

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT

Average Salary: \$45,060 | \$22 per hour

Employment | 8,670 are employed in Nevada,
including 6,720 in Las Vegas

Job Outlook | 5,090 are needed in Nevada to
meet national per capita rates

Overview

Certified nursing assistants (CNAs) provide personal care to patients in hospitals and nursing homes. They work under the supervision of registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs). For many patients, CNAs are the caregivers with whom they interact most often. By assisting patients with activities of daily living, CNAs help patients achieve a better quality of life and provide comfort. They may explain some medical instructions to patients and family members. CNAs also prepare food trays, deliver meals, and clean rooms for their patients.

In addition, CNAs set up, monitor, and sterilize equipment, and record vital signs such as blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and respiration. They observe patients for changes in mental alertness or emotions. If any changes are observed, CNAs notify the supervising nurse. Some nursing assistants also perform clerical duties, such as filing and scheduling appointments.

Certified nursing assistants work in most departments of hospitals and nursing homes. Many people become CNAs to gain work experience and learn more about the health care field, and then they go on to pursue other careers in health care. Starting as a CNA requires at least 75 hours of instruction and a passing score on a certification exam. A growing number of high schools and hospitals offer Nevada-approved CNA training programs. Training takes a few weeks to a few months.

At-a-Glance

- Certified nursing assistants help patients with daily life activities
- Work in hospitals, nursing homes, and patients' homes
- Work under the supervision of RNs and LPNs
- Must pass the state-specific CNA certification exam
- Need certification from the Nevada State Board of Nursing
- Salary ranges from \$36,500 to \$59,000

Educational Opportunities in Nevada

- College of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Genevieve Training Center (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Great Basin College (Elko)
– Certificate
- Live Savers Training Center (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- South Lyon Medical Center (Yerington)
– Certificate
- Majen, LLC (Reno)
– Certificate
- Mountain View Health and Rehabilitation (Carson City)
– Certificate
- Perry Foundation Academy of Health (Henderson, Reno)
– Certificate
- PFC Nick Crombie Certified Nursing Assisting Training Academy (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Saint Therese Learning Institute (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Sierra Nevada Job Corps (Reno)
– Certificate
- Shiloh CNA School (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Sonder CNA Training (Minden)
– Certificate
- Standard of Excellence Academy (Las Vegas)
– Certificate
- Truckee Meadows Community College (Reno)
– Certificate
- Western Nevada College (Carson City)
– Certificate