# HEALTH

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HEALTHCARE

EXPLORING THE INDUSTRY

Emory University's Prehealth Mentoring Office has done an excellent job describing the various occupations within healthcare as well as the undergraduate pre-requisites required for each track. Check it out here!

FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND GETTING INVOLVED

Pre-Health Student Organizations

Pre-Health Volunteer and Shadowing Opportunities

Research Opportunities

PREPARING TO APPLY

Applying to Healthcare Graduate Programs including medical school, dental school, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant and more!
EXPLORING THE INDUSTRY

Recommended Reading

- International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers Career Solutions page
- Pharmaceutical Business Development: A Scientist's View
- Lippincott Library's Pharmaceutical Industry Guide

FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND GETTING INVOLVED

Job Search Sites

LinkedIn Industry Directory with thousands of organization pages, including subcategory in Pharmaceuticals (many organization pages with careers and/or jobs sections) - consider "Follow"ing organizations of interest (please note, you must have a LinkedIn account to view).

- AAAS Science Careers
- Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Career Center
- American Chemical Society Job Listings
- American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Career Center
- BioSpace: biotech and pharmaceutical jobs and news
- CareerBuilder Pharmaceutical Jobs
- Engineering Pharmaceutical Innovation Career Exchange
- Find Pharma Career Center
- HealthcareSource: job listings by hospital or facility.
- HealtheCareers Network: nursing and medical job and internship listings, articles on self-assessment and career strategy.
- HireRx Pharmaceutical Job Search
- JobsOnline Listings
- MedZilla Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals, Heathcare, and Science Job Listings
- Monster Pharmaceutical and Biotech Jobs
- Oodle Pharmaceutical and Biotech Jobs
- Pharma Careers Job Listings
- Pharmaceutical Job - Web Listings
- Pharmaceutical Online Job Listings
- PharmaOpportunities Job Search
Once you land a job in the health care consulting, what you can expect depends largely on the type of firm your choose. At large management consulting firms, it’s relatively hard for college graduates to specialize by industry. However, graduate degree holders with health care-related degrees or those who have substantial experience in the health care industry prior to attending graduate school are usually pegged early in the recruiting process to the firm’s health care industry practice.

Experiences in health care-focused firms also vary by the firm’s size and business focus. At one firm that specializes in strategic and management support to hospital systems, newly hired college graduates are not expected to do much more than provide non-substantive administrative support to senior consultants on the road. At smaller boutique firms competing largely with academic think tanks and non-profit organizations for public-sector work, the experiences of new consultants range from work as "data monkeys," who analyze large sets of information, to presenting results to clients.

New hires at larger firms are more likely to have a standardized, predictable experience compared to their counterparts at smaller firms without formal internal processes for allocating work. But a "can-do" attitude regardless of the nature or size of the task is rewarded at all firms.

**EXPLORING THE INDUSTRY**

**Key Skills**

Consultants typically do the following:

- Gather and organize information about the problem to be solved or the procedure to be improved
- Interview personnel and conduct onsite observations to determine the methods, equipment, and personnel that will be needed
- Analyze financial and other data, including revenue, expenditure, and employment reports
- Develop solutions or alternative practices
- Recommend new systems, procedures, or organizational changes
- Make recommendations to management through presentations or written reports
- Confer with managers to ensure changes are working

**Recommended Reading**

*Vault Guide to Healthcare Consulting*

**FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND GETTING INVOLVED**

**Employers**

- [The Advisory Board Company](#)
- [Abt Associates Inc.](#)
- [A.T. Kearney](#)
- [CSC](#)
- [Deloitte](#)
• DSS Research
• Ernst & Young
• IMS Health
• L.E.K. Consulting
• Leerick Swann (Consulting Division)
• The Lewin Group
• Mercer Consulting
• Navigant Consulting
• PwC
• Research & Planning Consultants, L.P. (RPC)
• Towers Watson
HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The day-to-day work of a health administrator varies by the organization for which they work, but the essential core of the job remains the same: Health administrators are responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of a hospital, hospital system or healthcare organization.

EXPLORING THE INDUSTRY

Potential Job Responsibilities:

- Wide-range planning and coordination and implementation of medical and health services
- Deep understanding of healthcare policy and laws, as well as current and upcoming issues that require administrators to stay ahead of the curve
- Attending and contributing to high-level meetings with investors or governing boards
- Supervising assistant administrators
- Keeping open communication with medical staff and heads of departments
- Working to improve overall efficiency and financial effectiveness
- Paying attention to smaller details such as staff scheduling, hiring and salary issues, patient fees and billing, and even keeping records of supplies.

Key Environments:

A health administrator might work for an enormous health company or hospital system, overseeing several facilities at once. Or they might work on a smaller scale, such as managing a group of medical practices, a particular department in a hospital system, or a single medical practice.

Healthcare Administration Careers:

The healthcare system is booming, and health administration careers are keeping pace. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, those in healthcare administration can expect job growth of 23 percent from 2012 to 2022, which is much higher than the average for all occupations. Much of this growth is expected to stem from a healthcare system that will see increased demand from an aging baby boomer population, as well as technology that allows patients to live longer lives. This demand will mean more hospitals, clinics, physicians and other healthcare professionals are needed, and that means more health administrators will be called upon to make sure everything runs smoothly.

Those who choose to specialize in nursing home administration might see better opportunities in the future, as an aging population places a demand on the need for those services. Another growth area for health administrators is physician office management. As medical practices become larger and more complex, someone with the skills to keep it all under control will become very valuable to those organizations.

Those who choose healthcare administration careers can find work in areas other than the hospital or healthcare organization setting. These related careers show high growth rates and the potential for worthwhile employment:
The bachelor’s degree in health administration or a closely related field is typically minimum requirement for entry level positions. However, it is important to note that those who hold a bachelor’s degree might not be qualified for higher positions, and thus their chances for advancement could be limited.

A master’s degree in health administration is a more common educational path for those who wish to reach upper management, and can open doors to positions with much more responsibility. Some choose to earn their doctorate in a management-related field in order to reach for even higher levels of employment in the healthcare system. Regardless of the degree level, most employers prefer to hire someone who has a strong background of experience in administration in a healthcare setting, or those with specialized experience in one particular area of healthcare.