LPN’s Call The Shots

Education Requirements for LPNs

Job Duties for LPNs

Salary

Benefits

Challenges
Job Duties for LPNs

“Employment of licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses is projected to grow 9 percent from 2020 to 2030, about as fast as the average for all occupations” (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021). Why this growth one might ask. It is in part due to the ability to provide skill focused care to the patient while under the supervision of a RN. The job responsibilities of an LPN are stated as follows: giving shots, providing medication to patients, taking and recording vital signs, performing focused assessments, assisting a patient with ADLs, starting IVs, and taking blood samples for tests (Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, n. d.). The LPN’s ability to lower the workload of a healthcare team is apparent, and this also support the notion that becoming an LPN is a very fulfilling, needed profession.

Salary

- State entry level salary for Oklahoma ranges from $36,165-$44,300
- National entry level salary ranges from $38,473-$47,127
- Salary can vary depending on the state and what type of nursing you go into.

Challenges

- More nurses are leaving which is resulting in a shortage
- Covid-19 pandemic
- LPN’s are not able to give certain medications
- Initial assessments are not done by the LPN
- Cases specialty restrictions
Education Requirements for LPNs

The responsibilities of the LPN are vast and require special training before they can be performed. "Licensed practical and licensed and licensed vocational nurses must complete a state-approved educational program, which typically takes about 1 year to complete. They must be licensed" (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021). This one-year training offers direction on but is not limited to the following: charting as per state guidelines, the scope of practice, and skills. After completing a rigorous program, an aspiring nurse would also have to prove proficiency on the NCLEX, which is a "nationally recognized examination required to become either a registered nurse (NCLEX-RN) or a licensed practical nurse (NCLEX-PN)" (Nursing License Map, 2021).

Benefits

- You can further your education
- It is an in-demand job
- There are numerous fields to work in
- Caring for someone’s loved one
- Helping people achieve health and wellness
- Job security

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