Choose Healthcare
Mississippi Rural Health Association
The following careers are a sample of available careers that Mississippi students may wish to pursue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Program Level</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Audiologist</strong></td>
<td>Audiologists are health care professionals who identify, assess and manage disorders of hearing, balance and other neural systems.</td>
<td>4 Year Program*, Doctorate*</td>
<td>University of Southern Mississippi, University of Mississippi, Jackson State University, University of Southern Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bioinformatics</strong></td>
<td>Bioinformatics is a scientific subdiscipline that involves using computer technology to collect, store, analyze and disseminate biological data and information, such as DNA and amino acid sequences.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>University of Mississippi, Jackson State University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biostatistics</strong></td>
<td>Biostatistics (also known as biometry) are the development and application of statistical methods to a wide range of topics in biology.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>University of Mississippi, Jackson State University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biotechnology</strong></td>
<td>Biotechnology is technology that utilizes biological systems, living organisms or parts of this to develop or create different products.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>Alcorn State University, University of Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cardiovascular Technician</strong></td>
<td>Cardiovascular technologists and technicians assist physicians in diagnosing and treating cardiac (heart) and peripheral vascular (blood vessel) ailments.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>Northwest Mississippi Community College</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Certified Nursing Assistant</strong></td>
<td>A certified nursing assistant helps patients with direct health care needs, often under the supervision of a nurse. CNAs work directly with patients and nurses, helping with the many physical and complex tasks for patient care.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>Coahoma Community College, University of Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Anatomy</strong></td>
<td>An anatomist is a medical scientist who conducts research on human biological structures. Your job as an anatomist is to advance the field of medicine through your discoveries. You may work in a consumer science setting, a clinical environment, or academia.</td>
<td>4 Year Program*, Doctorate*</td>
<td>University of Mississippi, Jackson State University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Community Health Specialist</strong></td>
<td>The main goal of the community worker is to facilitate the access to care to ensure that everyone knows where they can seek healthcare services and why it is so important to see healthcare providers and to live healthy lives.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Associate’s Degree</td>
<td>Itawamba Community College, Holmes Community College, Hinds Community College, Itawamba Community College, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Mississippi Delta Community College, Mississippi Valley State University, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Pearl River Community College, Southwest Mississippi Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Investigation</strong></td>
<td>Clinical investigators are responsible for protecting the rights, safety and welfare of human subjects in the studies they conduct. Among other things, investigators must assure that an Institutional Review Board (IRB) that complies with FDA regulations conducts initial and continuing ethical review of the study.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>University of Mississippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Counseling</strong></td>
<td>A counsellor is a person trained to give guidance on personal, social, or psychological problems.</td>
<td>2 Year Program, Master’s Degree</td>
<td>William Carey University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you love to help others?  
A job in healthcare is closer than you think!  
We're here to help!
### Dental Assistant
Dental assistants prepare patients for dental work, help with infection control by sterilizing and disinfecting instruments, setting up instrument trays, preparing materials, and assisting with dental procedures.

- **1 Year Program**
  - Copiah-Lincoln Community College
  - Hinds Community College
  - Meridian Community College
  - Mississippi Delta Community College
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
  - Pearl River Community College
  - Southwest Mississippi Community College

- **4 Year Program**
  - University of Mississippi

### Dentist
Dentists remove tooth decay, fill cavities, and repair fractured teeth. Dentists diagnose and treat problems with patients’ teeth, gums, and related parts of the mouth. They provide advice and instruction on taking care of the teeth and gums and on diet choices that affect oral health.

- **4 Year Program**
  - Doctorate*
    - University of Mississippi

### Dental Hygienist
Dental Hygienist duties revolve around conducting initial patient screenings, cleaning teeth (e.g. removing plaque) and advising patients on oral health and preventative care. Hygienists also help dentists decide treatments for tooth or gum diseases and handle dental emergencies.

- **2 Year Program**
  - Associate’s Degree
  - Bachelor’s Degree
  - University of Mississippi
  - Jackson State University
  - University of Southern Mississippi

### Diagnostic Medical Sonography
A diagnostic medical sonographer, also known simply as a sonographer, uses imaging equipment and soundwaves to form images of many parts of the body, known as ultrasounds. They are trained to acquire and analyze these sonographic images.

- **2 Year Program**
  - Associate’s Degree
    - Alcorn State University

### Dietician
Dietitians support people to improve their health by providing expert nutrition and dietary advice. A dietitian can help you manage health conditions, such as diabetes, eating disorders.

- **4 Year Program**
  - Bachelor’s Degree
  - Delta State University
  - University of Mississippi
  - University of Southern Mississippi

### Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
An EMT, also known as an EMT-Basic, cares for patients at the scene of an incident and while taking patients by ambulance to a hospital. An EMT has the skills to assess a patient’s condition and to manage respiratory, cardiac, and trauma emergencies.

