



Introduction To Health Services

HS Introduction to Health Services/ Career Exploration: Certified Nursing Assistant

April 30, 2020



High School/Introduction to Health Services
Lesson: Thursday, April 30

Objective/Learning Target:

Describe the activities, responsibilities and training for a career as an Certified Nursing Assistant



Warm Up #1 What do you think is the difference between a registered nurse and a certified nurses assistant?

Warm Up #2 What do you see as possible advantages to working as a CNA versus working as a registered nurse.



Warm Up #1 What do you think is the difference between a registered nurse and a certified nurses assistant? **Based on prior student responses, RNs have a huge amount of responsibilities that can be very stressful. They are required to make decisions that impact patient care and are accountable to the patient's doctors. CNA's do more routine tasks with patients, are not required to make critical care decisions.**

Warm Up #2 What do you see as possible advantages to working as a CNA versus working as a registered nurse. **Previous students cited: less stress, shorter hours, fewer responsibilities, no need for 4 years of schooling.**



To get started, let's get out a sheet of paper and something to write with. On the paper, make a large T-chart. On this chart, label the left side APPEALING and the right side NOT APPEALING.

As we go through this lesson, take notes in the appropriate column. Remember that there are not right or wrong answers- just your honest opinions. The whole point is to help you decide if this career is right for you!

Let's begin by watching this short video over [becoming a CNA](#). As you watch the video, put notes in the appropriate columns on your note sheet.

Next, let's take a closer look at the responsibilities of a CNA.

Look over this [list of CNA responsibilities](#). As you read over the list, add notes to the appropriate column of your chart.

Note that some states allow CNA's to administer medications, while others do not.





Where do CNA's Work?

In this part of the activity, we will look at the different places that CNA's are employed. You will find that there is an interesting array of choices to pick from.

First, look over the BLS page on [Work Environment](#). Take notes on your t-chart as you read.

Another great way to see what different work environments exist in your area is to check out the local want-ads. Click here to look over a [website that specializes in promoting CNA job openings in our area](#).



How do you become a CNA?

Getting a CNA certificate is not difficult! In this part of the lesson, we will look at the training and licensure needed to become a CNA.

Start with the [BLS website](#) and look over the general requirements for the job- pay close attention to the certifications and licenses needed. Take notes on your T-chart.

Next, lets look specifically at licensure in Missouri, check out this [web page dealing specifically with Missouri Certification](#).



How do you become a CNA?

If you are interested in going to school locally, here are a few schools that offer CNA training certificates. This certificate of completion will allow you to take the CNA licensure examination.

[Metropolitan Community Colleges CNA Program](#)

[MEDS-KC](#)

[Pinnacle Career Institute](#)



What is the average CNA salary?

In this closing activity, we will look at the salaries for those working as CNAs.

First, let's look at the nationwide averages- look over the data from the [BLS website on CNA salaries.](#)

In closing, let's look at the [CNA salaries for the Missouri region.](#) As usual, take notes over the data information on your t-chart.



Closing Activity

Now that the T-chart is completed, look over the two columns and decide if this is something that you want to pursue further.

Still undecided, try taking this evaluation quiz... [Should I become a Nursing Assistant](#)