

# Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)



## What do they do?

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) work under Registered Nurses (RN) and doctors to provide basic medical care. They monitor patients' health, collect samples for testing and keep health records.

There are some things that an LPN can not do such as giving medication or starting an IV. This can vary by state.

## Where do they work?

Licensed Practical Nurses work in nursing homes, hospitals, doctors' offices and community or home health care facilities.

## Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Licensed Practical Nurses is \$41,540.



## Education:

A state approved one-year education program must be completed to become a Licensed Practical Nurse.

### LPN training in Madison:

Madison Area Technical College:  
[www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu)

High School students interested in becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse should take classes in algebra, biology, anatomy and physiology.

## Accreditation:

Education programs for Practical Nursing are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

[www.acenursing.com](http://www.acenursing.com)



## Professional Associations:

Licensed Practical Nurses may choose to join any of the following professional associations:

National League of Nursing:

<http://napnes.org>



National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service:

[www.nln.org](http://www.nln.org)



National Federation of Licensed Professional Nurses (NFLPN):

[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)



Wisconsin Nurses Association:

[www.wisconsinnurses.org](http://www.wisconsinnurses.org)



## Licensure/ Registry:

Practical Nurses must be licensed nationally and listed in the state of Wisconsin registry. Candidates register with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing before taking their exam. The exam is managed by Pearson Vue testing centers:

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services:

[www.dsps.wi.gov](http://www.dsps.wi.gov)

[www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com)

National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN):

[www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm](http://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm)



## Potential for Advancement:

A Practical Nurse can work in many areas of healthcare. With experience a LPN can move into lead or supervisory positions in their department.

The most common way for a Practical Nurse to advance is to continue their education through a degree completion program or completing a Bachelor's of Science degree.

Nursing Completion: LPN to ADN (Associate Degree Nursing)

Madison Area Technical College:

[www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu)

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN):

University of Wisconsin-Madison:

[www.son.wisc.edu/academics-bs.htm](http://www.son.wisc.edu/academics-bs.htm)

Edgewood College:

[www.edgewood.edu/Academics/SchoolofNursing.aspx](http://www.edgewood.edu/Academics/SchoolofNursing.aspx)

## Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Licensed Practical Nurses is expected to grow 25 percent between 2012-2022, which is faster than the average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition*, Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses:

[www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/licensed-practical-and-licensed-vocational-nurses.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/licensed-practical-and-licensed-vocational-nurses.htm)