- **4 Month Program**
  - License
  - Coahoma Community College
  - Copiah-Lincoln Community College
  - East Central Community College
  - East Mississippi Community College
  - Hinds Community College
  - Holmes Community College
  - Itawamba Community College
  - Jones County Junior College
  - Meridian Community College
  - Mississippi Delta Community College
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
  - Northeast Mississippi Community College
  - Northwest Mississippi Community College
  - Pearl River Community College
  - Southwest Mississippi Community College

### Epidemiology
Epidemiology is the branch of medicine which deals with the incidence, distribution, and possible control of diseases and other factors relating to health.

- **2 Year Program**
  - 4 Year Program*
  - Master’s Degree*
  - University of Mississippi

### Histotechnology
Histotechnology is a science-based profession aimed to assist the pathologist with the diagnosis of disease on biologic samples from patients.

- **4 Year Program**
  - Bachelor’s Degree
  - University of Mississippi

### Health Administration
Healthcare administrators regularly interact with doctors, nurses, surgeons, and technicians. They direct the operation of healthcare organizations and rarely meet directly with the patients in the healthcare facility.

- **2 Year Program**
  - Doctorate
  - Belhaven
  - Jackson State University
  - University of Mississippi
  - University of Southern Mississippi

### Health Care Assistant
The health care assistant works under the supervision of RN’s, LPN’s, and other medical personnel. The assistant may work in a variety of settings.

- **2 Year Program**
  - Associate’s Degree
  - Hinds Community College
  - Holmes Community College
  - Jones County Junior College
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
  - Meridian Community College
  - Northwest Mississippi Community College

### Health Policy Management
Health policy and management involves not only the public health policies that officials and governing bodies introduce to improve the health of the population, but also the policies that health care institutions use to standardize their delivery and cost of care services.

- **2 Year Program**
  - 4 Year Program*
  - Master’s Degree*
  - Doctorate*
  - Jackson State University

*This program is a post-bachelors degree program that may also require residency training after completion.
As a graduate nurse (MSN), your job is to almost anything a regular nurse may do, care for patients from all walks of life. Responsibilities in this position include patients who are receiving and later recovering from anesthesia. CRNAs like surgery, adult medicine, neonatal care, or an emergency department. Some patients are scheduled for surgery, while others come in for trauma or other potentially life-threatening events.

**3 Year Program**
- Doctorate
- University of Southern Mississippi

**Nurse Anesthetist**
CRNAs are advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) who administer anesthesia and other medications. They also monitor patients who are receiving and later recovering from anesthesia. CRNAs care for patients from all walks of life. Some patients are scheduled for surgery, while others come in for emergency surgeries related to trauma or other potentially life-threatening events.

**Medical Assistant Technician**
A medical assistant technician, or medical assistant, is a support professional in a healthcare facility.

**2 Year Program**
- Associate's Degree

**Medical Coding**
Medical Coders study medical terms and coding systems used by healthcare professionals worldwide.

**2 Year Program**
- Associate's Degree

**Medical Laboratory Technician**
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue, and other substances.

**2 Year Program**
- Associate's Degree

**Medical Laboratory Science**
Medical Laboratory Science focuses on the lab work in hospitals and clinics, taking specimen from patients and performing tests and examinations in order to provide physicians and nurses with information in order to treat patients.

**2 Year Program**
- Associate's Degree

**Nurse (LPN)**
Licensed Practical Nurses are nurses that perform basic patient care tasks and help to keep patients comfortable. This includes helping them to eat, dress, bathe, etc. They assist Registered Nurses (RNs) and Doctors in keeping detailed records, maintaining clear communication between the entire care team and working with patients and their families to understand procedures and how to care for sick relatives.

**1 Year Program**
- License

**Nurse (RN)**
The Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) is defined as a person that has earned a 2-year degree in nursing from an accredited college or technical program. Once they have finished the degree, the person must successfully pass the NCLEX exam. A two-year degree is the minimum degree level education required to become licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN).

**2 Year Program**
- Associate's Degree

**Nurse (BSN)**
A Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) is defined as a nurse that has received a bachelor's degree of science in nursing from an accredited university. These nurses have taken four years of college-level classes to earn their degrees and are often sought by employers. However, graduating with a BSN does not make them an RN. Graduates still must take and pass the NCLEX after graduation to earn an RN title. Once the exam is taken, nurses can have both the RN and BSN designation.

**4 Year Program**
- Bachelor's Degree

**Clinical Laboratory Science**
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue, and other substances.

**University of Southern Mississippi**
**Occupational Therapist**
Occupational therapists treat patients who have injuries, illnesses, or disabilities through the therapeutic use of everyday activities.

- **3 Year Program***
- **Doctorate***
- University of Mississippi

**Physician**
A physician is a general term for a doctor who has earned a medical degree. Physicians work to maintain, promote, and restore health by studying, diagnosing, and treating injuries and diseases. Physicians generally have six core skills: Patient care, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice.

- **4 Year Program***
- **Doctorate***
- UMMC
- William Carey University

**Pharmacist**
Pharmacists are medication experts and play a critical role in helping people get the best results from their medications. Pharmacists prepare and dispense prescriptions, ensure medicines and doses are correct, prevent harmful drug interactions, and counsel patients on the safe and appropriate use of their medications.

