

# Start your healthcare career by senior year

## Practical Nursing Program

Launching in fall 2025.

Ballad Health Academy offers high school students in the Appalachian Highlands a direct path to a career in healthcare. This program combines traditional high school experiences with specialized healthcare education and hands-on training, giving students the skills and experience needed to stand out as they enter the workforce or pursue further education.



### Program Highlights:

- In-person and virtual learning: Flexible options to gain healthcare knowledge in the classroom and through virtual platforms.
- Hands-on experience in hospitals: Opportunities to learn directly from healthcare professionals within hospital settings.
- Personalized support from counselors: Guidance throughout high school to help plan courses, manage dual enrollment and explore career paths.
- No-cost access to resources: Free participation in the program, covering costs such as transportation, supplies and additional support to help students succeed.
- Early job training and placement: Students can begin working toward LPN or RN credentials as early as 11th grade, with support for licensing exams and job placement opportunities beginning at age 16.
- Scholarship for further education: Students can begin full-time work immediately after high school and earn a scholarship to complete their RN credential.

Ballad Health Academy and academic partners, Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs) in Elizabethton and Morristown, Northeast State Community College, Walters State Community College and East Tennessee State University, work together to offer this program to participating high schools eliminating common barriers to healthcare careers, making it easier than ever for students to start on the path to a meaningful career in the industry.

### Enrollment

Students with aptitudes for science and service professions will be identified at the middle and early-high school level, and they can be enrolled in the pathway in the ninth grade. While working toward an LPN credential in high school, they will remain in their local public school and take core classes, while overlaying those studies with college courses for dual credit.

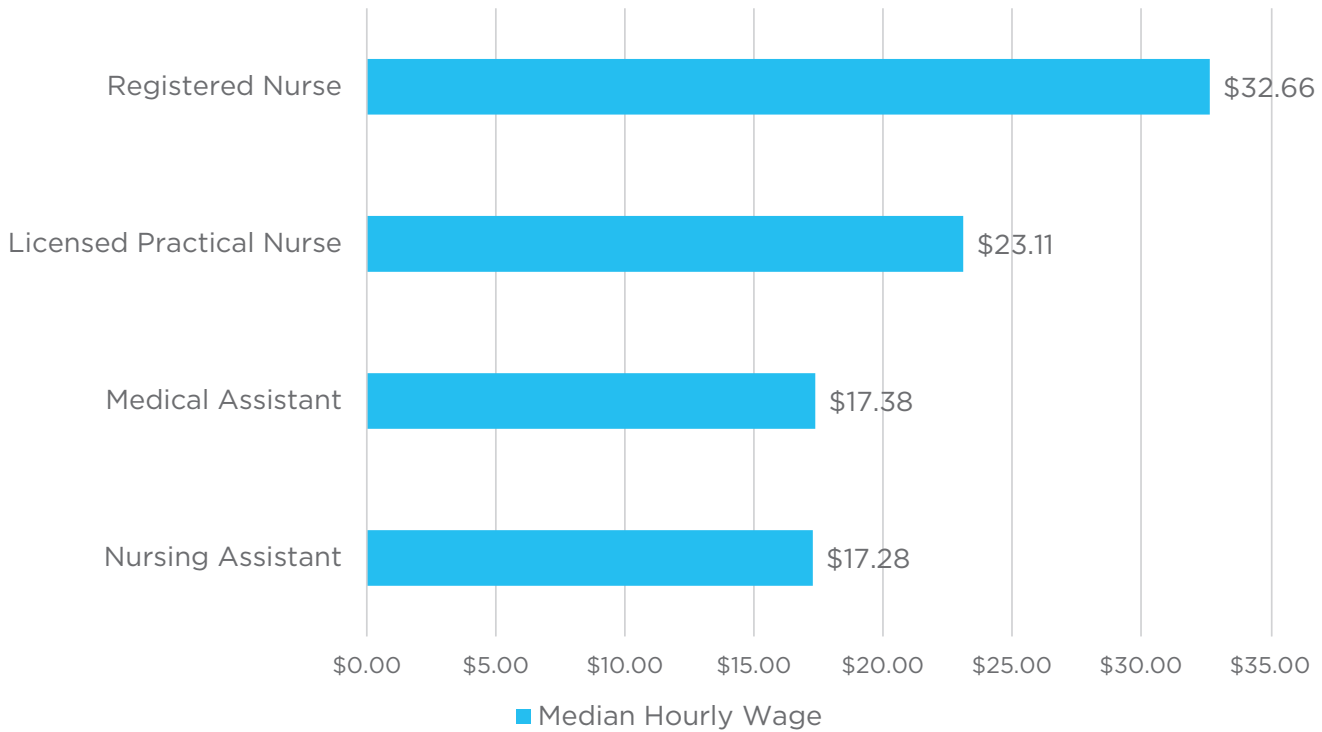
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# Average Nursing Career Wages in Tennessee

## Median Hourly Wage



## Median Annual Salary

