

January 2019

HEALTHCARE HIGHLIGHTS

The Rural AHEC Student Newsletter



January's Healthcare Career Focus:

Nurse Practitioner

A nurse practitioner is an advanced practice nurse who helps with all aspects of patient care, including diagnosis, treatments, and consultations. Nurse practitioners may work in both inpatient and outpatient situations and can perform independently or as part of a treatment team.

What might I do as a Nurse Practitioner?

Write prescriptions for medications

Diagnose and treat acute fractures, injuries, and illnesses

Order and discuss results of diagnostic tests such as x-rays, CAT scans, MRIs, blood tests, stress tests, and electrocardiograms (EKGs)

Record, interpret, and examine the medical history, diagnoses, and symptoms of a patient

Talk to patients about effectively managing their health, as well as assist in designing appropriate treatment plans and recommending further care

Diagnose, treat, and help patients manage chronic illnesses

Conduct physical examinations including routine and annual check ups

Prescribe appropriate physical therapy and rehabilitation

Attend to minor trauma, including suturing and splinting



How do I become a Nurse Practitioner?

- Register and obtain a license to be an RN in New York State
- Graduate from a NYSED approved Nurse Practitioner program
- Complete Pharmacology coursework acceptable to NYSED
- Apply for Nurse Practitioner certification from NYSED

Average Salary:
(Dec. 2018):

\$93,672—\$109,662

What is it really like to be a Nurse Practitioner?

Job Satisfaction is high.

Most NPs (92%) say they encourage other nurses to become NPs.

<https://onlinenursing.regiscollege.edu/resources/mha/infographics/nurse-practitioners-and-the-primary-care-shortage/>

Meet Erin in this Health eCareers article

<https://www.healthcareers.com/article/career/whats-a-day-in-the-life-of-a-nurse-practitioner-really-like>

Meet Steve in this Johnson and Johnson video “A Day in the Life—Steve (Family Nurse Practitioner)”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-kL1OFbCC8>



“As a nurse practitioner I can give a higher level of care to my patients while having a stronger voice in helping direct their healthcare.”

“Being a nurse practitioner in a rural area is special because you get to provide services to your community and help the people you know.”

S. Putney

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Please contact us if you have questions about healthcare career opportunities or educational pathways to healthcare careers!

Western New York Rural Area Health Education Center (R-AHEC) is one of nine centers in the New York State Area Health Education Center (NYS AHEC) organization. Our mission is to improve health and healthcare through education.

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