

## CAREERS IN HEALTH SCIENCES



2901 Holston Lane | Raleigh, NC 27610  
919-747-0400 | [health.waketech.edu](http://health.waketech.edu)







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Wake Tech's Health Sciences programs offer opportunities to pursue challenging and rewarding careers in health care. As a graduate, you will possess the skills and knowledge to find meaningful employment in hospitals, physician offices, nursing homes, and other health care settings – and to make a difference in the lives of others. Wake Tech has a variety of program options leading to employment in the exciting field of health care services.

Wake Technical Community College is committed to its role as a leader in providing world-class programs that produce competent, effective, health care providers for our community. We are also committed to you, our students, and want you to be prepared for the challenges and rewards of a career in health care. Our faculty and staff model our core values of accountability, respect, responsibility, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration in all our programs and activities.

We encourage you to choose Wake Tech! We will assist you in planning and reaching your academic and career goals. This booklet was designed to help you explore our Health Sciences options and career pathways – and discover the professional role that best fits your interests and abilities.

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# HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST

To begin the admissions process for Wake Tech's Health Sciences programs, please complete steps 1-5, below.

After you have completed ALL of these steps, you may meet with a Health Sciences Advisor in the Student Services Center, on the Perry Health Sciences Campus.

No appointment is necessary. Advisors' hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

1. Submit a Wake Technical Community College application at <http://www.waketech.edu/become-student>
2. Attend a **mandatory** information session if you are applying for one of the following: **Nursing, Radiography, Dental Assisting, or Dental Hygiene**. Reserve your seat at: <http://hsadmissions.waketech.edu/infosess/index.php>

Attend a general information session if you are applying for one of the following: Medical Assisting, Emergency Medical Science, Medical Laboratory Technology, Massage Therapy, Pharmacy Technology, or Phlebotomy.

<http://hsadmissions.waketech.edu/infosess/index.php>

3. Request official transcripts from high school or GED **and** all previously-attended colleges to be sent directly to the Wake Tech Admissions Office.
4. Apply for financial aid at <http://fafsa.ed.gov>  
**Fall application deadline:** May 1  
**Spring application deadline:** October 1  
**Summer application deadline:** March 15
5. Take the placement test, if applicable. To sign up for the test, or to find out if you are exempt from testing, visit <http://testingcenter.waketech.edu>.



## \*Dental Hygiene

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**

**Annual Salary Range: \$57,200-\$74,526**

**Hourly Salary Range: \$27.50-\$35.83**

Dental Hygienists perform oral health assessments, provide nutritional counseling, and promote self-care programs to prevent oral disease.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy working with people</li> <li>• Good problem-solving skills</li> <li>• Good communication skills</li> <li>• Strong science skills</li> <li>• Strong organization skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform oral health assessments</li> <li>• Take and process dental x-rays</li> <li>• Provide self-care programs to prevent disease</li> <li>• Provide treatment to patients, to include cleaning teeth and placing sealants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental offices</li> <li>• Public health departments</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Clinics</li> </ul>

\*This is a competitive admissions program that uses a point system when there are more applicants meeting admissions requirements than spaces available. Applicants with the highest number of points will be selected for the available spaces.





**Emergency Medical Science**

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Continuing Education: EMT Basic**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$25,625-\$37,585**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$12.32-\$18.07**

Emergency Medical Science professionals respond to emergencies and perform basic and advanced life support skills, depending on their level of training. They transport sick or injured persons to medical facilities.



**Therapeutic Massage**

**Diploma: One-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$30,534-\$54,600**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$14.68-\$26.25**

Massage Therapists provide manual soft tissue manipulation to promote and maintain wellness or treat alterations in health.

Emergency Medical Science			Therapeutic Massage		
Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations	Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good decision-making and critical-thinking skills</li><li>• Interest in helping people</li><li>• Good hands-on skills</li><li>• Good communication skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assess the nature and extent of an illness or injury to establish and prioritize procedures</li><li>• Perform CPR</li><li>• Administer medications</li><li>• Start IVs</li><li>• Defibrillate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EMS services</li><li>• Fire and rescue agencies</li><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• Air medical services</li><li>• Urgent care centers</li><li>• Clinics</li><li>• Military</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoy working with people</li><li>• Feel comfortable with touch, and with ill or injured clients</li><li>• Good problem-solving and communication skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confer with clients about their medical histories to determine how massage will be most helpful</li><li>• Massage and knead muscles and soft tissues of the body for relaxation and treatment of medical conditions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wellness centers</li><li>• Spas</li><li>• Sports clubs</li><li>• Massage clinics</li><li>• Rehabilitation centers</li><li>• Home health</li><li>• Private practices</li></ul>





**\*Nursing (RN)**

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$56,576 - \$79,144**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$27.20 - \$38.05**

Registered Nurses provide care to clients in a variety of settings. Nurses are advocates, as they assist patients in reaching their maximum health potential by promoting wellness.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good math and science skills</li><li>• Enjoy helping people</li><li>• Strong critical-thinking and communication skills</li><li>• Strong work ethic</li><li>• Functions well under pressure and a rapidly changing environment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perform physical assessments, take vital signs</li><li>• Administer medications and treatments</li><li>• Provide client education and emotional support</li><li>• Assess, diagnose, plan, implement and evaluate nursing care needs</li><li>• Collaborate with interdisciplinary healthcare team</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• Rehabilitation facilities</li><li>• Physician offices</li><li>• Clinics</li><li>• Long-term care facilities</li></ul>

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**Health and Fitness Science**

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$24,960-41,600**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$12-20/hr.**

Health Fitness professionals lead, instruct, and motivate individuals or groups in exercise activities, including cardiovascular exercise, strength training, and stretching. They work with people of all ages and skill levels.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoy helping people</li><li>• Good communication skills</li><li>• Good problem-solving skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administer basic fitness tests and health risk appraisals</li><li>• Teach specific exercise and fitness classes</li><li>• Provide instruction in the proper use of exercise equipment and facilities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commercial fitness clubs</li><li>• YMCAs/YWCAs</li><li>• Wellness programs in business and industry</li><li>• Parks &amp; Recreation Departments</li></ul>





## Human Services Technology

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$20,190-\$32,656**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$9.70-\$15.70**

Human Services professionals assist social workers and case workers in organizing and implementing programs that help individuals and families prevent or resolve problems related to basic needs, substance abuse, and relationships.

## Certified Nursing Aide (CNA)

**Certificate**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$19,614-\$26,936**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$9.43-\$12.95**

Nurse Aides provide hands-on care and perform routine tasks under the supervision of nursing staff.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations	Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy helping people learn to help themselves</li> <li>• Good problem-solving and communication skills</li> <li>• Thoughtful, genuine, and empathetic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with at-risk adolescents, the elderly, the mentally ill, victims of domestic abuse, the homeless, and clients with HIV</li> <li>• Transport and accompany clients to shopping areas and to appointments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social service agencies</li> <li>• Shelters</li> <li>• Mental health agencies</li> <li>• Rehabilitation centers</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Corrections</li> <li>• Residential services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy helping people</li> <li>• Enjoy working as part of a team</li> <li>• Detail oriented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist patient with hygiene needs</li> <li>• Serve meals, make beds, and tidy rooms</li> <li>• Take patient's temperature, pulse rate, respiration rate and blood pressure</li> <li>• Document patient information accurately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Doctor offices</li> <li>• