# MEDICAL ASSISTANT (MA)



Medical assistants (MAs) are one of the fastest-growing occupations. MAs are typically cross-trained to perform administrative and clinical duties and work directly beside registered nurses and physicians to provide direct patient care. Becoming an MA typically requires 6-18 months of classroom and on-the-job training and a certification exam. MAs often play the role of patient liaison and are instrumental in helping patients feel more comfortable and understand physicians' instructions.





Demand for MAs will increase by 14% through 2025.



Typical training/education: 6-18 months of classroom training or apprenticeship, on-the-job training, and certification.



There is a strong demand for MAs with 193 unique job postings per month.



MA jobs within the San Antonio region have a median annual salary of \$36,518.

## **Consider this role if...**

You enjoy working in a fastpaced team environment.

You are comfortable handling blood and other bodily fluids.

You describe yourself as adaptable and flexible.

You have strong emotional intelligence and communication skills.

You have a keen attention to detail and documentation.

You have the ability to sense what people are feeling through observation.

You have flexibility to work varied shifts that may include nights, weekends, and holidays. Is this role a match for your personality?

#### **In-Demand Knowledge and Skills**

- Strong interpersonal skills like communication, teamwork, problem solving, and empathy
- Knowledge of vital signs measurement and comfortability with medical terminology
- Ability to perform basic medical procedures like CPR, injections, and patient preparation
- Computer literacy and knowledge of (or comfortability with) electronic medical records and appointments software

Is this role a match for your career goals?

#### **Typical On-the-Job Duties**

- Performs administrative and clinical duties under the direction of a physician
- Schedules appointments and maintains medical records
- Prepares patients for examination or procedures
- Collects and prepares laboratory specimens
- Prepares and administers medications
- Performs wound care and changes bandages/ dressings

# What career options do I have?



Medical assistants (MAs) are most prevalent in clinic or primary care facilities and require up to 18 months of classroom instruction, on-the-job training and, in many cases, a certification exam. Many MAs decide to pursue careers in nursing, obtaining licensure as a vocational nurse (LVN) or a registered nurse (RN) in various medical settings and environments.

PCT

## **Medical Assistant Pathway**



#### SUCCESS STORY

YES!

Working in a senior living community, Janet provides focused, quality care to each resident by treating them like her own family. Janet's dedication to the mission of the work provides opportunities for growth and leadership. Currently serving as a PRN with Morningside Ministries, Janet has been in the field for over 20 years serving in roles as a 1-on-1 provider. Janet's passion for her work allowed her the opportunity to return to school to complete a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. Through additional internal upskilling and training programs, Janet's commitment to quality patient care led to her promotion as PRN Trainer for all new hires. Janet takes pride in her new role and enjoys showing new hires the Morningside Ministries way!

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