoing spinal surgery.
- Assisted the Anesthesiologist in monitoring and operating medical equipment while preparing your patient for operation.
- preparing and monitoring 3 different surgeries, which involved standing for 12 hours straight.

### Audiologist

An Audiologist is a doctor who treats patients with hearing, balance, or other inner-ear problems. They perform tests to see what a patient can hear and may prescribe hearing aids or implants. An Audiologist will also counsel their patients on how to cope with their hearing loss or dizziness. An Audiologist will work closely with nurses, assistants, and other professionals to provide care to their patients.

**Salary** \$69,720.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 21%

**Education Level** Advanced Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Taught a young patient and their family ways to listen and communicate by lip reading or through sign language.
- Conducted research related to the causes and treatment of hearing and balance disorders.
- Examined patients who have hearing and/or balance problems and provided fitting hearing aids.

### Autopsy Technician

**Salary** \$42,000.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 17%

**Education Level** High School

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

**Description** Autopsy Technicians assist Pathologists in autopsies by organizing and cataloguing forensic and medical autopsy tissue. Autopsy Technicians are also responsible for preparing and checking completeness of all required documentation.

#### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Examination of a person that passed away. Prepare the room paperwork and body, and helped during the autopsy.
- Contacted the relatives of a person you worked on to discuss plans with moving the body to the funeral home.
- Organized pieces of evidence taken from the examination by the pathologist for police investigation.

## Biomedical Engineer

Biomedical Engineers use their background in engineering and medicine to analyze and design solutions for problems in biology and medicine. They create devices like artificial organs, prosthetics, pacemakers, imaging devices and other medical equipment. They may also design software to run complicated medical instruments

<b>Salary</b>	\$86,960.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	7%
<b>Education Level</b>	4-year bachelor's degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Hospital Administration & Support

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Completed a new system design for a machine that will help diagnose medical problems, the organization will run beta tests next month.
- Created an artificial organ to use on patients that may need theirs replaced.
- Evaluated the biomedical equipment for safety and trained hospital staff on how to properly use the machines.

## Cardiovascular Technologist

Cardiovascular Technologists use imaging technology to help doctors perform tests to diagnose and treat problems in the heart and blood vessels. Cardiovascular Technologists need to be able to lift or turn patients and should expect to be on their feet most of the day.

<b>Salary</b>	\$52,070.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	17%
<b>Education Level</b>	Associates Degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Helped a heart patient to return to sports one day by assisting a surgeon in implanting a pacemaker.
- Monitored a patient's heart rate during surgery, using an EKG, and alerted the physician to abnormalities during the procedure,
- Helped save the life of an emergency room patient by helping to find and unclog an artery.

## Certified Massage Therapist

Massage therapists use their hands, fingers, forearms and elbows to knead muscles to treat injuries and relax their patients. Massage therapists talk with clients about their symptoms. They find painful or tense areas of the body and they give advice on how to improve posture with stretches or exercise.

<b>Salary</b>	\$35,970.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	26%
<b>Education Level</b>	1-Year Technical Certification
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Worked on a client's neck injury after they suffered a horseback riding injury, you were able to help stimulate the nerves and muscles in the neck area.
- Worked on the lower back of a patient by helping balance out the muscle tension between the hamstrings and hips of the patient through stretching those areas.
- Provided a deep tissue massage to a patient suffering from a shoulder injury after pitching for 12 years



## Certified Nursing Assistant

Certified Nursing Assistants help provide basic care for patients in hospitals and residents of nursing homes. Their work may include cleaning, bathing, dressing and positioning patients. CNAs record and report health information, measure vital signs and serve meals. CNAs work on their feet and may work nights, weekends and holidays.

<b>Salary</b>	\$24,400.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	11%
<b>Education Level</b>	1-Year Technical Certification
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Assisted a patient with getting dressed and bathed.
- Assisted your coworker in lifting a patient from their bed to a wheelchair and back into the bed.
- Found bruises on a patient you were examining that lead to the doctor running a test and discovering the patient suffers from Leukemia.

## Child Life Specialist

Child Life Specialists educate young patients and their families about medical diagnosis, treatments and coping. Child Life Specialists educate by playing games, role-playing, and engaging the patient in other age appropriate activities. Child Life Specialists often take the language of the medical provider and break it down into more simple language so that their young patient understands, step-by-step, what is happening.

<b>Salary</b>	\$42,720.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	7%
<b>Education Level</b>	4-year bachelor's degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Went to a patient's school to teach the school support team about the child's disability and how to best work with them.
- Helped teach a parent by explaining to them the disease their child was diagnosed with. Helped develop a clear plan for home school and provided support contacts.
- Helped calm a child that needed to complete a procedure by singing songs and using stuffed animals.

## Counseling Psychologist

Psychologists work with patients to help them manage and overcome mental or emotional problems. A psychologist will observe and assess their patients through counseling and will advise them on how to deal with their problems, identify their strengths or find other sources of support and help.

