

MEDICINE



Those working in the field of medicine diagnose and treat injuries and diseases. Medical professionals often counsel patients to prevent recurring problems.

Careers within this section include:

Chiropractor

Doctor of Medicine

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Physician Assistant

Doctor of Podiatric Medicine



Chiropractor

What would I do?

Chiropractors, also known as Doctors of Chiropractic (DC) care for patients of all ages, with or without symptoms. Chiropractic is based on the principle that the nervous system controls the overall health of the body. Chiropractic care may help people recover from pains and illnesses of all kinds and in preventing illness as well as optimizing performance for the achievement of human potential.

Specifically, Chiropractors adjust the spine, usually by hand, realigning the bones for the expressed purpose of normalizing neurological function so that the body can bring about healing.

Adjunctive procedures are sometimes included to assist with the process of recovery. Examples are massage therapy, hot and cold treatment, acupuncture and other physiological therapeutics.

Chiropractors also counsel patients regarding a wellness lifestyle including good diet, exercise, sleep patterns, and positive mental attitude.

Chiropractors may specialize in athletic injuries, neurology, nutrition, orthopedics, internal disorders, specific age groups, or diagnostic imaging.

Where would I work?

Most Chiropractors are self-employed or work in a group practice

What would I earn?

\$40,000–105,000.

As a self-employed practitioner income depends on one's own efforts.

What do I need to know?

Chiropractors attend a four-year chiropractic college after completing at least two years of undergraduate education with a focus on the sciences. Many states now require a Bachelor's degree prior to Chiropractic College matriculation.

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no chiropractic colleges in New Hampshire. For a listing of chiropractic schools

nationwide, please contact the Association of Chiropractic colleges. Many undergraduate colleges offer the necessary prerequisite courses. Chiropractic colleges will be very helpful in planning during the admissions process. The following schools offer premedical advising and specific courses required for admission to chiropractic colleges:

Dartmouth College
University of New Hampshire

Where can I find more information?

New Hampshire State Chiropractic Society
376 N. Main Street
Wolfboro, NH 03894
(603) 569-6318
www.nhcs.org

Association of Chiropractic Colleges
4424 Montgomery Avenue, Suite 102
Bethesda, MD 20814
www.chirocolleges.org

International Chiropractors Association
1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 528-5000
(800) 423-4690
www.chiropractic.org

Federation of Straight Chiropractors and Organizations
(FSCO)
2276 Wassercass Road
Hellertown, PA 18055
(800) 521- 9856
www.straightchiropractic.com

New Hampshire Chiropractic Association
84 Hayes Road
Laconia, NH 03246
(603) 868-1120
Email: nhcasqq@gmail.com

American Chiropractic Association
1701 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 276-8800
www.acatoday.com

Doctor of Medicine

What would I do?

Doctors of Medicine (MDs) diagnose and treat patients with illnesses, injuries, and diseases, as well as perform examinations on healthy people. Also known as Allopathic Physicians, MDs order tests and lab studies, prescribe medication, and perform surgeries to help patients get well. They also counsel patients on diet, exercise, and other methods of preventive care.

To practice medicine, one needs to understand business and politics as well as health care. Family support is also important for the practicing physician.

One third of all MDs are Primary Care Physicians, which include general and family medicine, general internal medicine, and pediatrics. Obstetrics/gynecology may also be considered primary care by some. There are more than 115 specialties and subspecialties in the field of medicine. Areas of specialization include:

- Allergy and Immunology
- Anesthesiology
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Critical Care
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Practice
- Endocrinology
- Forensic Pathology
- Gastroenterology
- Geriatrics
- Hematology
- Infectious Disease
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Genetics
- Nephrology
- Neurological Surgery
- Neurology
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology

- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine and Pediatrics
- Plastic Surgery
- Preventive Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Pulmonary Disease
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology
- Rheumatology
- Sports Medicine
- Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Urology
- Women's Health

Where would I work?

MDs may work in private practice, group practice, hospitals, community health centers, urgent care centers, research facilities, medical schools, and the military.

What would I earn?

\$35,000–45,000 (during the three to eight years of residency)

\$105,000–145,600 (following residency)

What do I need to know?

MDs undergo many years of education and training: four years of undergraduate school, four years of medical school, and three to eight years of internship and residency. For a listing of medical schools nationwide, please contact the Association of American Medical Colleges.

What schools can I attend?

Dartmouth Medical School

For a listing of medical schools nationwide, please contact the Association of American Medical Colleges (see below). For undergraduate preparation, the following schools offer premedical advising and specific courses required for admission to medical school:

- Dartmouth College
- University of New Hampshire

Where can I find more information?

American Medical Association
515 North State Street
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 464-5000
www.ama-assn.org

Association of American Medical Colleges
2450 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20037-1126
(202) 828-0400
www.aamc.org

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

What would I do?

Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs) are physicians who place a special emphasis on the “whole person,” focusing on preventive medicine and holistic patient care. Osteopathic physicians prescribe medicine, order laboratory tests, and perform surgeries. They also counsel patients on diet, exercise and other methods of preventive care. DOs are also trained to practice osteopathic manipulation, a noninvasive, hands-on procedure to diagnose, treat, and, in some cases, prevent injury or illness.

Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine may obtain a board certificate or a subspecialty board certification in any of the following areas:

- Addiction Medicine
- Allergy and Immunology
- Anesthesiology
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Forensic Pathology
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology and Psychiatry
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology
- Orthopedics
- Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Preventive Medicine

- Proctology
- Radiology
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Sports Medicine
- Surgery

Where would I work?

DOs may work in private practice, group practice, hospitals, community health centers, urgent care centers, research facilities, medical schools, and the military.

What would I earn?

\$35,000–45,000 (during the three to eight years of residency)
\$105,000–145,600 (following residency)

What do I need to know?

DOs undergo many years of education and training: four years of undergraduate school, four years of osteopathic medical school, and three to eight years of internship and residency. Most D.O.s serves a 12-month rotating internship after graduation and before entering a residency, which may last two to six years. For a listing of osteopathic medical schools nationwide, please contact the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no osteopathic medical schools in New Hampshire. For a listing of osteopathic medical schools nationwide, please contact the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (see below). For undergraduate preparation, the following schools offer premedical advising and specific courses required for admission to osteopathic medical schools:

- Dartmouth College
- University of New Hampshire

Where can I find more information?

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
5550 Friendship Boulevard, Suite 310
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-7231
(301) 968-4100
www.aacom.org

American Osteopathic Association
142 East Ontario Street
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 202-8000
(800) 621-1773
www.aoa-net.org

Physician Assistant

What would I do?

Physician Assistants (PAs) provide a wide spectrum of care with the supervision of a physician. They take medical histories, counsel patients on preventive health, examine patients, and order and interpret laboratory tests and X-rays. They diagnose and treat all types medical conditions and assist in surgery. In all states they may prescribe medications. These medical professionals provide quality care and allow physicians to handle more complex patient problems.

Where would I work?

PAs are found in a broad range of medical and surgical specialties. They often work in family or internal medicine, but some choose a specialty practice area such as anesthesiology, emergency medicine, geriatrics, neonatology, obstetrics, occupational medicine, orthopedics, and surgery.

PAs are employed in virtually all health care settings, including physicians' offices, community health centers, hospitals, medical centers, government facilities, health maintenance organizations (HMOs), Bureau of Prisons, and in the military. Many also work in the areas of health administration, research, public health, and medical education.

What would I earn?

The mean total annual income for full-time PAs is \$84,396.

What do I need to know?

PAs usually complete four years of college and some health care work experience before being admitted into an accredited two-year PA program. Most PA applicants hold a bachelor's degree. After graduation, PAs are required to pass the Physician Assistants National Certifying Examination and then be licensed by the state in which they work. Once certified, PAs

must complete 100 hours of continuing medical education every two years and pass a recertification examination every six years in order to maintain their national certification. PAs must be committed to lifelong learning to keep abreast of medical advances.

What schools can I attend?

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences - Manchester

Where can I find more information?

American Academy of Physician Assistants
950 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1552
(703) 836-2272
www.aapa.org

PAEA (Physician Assistant Education Association)
300 N. Washington Street
Suite 505
Alexandria, VA 22314-2544
(703) 548-5538
www.PAEAonline.org

National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
157 Technology Parkway, Suite 800
Norcross, GA 30092-2913
(770) 734-4500
www.nccpa.net

Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrist)

What would I do?

Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (DPMs), also known as Podiatrists, specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of foot-and-ankle disorders. They prescribe medications, order physical therapy, perform surgery, design custom-made shoes, and fit corrective inserts inside patients' shoes. Because the foot is often the first area to show signs of serious disease, Podiatrists are important members of the health care team.

Podiatric specialties include sports medicine, surgery and orthopedics/biomechanics. These specialties

require two to four years of additional study beyond the DPM degree.

Where would I work?

Doctors of Podiatric Medicine are often self-employed, but many work in group practices, hospitals, or nursing homes.

What would I earn?

\$77,000–155,000

What do I need to know?

Most Podiatrists have obtained a bachelor's degree prior to admittance into a four-year college of podiatric medicine. After obtaining a DPM, Podiatrists complete a two- to four-year residency program. For a listing of podiatric schools nationwide, please contact the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine.

What schools can I attend?

At the current time there are no podiatric colleges in New Hampshire. For a listing of podiatric schools

nationwide, please contact the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (see below). For undergraduate preparation, the following schools offer premedical advising and specific courses required for admission to podiatric colleges:

Dartmouth College
University of New Hampshire

Where can I find more information?

American Association of College of Podiatric Medicine
1350 Piccard Drive, Suite 322
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 990-7400
www.aacpm.org

American Podiatric Medical Association
9312 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD 20814-1621
(301) 571-9200
(800) 275-2762
www.apma.org



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