

SCIENCE & HEALTH PATHWAY

Do you enjoy biology, chemistry, or physics? Are you interested in cutting-edge technology, researching and solving complex problems, diagnosing and healing people, or working with plants, animals, and other natural resources? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then a career in Science and Health might be right for you!

Career Cluster Areas

Healthcare & Human Services
Agriculture
Energy & Natural Resources

For more information on these Career Clusters, visit <https://bit.ly/PAClusterFRMWRK>

Healthcare & Human Services also appears on the Human Services Flyer. The Science & Health Pathway focuses on the cluster’s physical and medical health care roles, while Human Services focuses on its behavioral health, social work, and personal care roles.

Northwest PA

(Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Venango and Warren Counties)

Select High Priority Jobs, Educational Attainment & Average Entry-Level Wages (2025)

Associate’s Degree

Occupational Therapy Assistants \$48,910
Dental Hygienists \$61,890
Radiologic Technologists & Technicians \$50,390
Physical Therapist Assistants \$45,730

Graduate Degree

Athletic Trainers \$49,210*
Nurse Practitioners \$104,300*
Physical Therapists \$77,830*



Post - Secondary

Emergency Medical Technicians \$32,310
Paramedics \$41,740
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses \$49,740
Nursing Assistants \$36,080
Medical Assistants \$35,470
Medical Records Specialists \$34,360

Short- or Moderate Term OJT

Home Health & Personal Care Aides \$26,730*
Agricultural Equipment Operators \$34,610*
Veterinary Assistants & Lab Animal Caretakers \$31,700*

Bachelor’s Degree

Registered Nurses \$67,120
Clinical Laboratory Techs \$39,830*
Occupational Health & Safety Specialists \$64,650*
Environmental Engineers \$57,410*

Related Work Experience / Long Term OJT

Supervisors – Farming, Fishing & Forestry Workers \$51,060
Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant & System Operators \$48,080

*Not on NWPA High Priority Occupations List, but included on the statewide PA In-Demand Occupations List (PA IDOL)
For a list of Top 50 Employers by county, visit <http://bit.ly/Top50Emps>

SCIENCE & HEALTH PATHWAY

This Pathway involves life and physical sciences, along with therapeutic and diagnostic health services. It also includes careers involved with food, environmental, and natural resource systems.

Are you interested in...

Healthcare environment
Science and medicine
Medical research
Food production
Environment and conservation
Animals

Are you able to...

Pay attention to detail
Use a computer and technology
Work in a lab or medical facility
Apply scientific theory to real problems
Work outdoors
Care for people or animals in need

Do you enjoy...

Helping people
Caring for animals
Working outdoors
Working on cutting edge research
Working on a team
Contributing to society

If you answered "yes" to many of these questions, you might consider a future in one of the occupations listed on the front of this flyer, or below.

Additional PA In-Demand Occupations

Post-Secondary

Massage Therapists
Ophthalmic Medical Technicians
Dental Assistants
And more...

Associate's Degree / Associate's Degree +

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Techs.
Respiratory Therapists
Veterinary Technologists & Technicians
And more...

Bachelor's or Advanced Degree

Occupational Therapists
Veterinarians
Chemists
Physician Assistants
And more...

Related Work Experience / Long-Term OJT

Farmers, Ranchers &
Other Agricultural Managers

Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service
Technicians

Education / Training Resources

Adult Education & Career Readiness

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5:
<https://bit.ly/IU5AdEDCR>

Post-Secondary Education/Training Options

PA Eligible Training Provider List: <http://bit.ly/PACLETPL>
PA Colleges & Universities: <http://bit.ly/PACollegeandUniv>

To access the full *High Priority Occupations List* and the *PA IDOL* list, visit:
<https://www.nwpajobconnect.org/high-priority-occupations/>

To contact PA CareerLink® Erie County: 1-814-455-9966 (main); 1-814-871-4610 (TTY)
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
Equal Opportunity Employer / Program EO Officer Carrie Symes: 1-814-758-0659 or 711