<b>Salary</b>	\$42,720.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	14%
<b>Education Level</b>	Advanced Degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Worked with a married couple who were struggling to communicate effectively with each other.
- Worked with a child that is nervous about going to a new school as they suffer from anxiety.
- Met with a patient that was diagnosed with a chronic physical illness and is having a hard to adjusting to the new limits of everyday life.

## Cytology Technologist

Cytology is the study of cells. A Cytotechnologist uses a microscope to identify cellular abnormalities. They provide an inspection of a specimen and work closely with a Pathologist for diagnosis.

**Salary** \$61,235.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 22%  
**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Examined a specimen from a patient and discovered abnormal cells normally seen in cancer. The pathologist confirmed your report accelerating patient treatment allowing the patient to fully recover.
- Viewed a tissue specimen under the microscope and learned that the tumor was benign.
- Collected a blood sample for research on a rare blood disorder that your patient was diagnosed with.

### **Dental Assistant**

Dental Assistants typically work under the supervision of Dentists. They work alongside Dentists to assist in providing patients with dental procedures. Dental Assistants can be responsible for taking, developing, and viewing x-rays, for instructing patients on proper dental care, and for clerical or administrative duties.

**Salary** \$34,500.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 19%  
**Education Level** 1-Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Worked with a 7-year-old child that was not happy to be at the Dentist office. Had to use toys and humor to help them get through their appointment.
- Took 12 teeth impressions for patients that needed crowns, dentures and mouthguards.
- Took an x-ray and found a tumor in a patient's mouth allowing for them to begin seeking treatment,

### **Dental Hygienist**

Dental Hygienists clean and polish teeth, examine patients for oral disease and take x-ray images of the mouth and jaw. They work closely with both dentists and dental assistants. A dental hygienist will work with patients every day. They also teach patients how to care for their teeth and gums.

**Salary** \$41,790.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 20%  
**Education Level** Associates Degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Examined a patient and discovered they were suffering for a gum disease called gingivitis.
- Educated several patients on ways to improve and maintain good oral health.
- Saw a patient that needed to receive braces. Assisted the family with finding an orthodontist to work with.

### **Diagnostic Medical Sonographer**

Sonographers work with special equipment using sound waves to create images of organs, vessels and tissues inside of the body. Sonographers take "pictures" and analyze what they see to help diagnose illness or injury, to provide visual guidance for other procedures or to check the health of a growing baby.

**Salary** \$60,350.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 17%  
**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Took images using sonographic equipment and captured images of blood clots in a patient's right leg, this led to immediate treatment by their physician.
- Discovered a set of twins during a patient's ultrasound.
- Examined a patient's abdomen and captured images of a hernia.

**Dietetic Technician**

Dietetic Technicians work under the direction of clinical nutritionists. They work with patients to ensure that they are following their nutritional plan appropriately. Dietetic Technicians assess patient's dietary history and needs, they calculate nutritional content of meals and educate patients on their nutrition plan.

**Salary** \$30,000.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 15%  
**Education Level** Associates Degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Educated a person struggling with weight issues to understand the benefits a healthy food choices and exercise.
- Planned menus and prepared food for patients with special nutritional needs that were starting their inpatient stay at the hospital.
- Co-facilitated a seminar for employees in the food service industry, helping suppliers create healthier prepared foods and ensuring that food labels are complete and accurate.

**Dietician**

Dietitians are experts in nutrition and food. The specific work a Dietitian does can vary depending on where they work or the specialty they choose. They may advise people on what to eat to live a healthy lifestyle or reach a health-goal, they may create meal plans for schools, hospitals or nursing homes or they might work in their community to help promote better nutrition through education programs teaching ideal diet and fitness habits.

**Salary** \$55,240.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 15%  
**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Administered medical nutrition therapy as part of the health-care team for a patient that was recently diagnosed with an illness causing dietary disfunction.
- Managed to change the hospital food services by over-seeing changes in food purchasing and meal preparation.
- Spoke to a group of middle school students, teaching them to help improve their quality of life through healthy eating habits.

**EKG Technician**

EKG Technicians perform electrocardiograms which is a test that monitors the heartbeat of a patient. The test requires the EKG Technician to place electrodes on the patient's body. The EKG Technician is responsible for operating the EKG machine and monitoring the patient during the procedure.

**Salary** \$52,100.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 17%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Helped the Emergency Medicine physician diagnose a heart attack, by performing an EKG on a patient in the Emergency Department, who was having chest pain. As the result the patient received the treatment they needed and made a full recovery.
- Performed an EKG during a Code Blue, unfortunately the patient died.
- Performed an EKG on a patient who just came out of open-heart surgery and the Cardiologist was able to tell the surgeon that the patient's heart was functioning well.

