

## Q&A



**Q: How can I take advantage of the opportunities in the health care industry?**

**A: It's simple! Go to [www.bigbendhealth.com](http://www.bigbendhealth.com) and take a look around.** You'll find a listing of the most needed occupations by salary, or hourly wages. You'll be able to match available training programs with a job you're interested in pursuing. If you're a student, [www.bigbendhealth.com](http://www.bigbendhealth.com) is the perfect place to shape your education so you can reach your highest earning potential. Without question, this is the most important step you can take to become a success in the health care industry!

Your Community  
**Health Care**  
Network



Your Community Health Care Network

3411 Capital Medical Blvd.  
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# Careers



“Over 400 health care jobs in Tallahassee.”

**North Florida's health care employers** have observed a shortage of qualified workers with high turnover in key health support occupations. To address this issue, the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County (EDC), funded by Tallahassee Community College and Workforce Plus, contracted with MGT of America, Inc., to conduct a survey of health care employers in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, and Wakulla counties. The survey asked employers to inventory expected job openings over the next three years, assess current employee turnover, and identify specific skill shortages. The EDC used the survey results to develop a website portal and convey this information to train and employ qualified workers.

## FAQ's

### **1. What medical positions pay the highest annual salaries (excluding physicians)?**

Physician Assistant is the highest paid occupation not requiring a Master's degree or professional degree.

### **2. What medical facilities are available in the Big Bend area?**

The Big Bend region offers a variety of medical facilities, including hospitals, hospices, long-term care facilities, imaging centers, private physician practices, clinics, emergency rooms, and urgent treatment facilities. For more information, please browse our employer profiles.

### **3. What opportunities are available in nursing?**

Nearly every employer listed employs nurses. Many employ a variety of specialties, such as Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical or Vocational Nurses and Long-term care Nurses. There are many educational programs administered by the areas universities, colleges and technical schools that provide the training you'll need to enter the field of nursing. Explore our educators' and employers' profiles to find a good fit for your needs.

### **4. How can I afford to enroll in the health care education programs I need?**

Financial aid comes in many forms, generally Federal, State, University-sponsored and employer-sponsored. Be sure to completely fill out your FAFSA and explore all your other options. Some helpful web sites are [federalstudentaid.ed.gov](http://federalstudentaid.ed.gov) and [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org). Also, be sure to speak with your current employer, if you're already working in health care, and potential employers in health care for scholarship programs they may sponsor.

### **5. Are there any continuing education programs sponsored within the Big Bend area I can use to maintain my license during my career in health care?**

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are commonly used to keep specific occupations up-to-date with available information. Many occupations requiring a license also require a minimum amount of CEUs, measured in hours. Some organizations, such as the Capital Medical Society, do offer specific programs, but the best resources are your professional organizations. If you are a member of a professional society, contact them first and ask if they recommend any programs in the area. An additional resource is the website [www.cebroker.com](http://www.cebroker.com).

### **6. What are some areas of emphasis desired by the health care community?**

Technology is revolutionizing the way health care is conducted on a daily basis. Employers need qualified workers who can understand electronic medical records and how they are applied in a clinical setting. Also, employers seek mature, reliable employees who are skilled in their specialty, and in customer service.