



HEALTH CAREER OPTIONS GUIDE

for internationally educated health professionals

Hospital Service Worker

This profession is also known as:

- dietary aide
- housekeeping attendant
- porter
- blood donor clinic assistant
- fracture room attendant
- attendant - post-mortem

What is a hospital service worker?

They provide services/ assistance to health care professionals and other health care staff.



What are the main duties of a hospital service worker?

- Serve meals, launder, store and transport linens, lift patients in and out of beds/wheelchairs, transport patients around hospitals.
- Blood donor clinic assistants set up and dismantle equipment; prepare and maintain cleanliness of collection areas; maintain supplies; record information on donors; monitor donors throughout procedure and assist with post-donation care and donor reaction care as assigned under supervision of a registered nurse; and label and process donated blood.
- Morgue attendants assist pathologists at autopsies; preparing solutions for preservation of specimens; transferring bodies from morgue to examining table; removing organs and tissue specimens, as instructed by attending pathologist, and placing them in preservative solutions.

What personal characteristics or desired traits should I have for this profession?

You should be:

- Energetic and in good physical condition
- Responsible and reliable
- Able to work well as part of a team

Where do hospital service workers work?

They work in hospitals, medical clinics, offices of health care professionals, nursing homes, laboratories, pharmacies and medical pathology laboratories.

What are the typical work conditions?

- Most work in hospital or long- term care settings
- Shift work is common



What qualifications do I need?

- High School Diploma
- Most training is provided on the job

What communication skills do I need?

You need:

- To be able to follow directions
- Good interpersonal skills, able to maintain confidentiality
- For a full list of the essential skills you may need, see:

http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/es_view_profile-eng.do?prof_id=63&lang=eng

What wage can I expect for this work?

- Average Canadian hourly wage Low 12.00 Median 17.00 High 26.00
http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/LMI_report_bynoc.do?noc=3414&reportOption=wage
- Career Outlook http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/LMI_report_bynoc.do?noc=3414&reportOption=outlook

Are there opportunities for advancement?

There is little opportunity to advance but most positions are unionized with good benefits.

Learn more about this profession by visiting these sites.

- National Occupation Code 3414
The government of Canada has given a code to each occupation/profession. Use this code to learn more about health service workers through government sites.
<http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/English/NOC/2011/ProfileQuickSearch.aspx?val1=3414>

References

- National Occupational Classification, 2011 (NOC 3414) 13/4/16
- www.workopolis.com
- www.jobbank.gc.ca