### **EMT/Paramedic**

EMTs and Paramedics help people who are sick or injured, usually in emergency situations like car accidents or natural disasters. They often work with firefighters or police officers. Paramedics have more extensive training than an EMT. They can give medications and use more complex medical equipment. Both careers are stressful, physically difficult, and can involve life-or-death situations. A formal EMT training course is required. Additional training is required to drive an ambulance.

**Salary** \$31,020.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 15%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Called to a car accident scene, where you had to monitor vital signs and be sure that everyone involved was in good health.
- Called to the local mall to find on unconscious patient who was not breathing. Used first aid techniques to provide CPR and use an AED device to shock their heart into function. Transported them to the Emergency department.
- Checked your ambulance to ensure all supplies are restocked. Gave the ambulance a wash and took it to the local elementary school for a career fair.

### **Genetic Counselor**

Genetic Counselors determine risk factors for disorders and hereditary diseases. They do this by analyzing patient histories, genetic testing, and risk calculation. Genetic Counselors also educate the family on their risk factors as well as how to cope with a diagnosis.

**Salary** \$72,090.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 29%  
**Education Level** 6-year master's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Description**

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Counseled a couple who is expecting a baby with a genetic syndrome, which will require lifelong care.
- Counseled a couple who is trying to have a baby on their genetic maps and potential conditions that may be passed to the baby.
- Counseled a patient on their cancer risk, based on their genetic map.

## **Glassware / Media Prep Technician**

Glassware/ Media Prep Technicians collect, clean, sterilize and distribute laboratory glassware and other supplies. They also help clean lab coats, dispose of hazardous waste and monitor the laboratory water system. Glassware/Media Prep Technicians are responsible for the maintenance of glassware washers, dryers and sterilizers.

**Salary** \$25,000.00 per year  
**Education Level** High School  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

## **Health Information Specialist**

Health Information Specialists manage and organize health information data. Keeping this information organized maintains its quality, accuracy, accessibility and security in both electronic and paper copies.

**Salary** \$37,110.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 0%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

## **Healthcare Administrator**

Healthcare Administrators, also called health service managers or healthcare executives, plan, coordinate and direct medical services and manage changes in regulations and technology. Some Healthcare Administrators may manage an entire hospital, while others manage a specific department or a smaller doctor's office.

**Salary** \$88,580.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 20%  
**Education Level** 6-year master's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Investigated a patient complaint on one of the care units
- Evaluated the budget for operating materials and decided if to purchase materials that cost less or cutback on the amount we purchased.
- Had a day full of meetings, one included a discussion on whether or not to purchase certain expensive medicine or generic medicine.

## **Histology Technologist**

Histology is the study of tissue. Histotechnicians (HT) and Histotechnologists (HTL) prepare tissues by cutting and staining them from various sites in the body to be reviewed by a Pathologist.

**Salary** \$53,566.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 13%  
**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Prepared thin slices of human tissue for a Histologist to complete a microscopic examination.
- Worked as a large team on a case involving an unknown cause of death. Based on theories you were tasked with slicing and preparing parts of the brain.
- Sliced animal and plant tissues with your machines, preparing them for research examination.

## **Licensed Practical Nurse**

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) work under Registered Nurses (RN) and doctors to provide basic medical care. They monitor patients' health, collect samples for testing and keep health records. There are some things that an LPN cannot do such as giving medication or starting an IV. This can vary by state.

**Salary** \$41,540.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 12%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Worked with 20 patients in a very busy orthopedic clinic. You performed dressing changes, gave instructions on preparing for surgery and helped patients coordinate physical therapy visits after surgery.
- Helped a nurse practitioner treat a patient's infected toe.
- Helped place a splint and give instructions on how to use the splint to a 12-year-old who had sprained her ankle playing basketball.

### **Medical Appliance Technician**

Medical Appliance Technicians create, maintain and repair medical and surgical appliances. These appliances may include: braces, joints, and artificial limbs. They work with healthcare professionals by following specific directions to help patients in need of these special devices.

**Salary** \$34,920.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 4%  
**Education Level** High School  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Assisted the orthotist in constructing a new brace for a patient with a malformed ankle.
- Repaired a set of crutches for a patient in the hospital.
- Made modifications to a prosthetic arm for a patient.

### **Medical Coding & Billing Specialist**

Medical Coding and Billing are two important parts of the billing process for health services. Sometimes one person will perform both jobs while others may only do one or the other. Medical Coders analyze patient records and apply special codes which are used to charge insurance companies, Medicare and then the patient. Medical Billing is more specific to invoicing and processing payments. Both jobs require a great deal of accuracy. Responsible for organizing and managing health information data to ensure that information maintains its quality, accuracy, accessibility, and security in both paper files and electronic systems, in addition to using various classification systems to code and categorize patient information for insurance reimbursement purposes, for databases and registries, to maintain patients' medical and treatment histories.

