

Licensed Vocational Nurse

Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) provide basic medical care. They work under the direction of Registered Nurses and Doctors.

Licensed Vocational Nurses typically do the following:

- Monitor patients' health—for example, by checking their blood pressure
- Administer basic patient care, including changing bandages and inserting catheters
- Provide for the basic comfort of patients, such as helping them bathe or dress
- Discuss the care they are providing with patients and listen to their concerns
- Report patients' status and concerns to registered nurses and doctors
- Keep records on patients' health

Duties of LVNs vary, depending on their work setting. For example, they may reinforce teaching done by Registered Nurses regarding how family members should care for a relative; help to deliver, care for, and feed infants; collect samples for testing and do routine laboratory tests; or feed patients who need help eating.

In some states, experienced Licensed Vocational Nurses supervise and direct other LVNs and unlicensed medical staff.

Work Environment

Licensed Vocational Nurses work in many settings, including nursing homes and extended care facilities, hospitals, physicians' offices, and private homes. Most work full time.

Watch a video about being a Licensed Vocational Nurse

Top Local Employers: Procare Therapy, Covenant Care, Sunbelt Staffing, Aveanna Health Care, Sutter Health

Median Pay

\$66,983

Job Growth (2020-2025)

11%

Education and Training

Licensed Vocational Nurses must complete a state-approved educational program, which typically takes about 1 year to complete. They must be licensed.



Local Education:

[City College San Francisco](#)

[Mission College](#)

[Carrington College](#)

[Gurnick Academy](#)

[Unitek College](#)

For More Information:

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

[National Association of Licensed Practical Nurses](#)