- **3 Year Program***
- **Doctorate***
- University of Mississippi
- William Carey University

**Pharmacy Technician**
Pharmacy technicians help pharmacists dispense prescription medication to customers or health professionals.

- **2 Year Program***
- **Associate's Degree***
- East Central Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Jones County Junior College
- Mississippi State University

**Physical Therapist**
Physical therapists diagnose and treat individuals of all ages, from newborns to people at the end of life. PTs also care for people who simply want to become healthier and to prevent future problems.

- **3 Year Program***
- **Doctorate***
- University of Mississippi
- William Carey University

**Physician's Assistant**
Physician Assistants (PAs) are health professionals licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. PAs perform a wide range of medical duties, from basic primary care to high technology specialty procedures.

- **2 Year Program***
- **Master's Degree***
- Mississippi College
- Mississippi State University

**Public Health**
To achieve equity, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and overall community conditions that enable optimal health for all and seek to remove systemic and structural barriers that have resulted in health inequities.

- **2 Year Program***
- **Master's Degree***
- Mississippi University for Women
- University of Southern Mississippi

**Public Health Administrator**
Public health administrators pair knowledge of public health with an organizational and managerial approach. As a result, they are focused on improving community wide-health outcomes by facilitating outreach efforts and managing public health facilities at the local, state, and federal levels.

- **2 Year Program***
- **4 Year Program***
- Bachelor's Degree
- Doctorate
- Mississippi College
- Jackson State University
- Mississippi University for Women
- University of Mississippi
- University of Southern Mississippi

**Social Work**
Social work is a practice-based profession that promotes social change, development, cohesion and the empowerment of people and communities. Social work practice involves the understanding of human development, behavior and the social, economic and cultural institutions and interactions.

- **2 Year Program***
- **4 Year Program***
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Doctorate
- Bellhaven University
- University of Southern Mississippi

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*This program is a post-bachelors degree program that may also require residency training after completion.*
Surgical Technology
Surgical technologists, also called operating room technicians, work alongside and assist surgeons, nurses, and other members of the health care team throughout a surgical operation. The role of the surgical technologist is incredibly important because they ensure a sterile and organized environment.

2 Year Program
Associate’s Degree
- East Central Community College
- Hinds Community College
- Holmes Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Pearl River Community College

Speech Language Pathologist
Speech-language pathologists assess, diagnose, treat, and help to prevent communication and swallowing disorders in children and adults.

2 Year Program*
Master’s Degree*
- Jackson State University
- Mississippi University for Women
- University of Mississippi
- University of Southern Mississippi (MA and MS)

Radiology Technician
Radiologic technologists, also known as radiographers, perform medical exams using X-rays on patients to create images of specific parts of the body. Radiographers prepare patients for the exams, move patients to the correct position, operate the equipment, and use their knowledge and skill to minimize the radiation dose to the patient.

2 Year Program
Associate’s Degree
- Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- University of Mississippi
- Hinds Community College
- Jones County Junior College
- Mississippi Delta Community College
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Pearl River Community College

Respiratory Care Technician
Typically employed in a hospital or other medical setting, a respiratory technician conducts diagnostic testing for patients who are experiencing respiratory diseases or disorders, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and pneumonia.

2 Year Program
Associate’s Degree
- Coahoma Community College
- Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Pearl River Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- William Carey University

MISSISSIPPI HAS...

- 8 4-Year Public Institutions
  - Alcorn State University
  - Delta State
  - Jackson State
  - Mississippi State University
  - Mississippi University for Women
  - Mississippi Valley State University
  - University of Mississippi
  - University of Southern Mississippi

- 7 4-Year Private Institutions
  - Belhaven
  - Blue Mountain College
  - Milsaps
  - Mississippi College
  - Rust College
  - Tougaloo College
  - William Carey University

- 15 2-Year Institutions
  - Coahoma Community College
  - Copiah-Lincoln Community College
  - East Central Community College
  - East Mississippi Community College
  - Hinds Community College
  - Holmes Community College
  - Itawamba Community College
  - Jones County Junior College
  - Meridian Community College
  - Mississippi Delta Community College
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
  - Northwest Mississippi Community College
  - Pearl River Community College
  - South Central Community College
  - Southwest Mississippi Community College

*This program is a post-bachelors degree program that may also require residency training after completion.

Notable takeaways:

Not all healthcare jobs require seeing blood.

You can impact people’s lives every day.

Not all healthcare jobs require significant higher education.

There is a healthcare-related career that would be a great fit for you!

Choose Healthcare.

Learn more
Scan with your phone’s camera to learn more on the Choose Healthcare webpage!

https://msrha.org/choose-healthcare/
I'm interested in becoming a __________________________ because I love ________________________________________

How many schools in Mississippi currently offer my program? ________
What is the typical program length for my choice? ________________

With this information in mind, here is my plan:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

I WILL make a difference in the lives of others.
There is a job in healthcare for me.
You WILL make a difference.
You WILL make an impact.
Let’s find your path.