**Salary** \$34,160.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 13%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Helped identify an incorrect medical record number which was assigned to a patient resulting in billing errors.
- Accurately coded a complicated surgical procedure resulting full reimbursement from the insurance company.
- Audited 24 hours of coding resulting in finding 17 errors that you were able to correct before the insurance companies were billed.

### **Medical Interpreter**

Responsible for converting information from one language into another language, either spoken or in sign language.

**Salary** \$45,430.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 18%

**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree

#### **Patient Interaction**

Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Interpreted for a new patient in the oncology clinic and now they're feeling less nervous about receiving chemotherapy.
- Interpreted for the PT, OT and Speech therapist to help the family of a new stroke patient get their house ready to receive the patient at discharge.
- Interpreted for a new transplant recipient and their pharmacist so they understand how to take them
- medications and keep their new organ healthy.
- Interpreted for a family whose child will be having surgery to remove their tonsils and adenoids.

### **Medical Laboratory Technician**

Medical Laboratory Technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids and tissues. They work under the supervision of Medical Laboratory Technologists or Lab Managers and perform more basic tests and lab procedures. Lab Technicians must be able to work with specialized equipment to perform their tests. Responsible for collecting samples and performing test to analyze body fluids, tissues, and other substances.

**Salary** \$37,240.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 13%

**Education Level** Associates Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Responsible for running over 100 Complete Blood Count (CBC) tests.
- Responsible for analyzing over 50 Rapid Strep tests, resulting in 20 patients being diagnosed with strep infections.
- Mistakenly completed the wrong test on a patient sample, resulting in the patient having to come back to the hospital for an additional blood draw.

### **Nurse Practitioner**

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are advanced practice Registered Nurses (RNs) that can work either independently or as part of a health care team to diagnose and treat acute and chronic illnesses for people throughout their lifespan. Many NPs function as primary care providers in clinics. While RNs can only dispense medications, NPs can prescribe them to their patients Responsible for coordinating patients care and providing primary and specialty healthcare.

**Salary** \$96,460.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 31%

**Education Level** Advanced Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Saw a patient that had an ear infection and provided a prescription to receive medication to treat the diagnosis.
- Worked together with a physician to decide on the best way to complete a procedure on their patient, you also have your own patients in your independent practice.
- Read a diagnostic test (X-ray) that showed your patient had a small fracture in their wrist.

### **Occupational Therapist**

Occupational Therapists work with patients who are developmentally disabled, injured or elderly. They help these patients to develop, recover or improve daily living and working skills. The specific work they do can vary greatly depending on which patient group they work with. Patient and family education is a large part of work as an Occupational Therapist. Responsible for treating the injured, ill, and/or disabled through the therapeutic use of everyday activities to help patients develop, recover, improv, and maintain the skills needed for daily living and working.

**Salary** \$75,400.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 24%

**Education Level** 6-year Master's degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

- Worked with 15 children, with varied developmental challenges, at an elementary school.
- Worked with an elderly patient who was transitioning back to an assisted living facility after recovering from a stroke.
- Worked with a former college athlete who recently lost the use of his legs after a car accident.

### **Occupational Therapy Assistant**

Occupational Therapy Assistants work with Occupational Therapists to treat patients who may be disabled, injured or elderly. They work directly with the patient while helping to carry out a treatment plan. OT Assistants monitor activities, encourage patients and record patient progress so an Occupational Therapist can make changes to the plan if needed. Assist Occupational Therapist in aiding patients to develop, recover, improve, and maintain the skills needed for daily living and working, in addition to various support service responsibilities

**Salary** \$48,940.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 28%

**Education Level** Associates Degree

**Patient Interaction** Hospital Administration & Support

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Assisted a therapist in working with an elderly patient recovering from a stroke in working on using their assistive walking device.
- Assisted a therapist in working with a group of Kindergarten students with a variety of developmental challenges.
- Assisted a therapist in working with a small group of high school students with Down's Syndrome.

### **Ophthalmic Laboratory Technician**

Ophthalmic laboratory technicians make prescription eyeglasses and contact lenses. Their work can include cutting, shaping or polishing lenses and assembling lenses and frames to create prescription glasses.

**Salary** \$33,070.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 0%

**Education Level** High School

**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

### **Ophthalmic Medical Technician**



An Ophthalmic Medical Technician works with an ophthalmologist to help patients with eye disorders. They obtain patient medical histories, give diagnostic tests, provide instructions on glasses and contact lenses, give eye medicine and maintain optical equipment. With additional training, ophthalmic technologists can also assist in more advanced procedures. Assist ophthalmologist in eye exams and aid during surgeries, in addition to conducting diagnostic test and sending/retrieving lab work.

