



# Health Science Occupational Pathways

Youth Apprenticeship

## AMBULATORY/SUPPORT SERVICES

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Youth apprentices assist healthcare professionals in a variety of different ways to care, treat, diagnose, or serve patients.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One year

## DENTAL ASSISTANT

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Dental assistants assist dentists with patient care and perform related office and laboratory procedures.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One year

## MEDICAL ASSISTANT

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Medical assistants perform clinical and administrative tasks in a variety of healthcare settings.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One year

## MEDICAL OFFICE

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Medical office youth apprentices perform a variety of administrative tasks in a medical office or patient scheduling center.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One year

## NURSING ASSISTANT

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Nursing assistants provide basic care and help patients with activities of daily living. In Wisconsin, youth apprentices must complete a nurse aid training program and pass the CNA exam.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One or two years

## PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

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Pharmacy technicians help pharmacists dispense prescription medication to customers or health professionals.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One year

## RESIDENT AIDE

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Resident aides provide key caregiving activities to clients in a caregiving facility. In Wisconsin, youth apprentices working in a CBRF (Community Based Residential Facility) must complete the required DHS training but are not required to pass the CNA exam.

**Length of Apprenticeship:** One or two years

## HEALTH SCIENCE EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS CONSIDERATIONS

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Youth apprentices who are 16-17 years old can perform work tasks, *only after appropriate operation/safety training AND only as indicated below*. The **student learner exception** limits the minor to using hazardous equipment on an **incidental basis** (less than 5% of their work time) and only **occasionally** (the work cannot be a regular part of their job). Student learner status does NOT override the Employment of Minor's Laws.

- **Cleaning**
  - Janitorial, Medical, and Laboratory cleaning is allowable for YA students.
- **Cooking (270.13(10))**
  - YA students can cook with direct supervision.
- **Hospitals (270.13(9))**
  - YA students may be employed in occupations that involve the personal care of patients in hospitals and nursing homes.
- **Infectious Diseases (270.12(13))**
  - YA students are prohibited from working with infectious materials introduced purposely to be studied.
  - "Studied" does NOT include testing completed in medical settings using Standard Precautions where blood, urine, and other bodily fluids are tested diagnostically.
- **Patient Lifts**
  - YA students can assist an adult worker in the operation of floor-based vertical powered patient lift devices, and powered sit-to-stand patient lift devices after completing a CNA training program. See U.S. Department of Labor- Wage and Hour Division, Field Assistance Bulletin 2011-3. [http://www.dol.gov/whd/FieldBulletins/fab2011\\_3.htm](http://www.dol.gov/whd/FieldBulletins/fab2011_3.htm)
- **X-Rays, Radioactive Substances, and Ionizing Radiation (270.12(23))**
  - YA students are prohibited from workrooms with exposure to ionizing radiation.
  - YA students can work in places with radioactive substances provided:
    - Radioactive substances present in the air average less than 10% of maximum permissible for occupational exposure.
    - The exposure is less than 0.5 rem per year.
    - The substances are NOT mixtures of phosphorescent material and radium, mesothorium, or other material, OR incandescent mantles made from fabric and thorium salt solutions.

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