

# Phlebotomist



## What do they do?

Phlebotomists draw blood for testing, transfusions, research and donations. Phlebotomists are responsible for ensuring that all equipment used to draw blood is sanitary and used correctly to avoid contamination and/or infections. It is important that Phlebotomists label all blood samples accurately.

## Where do they work?

Phlebotomists mainly work in hospitals, clinics, and diagnostic laboratories. Phlebotomists may also work in blood donation centers.

## Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Phlebotomists is \$34,480.



## Education:

A high school diploma is required to become a Phlebotomist. Some employers will provide on the job training for Phlebotomists. Other employers prefer that students complete a phlebotomist technical program. Technical programs typically take less than 1 year to complete.

### Phlebotomist training in Wisconsin:

Milwaukee Area Technical College: [www.matc.edu](http://www.matc.edu)

Mid-State Technical College: [www.mstc.edu](http://www.mstc.edu)

High School students interested in becoming a Phlebotomists should take classes in biology, anatomy & physiology, health and social sciences.

## Accreditation:

Education programs for Phlebotomists are accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

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



## Professional Associations:

Phlebotomists can choose to join the following professional associations.

National Phlebotomy Association:  
[www.nationalphlebotomy.org](http://www.nationalphlebotomy.org)



American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians:  
[www.aspt.org](http://www.aspt.org)



## Certification:

After completion of a phlebotomy technical program a Phlebotomy Technician Certification (CPT) exam can be taken. The exam is typically a 2 hour exam consisting of 100 questions.

Phlebotomy Technician Certification exams can be taken through various organizations:

National Healthcareer Association:

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



American Society for Clinical Pathology:

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



American Medical Technologists:

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



## Potential for Advancement:

With additional training or education, a Phlebotomist could move into the following areas:

Healthcare Services Management:

Milwaukee Area Technical College: [www.matc.edu](http://www.matc.edu)

Medical Laboratory Technician:

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

Medical Laboratory Technologist:

UW-Madison: <https://wihealthcareers.org/healthcare-occupations/clinicalmedical-laboratory-technician-cltmlt/>

## Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Phlebotomists is expected to grow 25 percent between 2016-2026, which is much faster than the average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2017-18 Edition*, Phlebotomists,  
[www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/phlebotomists.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/phlebotomists.htm)