**Salary** \$36,690.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 13%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Helped a 7-year-old child find the perfect pair of glasses and taught them the proper way to care for their first pair.
- Treated a patient that learned they were experiencing the onset of glaucoma during an eye examination, you worked with the ophthalmologist to create a plan for treatment.
- Spent 2 hours working with a patient on inserting and removing contact lenses. it's not easy for everyone!

#### **PACS Specialist**

**Salary** \$80,663.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 8%  
**Education Level** 1 Year Technical Certification  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) Specialist is a new field in healthcare. PACS Specialists are responsible for daily operations and maintenance of the picture archiving communication system. The PACS system is typically used to store Radiology images, including those from ENT, Surgery, Pathology and Dermatology. PACS Specialists are responsible to maintain system testing, upgrades and installation of the product. Responsible for the daily operations and maintenance of the picture archiving communication systems, used to store radiology images, ENT, Surgery, pathology and dermatology

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- File away all of the medical images from a patient that fell down the stairs including X-ray, CT scan
- MRI and ultrasound.
- Locate old CT scans for a patient that has been seen multiple times for brain function since experiencing a head injury 10 years ago
- Send a 30-year history of patient images to a hospital in another country so that they could better diagnose the case, as the patient experienced a medical emergency while on vacation.

#### **Pathologists Assistant**

Pathologist Assistants (PAS) are expertly trained allied health professionals that process a variety of laboratory specimens. under the supervision of a Pathologist. Most PA's examine, dissect and prepare surgical tissues. They are also trained to conduct all aspects of autopsies with the exception of diagnosis. Assist certified pathologist in examining surgical specimens, in addition to performing forensic, medicolegal, and hospital autopsies

**Salary** \$90,000.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 18%  
**Education Level** 6-year master's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Had an examination of a person that passed away for an unknown reason, you discovered that it was due to heart failure as you assisted the Pathologist.
- Took hundreds of photographs of human tissue specimens.
- Dissected a patient specimen to observe cancerous tissues.

### **Patient Advocate**

A Patient Advocate helps patients navigate their way through the healthcare system. They meet individually with patients to help them understand their procedures, treatment options, financial responsibilities, and to connect with their doctors and specialists.

**Salary** \$33,870.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 0%

**Education Level** High School

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

- Helped a patient understand the treatment options they could receive for their illness.
- Helped a patient come to their own decision on what procedure they felt the most comfortable undergoing.
- Helped a patient prepare and investigate financial options for payment toward their hospital visit.

### **Patient Services Aide**

Patient Services Aides help transport patients to and from various nursing and lab units throughout the hospital. Patient Services Aides also assist with moving medical equipment throughout the hospital. The Patient Services Aide is responsible for making sure they are transporting patients safely. Provide basic care to patients in medical facilities including but not limited to: feeding, bathing, dressing, moving and/or transporting patients.

**Salary** \$28,000.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 18%

**Education Level** High School

**Patient Interaction** Hospital Administration & Support

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Were responsible for moving medical equipment from one nursing unit to a new area as the hospital is undergoing renovations.
- Were responsible for moving a patient from the emergency department to the pediatric unit.
- Helped transport a mother and her new baby using a wheelchair to their car to go home after their 3-night stay.

### **Perfusion Technologist**

**Salary** \$75,000.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 25%

**Education Level** 6-year master's degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

A Perfusion Technologist works with the medical surgical team during heart and lung surgeries. A Perfusion Technologist is responsible for working the heart-lung (Cardiopulmonary bypass) machine that keeps the blood flowing through a patient's body oxygenated without going through the heart so that the heart can remain still during surgery. Perfusion Technologists also are responsible for testing blood count levels and monitoring the patient's blood circulation during surgery. Assist surgeons during heart and lung surgeries and are responsible for working the heart-lung (cardiopulmonary bypass) machine to keep the blood flowing through a patient's body oxygenated without going through the heart so the heart can remain still during surgery.

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Tested for blood count on a surgery patient that was critically injured in an accident and had a large chest wound.
- Used a heart-lung bypass machine to keep a patient alive during heart surgery as the machine acted as the patient's heart and lungs during operation.
- Worked on a patient that was receiving a lung transplant, you did a great job controlling their oxygen intake!

**Pharmacist Salary** \$116,670.00 per year

Pharmacists are responsible for filling prescriptions and advising a patient how to use them safely. They must be able to identify and avoid dangerous combinations of medicines. Their job requires a great deal of accuracy. A large part of a Pharmacist's job is to advise and educate patients and families regarding safe use and potential side effects of the medications that have been prescribed. Responsible for dispensing prescription medication to patients and offer expertise in the safe use of prescription, in addition to conducting health and wellness screening, providing immunizations, and overseeing the medications given to patients.

**Projected Growth** 6%**Education Level** Advanced Degree**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

- Worked with a doctor to create a treatment plan using the safest and most effective medication combination.
- Helped teach a patient how to take medicine safely, as they will now have to consume this for the rest of their lives after being diagnosed with a disease.
- Dispensed medication and supplied it to patients safely for over 500 customers while educating them on side effects!

