

Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) Specialist



What do they do?

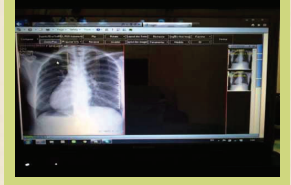
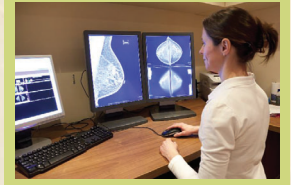
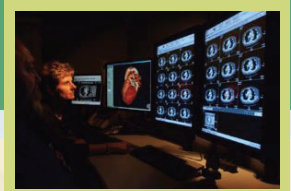
Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) Specialist is a new field in healthcare. PACS Specialists are responsible for daily operations and maintenance of the picture archiving communication system. The PACS system is typically used to store Radiology images, including those from ENT, Surgery, Pathology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

Where do they work?

PACS Specialists usually work on site in a hospital or clinic. They can also work remotely via phone, email or appointment.

Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for a PACS Specialist is \$84,810.



Education:

A high school diploma or GED is required to become a Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) Specialist. Education or experience with radiologic images is preferred. It is also helpful to have education or experience in information technology (IT).

High School students interested in becoming PACS specialists should take classes in science, computer science and physics.

Job Responsibilities:

- PACS management, system maintenance & troubleshooting
- User training
- Workflow design & management
- Physician relations
- System integration and administration
- Policy & guideline development
- System expansion
- Development of vision with PACS system
- Vendor selection, system & price negotiation, vendor relationship management
- Start & lead PACS development/management committee
- Financial assessments & cost estimates
- Project installation
- PACS system integration into healthcare system

Important Skills:

- Ability to learn anatomy and other medical terminology
- Customer service skills
- Verbal and written communication skills
- Experience with computers and Microsoft Office Suite

Benefits:

- You will gain experience working in a healthcare setting
- You will gain experience with PACS system
- You will be introduced to radiologic images
- You will gain experience in Information Technology
- There are opportunities to grow and learn within the position and by advancing to other similar positions
- You will learn how to work both independently and in a team environment

Opportunities for Advancement:

With additional work experience and education a PACS specialist could choose to advance into the following areas:

- Supervisor, management or administration
- Information Technology roles
- Radiologic Technologist



Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Picture Archiving Communication Systems Specialists is expected to grow 5 percent between 2020-2030, which is slower than average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Network and Computer Systems Administrators, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/network-and-computer-systems-administrators.htm> (visited September 08, 2021).

