



## CAREER PROFILES

### Licensed Practical Nurses:

**Licensed Practical Nurses** (LPNs) provide nursing care usually under the direction of Medical Practitioners, Registered Nurses, or other health team members.

### Wage/Salary Information:

\$41,350 is the median annual salary found in local job-postings.

\$25.08/hour is the median wage reported locally.

### Commonly Listed Skills in Job Postings:

- Oral and written communication
- Work independently
- Critical thinking
- Organizational skills
- Problem solving
- Detail oriented
- Computer use
- Time management
- Decision making
- Management
- Conflict resolution
- Analytical
- Teamwork
- Microsoft Office
- Interpersonal
- Leadership
- Manual dexterity
- Customer service oriented

### Job Duties:

Licensed Practical Nurses provide nursing services, within defined scope of practice, to patients based on patient assessment and care planning procedures. Licensed Practical Nurses perform nursing interventions such as taking vital signs, applying aseptic techniques including sterile dressing, ensuring infection control, monitoring nutritional intake, and conducting specimen collection. They administer medication and observe and document therapeutic effects and provide pre-operative and post-operative personal and comfort care. Licensed Practical Nurses also monitor established respiratory therapy and intravenous therapy and

monitor patients' progress, evaluate effectiveness of nursing interventions and consult with appropriate members of healthcare team.

### Working Conditions:

LPNs generally practise as team members in health-care facilities such as hospitals, nursing homes, doctor's offices, clinics, extended care facilities and private residences.

LPNs typically work 8- to 12-hour shifts, usually on rotation, including weekends, evenings and holidays.

A large amount of time may be spent standing or walking.

Long shifts can sometimes cause fatigue, leading to a higher risk of workplace injuries.

Workers can be exposed to infectious diseases, radiation and chemicals while working in hospitals and clinics.

All nursing staff must follow strict guidelines to prevent infection and injury.

Lifting or moving patients may lead to back injuries, although electric beds, ceiling lifts, and portable mechanical lifts have significantly reduced the risk of such injuries occurring.

Violent behaviour from patients, especially those who are mentally ill, is a potential hazard.

LPNs must cope with the emotional aspects of working with the sick, injured and terminally ill, as well as with patients' families.

### Career Pathways:

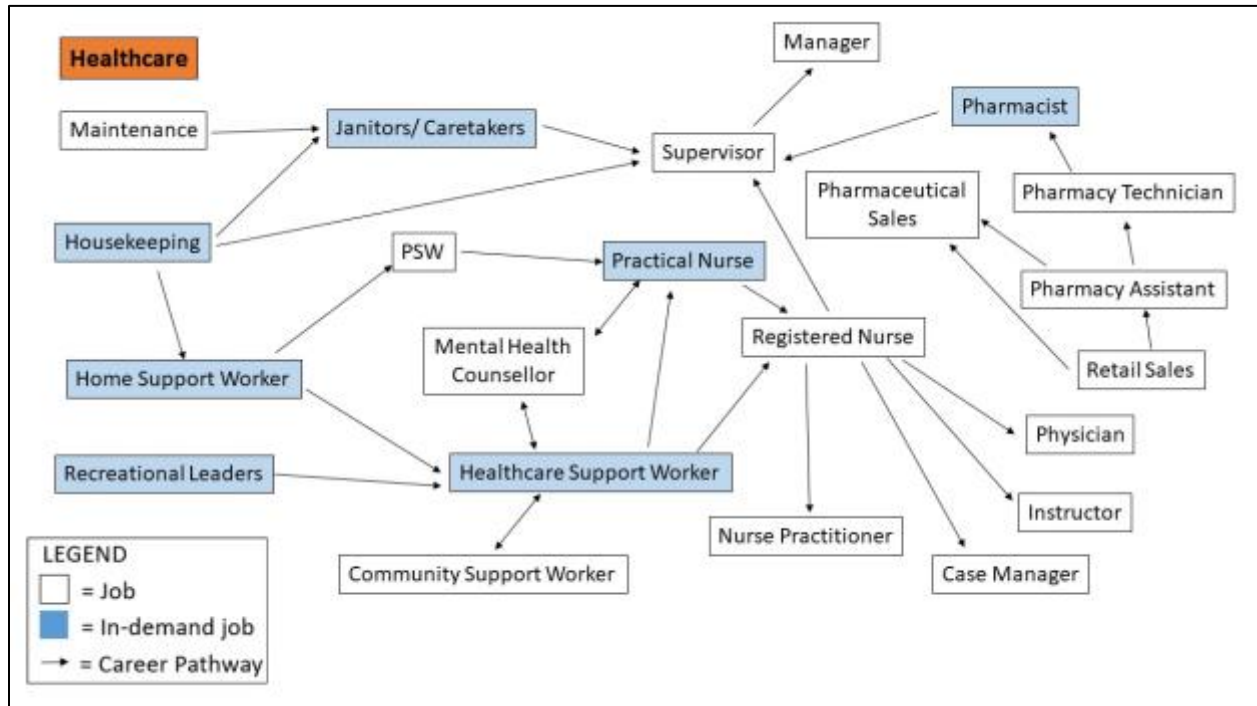
Some LPNs may work as health-care aides before taking the education required for licensed practical nursing. Newly licensed LPNs may find work in a variety of health-care settings such as in doctor's offices, long-term care facilities, community hospice and large acute care centres. With additional training, LPNs may become Operating Room Technicians. Specialization in areas such as emergency care, pediatrics, or community health can be acquired through experience and additional training.

Self-employment is possible with experience in specialty areas. Examples of nursing services offered by self-employed LPNs include foot care, health consultation, and skin and wound care. With additional experience and education, particularly in leadership, LPNs may move into management roles such as director of care or supervisor of unregulated care providers.

LPNs are employed in hospitals, nursing homes, extended care facilities, rehabilitation centres, doctors' offices, clinics, companies, private homes, and community health centres. Below are potential career paths for Licensed Practical Nurses:

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Graduate Nursing Assistant
- Licensed Nursing Assistant

- Licensed Practical Nurse (L.P.N.)
- Operating Room Technician
- Registered Nursing Assistant (R.N.A.)
- Registered Practical Nurse (R.P.N.)
- Surgical Nursing Assistant



### Education and Training Pathways:

If you're interested in becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse, you can acquire training/education locally at any of the following institutions.

#### St. Clair College:

#### Practical Nursing

#### Admission/Eligibility Requirements:

- OSSD with the majority at the College (C), University (U), University/College (M), or Open (O) level
- ENG<sub>4</sub>U, ENG<sub>4</sub>C, EAE<sub>4</sub>C, or EAE<sub>4</sub>U required
- Grade 12 Math (C) or (U) required
- Senior Level Chemistry (C) or (U) required
- Senior Level Biology (C) or (U) required

**Academic Credential:** Two Year - Ontario College Diploma

**Professional Certification:** Graduates eligible to write the Canadian Registered Practical Nurse Examination (CRPNE)

**Attendance:** In-person

**Full-time or Part-time:** Full-time

**Program Length:** 5 semesters

**Program Cycle:** Unknown

**Program Cost:**

- Year 1: \$5,565.44
- Year 2: \$6,740.98
- Total: \$12,306.42 (2017/18)

**OSAP Eligible:** Yes

**Location:** 2000 Talbot Road West, Windsor, N9A 6S4

For more information on this program, please visit:

[http://www.stclaircollege.ca/programs/postsec/pract\\_nursing/](http://www.stclaircollege.ca/programs/postsec/pract_nursing/)

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