**Pharmacy Technician**

Pharmacy Technicians help licensed pharmacists dispense prescription medications. They take prescription information, count or measure the prescription, mix ointments, package and label prescriptions, take payment, and perform other routine tasks. Assist pharmacist in the dispensing of prescription medication to customers and/or health professionals.

**Salary** \$29,320.00 per year**Projected Growth** 12%**Education Level** High School**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- We're going to supply medication to a patient, you were detailed enough to notice that they used a fake prescription note. You alerted the pharmacist.
- Received a shipment of medications, you had to sort and fill dispensers accurately to ensure patient safety.
- Prepared medication cocktails. (several different medications to be consumed together for treatment)

**Phlebotomist**

Phlebotomists draw blood for testing, transfusions, research and donations. Phlebotomists are responsible for ensuring that all equipment used to draw blood is sanitary and used correctly to avoid contamination and/or infections. It is important that Phlebotomists label all blood samples accurately. Draw blood for tests, transfusion, research, and/or blood donations, in addition to aiding patients who have adverse reactions after their blood is drawn.

**Salary** \$29,730.00 per year**Projected Growth** 25%**Education Level** High School**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Had to puncture a 3-week old infants heel to get a blood sample for Jaundice testing.
- Volunteered to work for a blood drive to collect blood donations for a healthy cause.
- Collected a blood sample for research of a rare blood disorder that your patient was diagnosed with.

**Physical Therapist**

Physical Therapists treat patients who have suffered injury or illness by improving movement and managing pain. A Physical Therapist works with a team to identify areas that need improvement and make a plan for treatment. The daily work of a Physical Therapist can vary greatly depending on their patients. They can work with children, the elderly, sports injuries, rehabilitation post-surgery or other areas. Responsible for aiding the injured and/or ill improve their movement and manage their pain to further the agenda of a patient's rehabilitation, treatment, and/or prevention of patients with chronic conditions, illnesses, and/or injuries.

**Salary** \$79,860.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 28%

**Education Level** Advanced Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Helped a patient that lost the ability to use their lower limbs temporarily, relearn to walk.
- Worked with a basketball player to strengthen their knee after suffering an injury.
- Took a patient to the pool to strengthen their ankle after having surgery, they performed light exercises while the water reduced pressure.

#### **Physical Therapy Assistant**

Physical Therapy Assistants work closely with Physical Therapists. They provide direct care to help patients regain movement and manage pain after injury, illness or after surgery. Physical Therapy Assistants will also perform tasks that are not direct patient care, like moving patients, cleaning and setting up the treatment area or clerical tasks. Assist Physical Therapist in aiding patients who are recovering from injuries/illnesses regain movement and manage pain.

**Salary** \$39,430.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 30%

**Education Level** High School

**Patient Interaction** Hospital Administration & Support

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Were responsible for cleaning and setting up patient care areas for today's appointments.
- Transported one of your patients using a wheelchair back to their hospital room after their therapy
- treatment.
- Assisted in aiding a patient through therapy with the Physical Therapist.

#### **Physician Assistant**

Physician Assistants work with a team of caregivers under the supervision of a physician or surgeon. PA's work in all areas of medicine, so the specific work they do will vary depending on the specialty they choose and the work their supervising physician needs them to do. Sometimes a PA might also be the primary care provider at a small clinic or in a rural area. Work collaboratively with teams of physicians, surgeons, and other healthcare workers to examine, diagnosis, and treat patients.

**Salary** \$90,930.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 37%

**Education Level** 6-year master's degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Were the primary care provider for a clinic visits as you split time between a "doctor's office" and a hospital.
- Assisted a surgeon during a surgery procedure on a severely broken arm.
- Ordered a test from the lab to diagnose a patient. Then you prescribed medication for treatment of the
- virus after examining the results.

#### **Physician/Surgeon**

Physicians and Surgeons help diagnose and treat patients who are injured or ill. Physicians take medical histories, order medical tests and prescribe medications to treat their patients. Surgeons operate on patients in order to fix their problems, like setting broken bones or removing tumors. Responsible for diagnosing and treating injuries and illness included but not limited to: Physician, examining patients, taking medical histories, prescribing medications, and ordering/performing/interpreting diagnostic tests Surgeon, operating on patients to treat injuries such as broken bones, diseases, such as cancerous tumors, and deformities.

**Salary** \$320,174.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 6%

**Education Level** Medical Residency

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Saw a patient that has been experiencing memory loss, you spoke with a physician that specializes in
- brain function and decided to order a CT scan for further testing.
- Performed surgery for a patient suffering from a torn ligament.
- Lead students/residents (future physicians) through understanding patient medical histories, reading
- diagnostic tests like x-rays and had them shadow you counseling patients on preventing future health issues.

