

# THE TOP TEN REASONS to Become a Practical Nurse

Over the years, nursing has become a highly valuable career option for the men and women who love to help other people. If you find yourself considering a career in healthcare, a practical nursing program may be for you.

To get started you'll need to choose and complete one of the [practical nurse programs](#) offered by a [practical nursing college](#). You'll learn how to evaluate, plan and implement care for patients suffering from certain conditions, as well as how to offer them the comfort and support they need to regain their health. Here are 10 reasons why [practical nursing](#) could be right for you!

**1. Personal Satisfaction:** Nursing can be a stressful occupation at times, involving long shifts, temperamental doctors and patients, and life-and-death scenarios. However, the fact that you are making a difference in people's lives every single day can be really rewarding.

**2. Job Security:** As people live longer than before, an increasing number of individuals need medical services for longer periods, which means that nursing care facilities, outpatient facilities, doctor's offices, general and surgical hospitals, and home health services require more LPNs from one year to another. As a result, the graduates

of [practical nursing programs](#) can find numerous nursing jobs, regardless of where they live in the U.S.

**3. The Affordable Health Care Act:** Our country is already facing a nursing shortage. When adding in 32 million people who will soon have health insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act, there will be an even greater strain on the healthcare system. This possibility may even prompt some healthcare providers to encourage their nurses to level-up their education with possible tuition assistance in the future.

**4. Second-Career Opportunity:** Offering high salary levels, the nursing field offers a great second career choice, which is typically appropriate for single parents who must support their families on one income or for people who need an additional source of income.

**5. Flexible Schedules:** Thousands of graduates of [practical nursing college](#) programs enjoy some truly flexible schedules that allow them to work day, evening, or night shifts, part-time or full-time shifts, which range from 4 to 12 hours. These schedule options give you the opportunity to combine your career with different educational programs or family-related responsibilities.

**6. Flexible Locations:** People need quality healthcare everywhere in the world. This means that you can pursue a nursing career not only in the U.S., but also in a foreign country. Currently, many hospitals in Europe, Middle East and Asia are searching for LPNs, who are able to offer patients top healthcare services. Regardless of whether you plan to travel across the country or across the globe, there is one thing you can be sure of: a nurse is always needed.



**7. Competitive Salary:** Since LPNs are in high demand, most healthcare facilities offer high salaries and competitive benefits not only to attract new employees, but also to retain the best ones. According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), depending on experience and location, an LPN can expect a median salary of \$40,380 per year.

**8. Professional Development:** Once you graduate from a [practical nursing college](#), you have the opportunity to complete a variety of educational programs. This means that you can study to move laterally (you can opt for specific programs in order to become a medical assistant, for instance) or to move up (you can choose a management program, which allows you to get into nursing management).

**9. Jobs During Recessions:** Although countries all over the world are fighting with a stubborn recession, hospitals still have to function. For this, they need medical staff. And since a recession brings along high levels of stress, which means that more people fall sick, there is still a high demand for LPNs.

**10. Collaboration and Independence:** Nursing is one of the few career choices that offer collaboration and independence at the same time. Although [practical nursing college](#) programs prepare you to work in teams, you will always enjoy a great deal of autonomy. And if you decide to complete advanced educational programs, you can become a manager, a researcher or an educator – three career options that give you even more independence.

Today, Mildred-Elley offers a comprehensive [Practical Nurse Certificate Program](#), which provides the education and skills you need in order to work as a practical nurse or to pursue other career options in the growing health care field. With three campuses offering nursing programs, one is bound to be right for you!

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