

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE

Average Salary: \$73,820 | \$35 per hour

Employment | 3,210 are employed in Nevada,
including 2,940 in Las Vegas

Job Outlook | 3,084 are needed in Nevada to
meet national per capita rates

Overview

Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) provide basic nursing care under the supervision of registered nurses (RNs) and physicians. LPNs provide patient care based on physician instructions, such as obtaining vital signs, administering treatments, collecting assessment data, assisting in developing care plans, providing patient education, and can start intravenous fluids.

Licensed practical nurses work in a variety of settings, such as hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, nursing homes, outpatient centers, doctors' offices, clinics, and home health care. Experienced licensed practical nurses supervise nursing assistants and aides.

In nursing homes, in addition to basic bedside care, LPNs help evaluate residents' needs and develop care plans. They administer medications, perform routine lab tests, prepare patients for diagnostic exams, and obtain a health history.

In doctors' offices and clinics, LPNs schedule appointments, maintain records, and handle other clerical tasks. Those who work in private homes assist with personal care, administer medications, provide wound care, and teach family members how to care for their loved ones.

Many people become LPNs to gain work experience and learn more about the health care industry, then they go on to pursue other careers in health care. It takes one to two years to complete a Nevada-approved practical nursing program to become LPN.

At-a-Glance

- Licensed practical nurses provide basic nursing care
- Work under the supervision of physicians and RNs
- Must pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN)
- Need a license from the Nevada State Board of Nursing
- Salary ranges from \$59,000 to \$85,000

Educational Opportunities in Nevada

- College of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)
 - Certificate
- Great Basin College (Elko)
 - Certificate
- Las Vegas College (Las Vegas)
 - Certificate
- Unitek College (Reno)
 - Certificate

Related Job Titles

- Licensed Vocational Nurses