#### **Polysomnographic Technologist**

**Salary** \$57,580.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 18%

**Education Level** Associates Degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

Polysomnographic Technologists and Technicians work as part of a team under the supervision of a physician and assist in the evaluation and treatment of sleep disorders in patients of all ages. Technicians have less training and may work under the supervision of a Technologist. Responsible for performing overnight, daytime, and/or home sleep studies for people with suspected sleep disorders, in addition to collecting medical history and explaining procedures.

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Connected sensors to your patient's head, chest, fact, stomach and legs before they went to sleep so that you could observe their heart rate, brain waves and muscle activity while they slept.
- Sent over the sleep study observations and data from your patient to your patient's physician.
- Worked with a patient to understand their new CPAP (Continuous positive airway pressure device) which was the treatment plan they received from their physician.

#### **Prosthetist/Orthotist**

Orthotists and Prosthetists, also known as OOP Professionals, design and fit artificial limbs, braces and other medical devices, and instruct their patients on how to use and care for them. OOP Professionals might work in both orthotics (braces and supports) and prosthetics (artificial limbs and body parts), or they might specialize in one area. Responsible for designing and fabricating medical supportive devices for measurement and fitting for patients.

**Salary** \$62,670.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 22%

**Education Level** 6-year master's degree

**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Fit a back brace for a child with scoliosis to help try and slow the progression of their spinal curve.
- Designed an artificial leg for your patient whose leg was amputated after an injury sustained while at war.

- Helped your 5-year old patient learn to use her new artificial arm that you designed for her.

### **Radiation Therapist**

A Radiation Therapist uses targeted and carefully measured doses of radiation to treat cancer and other diseases in patients. They work closely with physicians, nurses and physicists to treat their patients. Responsible for treating cancers and other diseases in patients by administering radiation treatments.

**Salary** \$77,560.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 13%  
**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Reviewed your patient's x-rays, CT and MRI to determine exactly where their tumor is located so that you provided treatment at the correct location.
- Did a simulation radiation therapy session with your patient. You made sure to document the exact position your patient was lying in and the exact angle of the radiation machine so that when the treatment is done in the future it is done very precisely every single time.
- Talked with your patient Sue as she was receiving her first radiation therapy treatment for her breast cancer to address her concerns of feeling anxious and helping her through the treatment.

### **Radiologic Technologist**

Radiologic Technologists take images of the body to help physicians diagnose illness or injury. They maintain imaging equipment and they prepare and position the patient. A Radiologic Technologist must be very knowledgeable about anatomy and the risks of radiation exposure. They must protect themselves and patients from overexposure. Responsible for taking x-rays, CAT scans, or administering non-radioactive materials into patient's blood streams for diagnostic purposes.

**Salary** \$55,910.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 13%  
**Education Level** Associates Degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Took ultrasound images of your patients left lung to show the Radiology Fellow where to insert the needle to begin draining fluid that has built up.
- Took ultrasound images of your patient's uterus and ovaries as ordered by the Physician as your patient was complaining of lower abdominal pain.
- Showed the Radiology Resident the ultrasound images you took of your patient's blood vessels in their legs to determine they were good enough quality to be analyzed by the Radiologist.

### **Radiologist Assistant**

Radiologist Assistants are advanced level Radiologic Technologists. Radiologist Assistants work under the direction and supervision of Radiologists. They help perform diagnostic imaging exams such as CAT scans and x-rays. Radiologist Assistants also help assess and manage patient care. Assist Radiologist perform diagnostic imaging exams such as CAT scans and x-rays in addition to helping assess and manage patient care.

**Salary** \$73,410.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 20%  
**Education Level** 6-year master's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

#### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Assisted the Radiologist in performing a fluoroscopic swallowing procedure to determine if the patient is swallowing safely and effectively. You watched the real-time x-ray of the patient swallowing to determine any abnormalities.
- Approved the Radiologic Technologist's ultrasound image of her patient's kidneys for the Radiologist to later review.

- Explained to my patient the process that was going to take place for her liver biopsy. After imaging and tests were concluded the Physician ordered a biopsy of the liver to be done to determine if the patient had cancerous cells in his liver.

## Registered Nurse

Registered Nurses provide patient care and work as part of a healthcare team. They maintain patient records, give medication, operate medical equipment and consult with physicians and other health professionals. A primary part of a RN's job is to educate patients and their families about their illness or injury and explain what to do after treatment.

<b>Salary</b>	\$65,470.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	15%
<b>Education Level</b>	4-year Bachelor Degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Continuously monitored your patient who was at the hospital because she was having complications with her pregnancy. You checked her vital signs including blood pressure, heart rate and temperature and recorded them in her chart every few hours.
- Administered CPR to a neonatal patient who went into cardiac arrest. After CPR your patient's heart began to beat on its own again. You and your medical team closely monitored the patient for the rest of the day.
- Administered Flu Vaccinations for many of your patients that came in for their primary care appointments with their Family Physician.

## Respiratory Therapist

Respiratory therapists help patients who have difficulty breathing, like asthma, emphysema or sleep apnea. Respiratory therapists may also provide care in emergencies, like a stroke or heart attack.

<b>Salary</b>	\$55,870.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	23%
<b>Education Level</b>	Associates Degree
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Direct Patient Care

### Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative

- Per the patient's family request, you removed a patient who was on life support from their breathing ventilator. The patient passed away shortly after.
- Visited a patient who has cystic fibrosis and assisted them with their 30-minute vest-treatment. The vest vibrates the chest to loosen mucus for the patient to cough up.
- Visited with your patient who is being released from the hospital after being admitted for an asthma attack. Together you discussed their asthma action plan for when they go home as well as a review of the proper way to use their inhaler.

## Specimen Receiving Technician

A Specimen Receiving Technician is responsible for receiving specimens and research kits into the laboratory, checking for correct labeling, and accuracy. They enter tests into lab information systems, process specimens, and load instruments to direct them to the appropriate destination. Clerical duties, basic instrument maintenance and maintaining daily checklists are also some additional tasks that might be performed.

<b>Salary</b>	\$32,674.00 per year
<b>Projected Growth</b>	13%
<b>Education Level</b>	High School
<b>Patient Interaction</b>	Indirect Patient Care

### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Today there were many patients visiting the clinics for a flu like virus, you processed over 250 samples of the same virus.
- In the lab you caught a mistake that was made in labeling the specimens being tested. You saved many hours of work and a lot of money and materials for the hospital.
- You were responsible for transporting the largest tapeworm removed from a patient at the hospital to the research lab for studying.

### **Speech Language Pathologist**

Speech Language Pathologists treat patients who have problems with communicating or swallowing. They diagnose their patient and create a treatment plan specific to the needs of each patient. Some Speech Language Pathologists will work with a specific age group, like children or the elderly, or they will work with a specific health problem.

**Salary** \$69,870.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 18%  
**Education Level** 6-year Master's degree  
**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Worked with an infant patient that was having difficulty sucking and so was not getting enough nourishment. You helped the mother and child find the best technique to feed.
- You have a student that stutters intensely. Today you practiced speech techniques like stopping, slow starts, and reading to increase their speech fluency.
- Worked with an adult that has difficulty reading and writing, you utilized an audio book to practice, alongside the actual book.

### **Sterile Processing Technician**

Sterile Processing Technicians are responsible for effectively and efficiently decontaminating, cleaning, sterilization and reprocessing medical equipment. Equipment can include surgical instruments, medical supplies and other patient equipment used throughout the hospital and clinical areas.

**Salary** \$32,260.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 12%  
**Education Level** High School  
**Patient Interaction** Indirect Patient Care

### **Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Washed, rinsed and cleaned all the surgical equipment that was used on patients, it was important for you to double check everything for bodily fluids like blood and tissue after they came out of the washer.
- Put together pans for surgeons, pans are sterilized equipment boxes that have all the required instruments for completing surgery, they are different for every doctor.
- Were responsible for putting away all the instrument pans after the final sterilizing process ensuring they were ready for use.

### **Surgical Assistant**

Surgical Assistants work under the direct supervision of surgeons. The surgical assistant is a crucial part of the surgical team as they have a hands-on role during procedures. Surgical Assistants help the surgeon with tasks such as sponging, suturing, suctioning, holding retractors and treating wounds. Surgical Assistants do all of the work that surgical technologists do, plus more advanced tasks.

**Salary** \$41,790.00 per year  
**Projected Growth** 12%



**Education Level** 4-year bachelor's degree

**Patient Interaction** Direct Patient Care

**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Assisted in surgery by moving the patient for the surgeon's best access to complete the procedure.
- Helped the surgeon remove screws placed in a patient's leg after recovering from a severe break.
- Produced a skin graft from the patient's right arm during a surgical procedure to place on the patients injured leg.

## **Surgical Technologist**

Surgical Technologists assist in surgical operations. They prepare operating rooms for surgery, ensure all supplies are ready, prepare the patient for their procedure, and pass instruments and other sterile supplies to surgeons and nurses during surgery. Surgical Technologists must be able to work as part of a team in high-pressure situations. They are responsible for knowing what tools are needed for a procedure and for keeping them sterile.

**Salary** \$41,790.00 per year

**Projected Growth** 12%

**Education Level** Associates Degree

**Patient Interaction** Hospital Administration & Support

**Sample Daily Activities from the Finding Your Path Narrative**

- Had 4 surgery assignments, you were responsible for setting up, sterilizing, making sure you have all the equipment needed in the operating room.
- Ensured that other operating rooms were set up for their upcoming surgeries.
- You and the rest of the operating room team were able to successfully be a part of an amazing spinal operation that gave patient the ability to live a pain free life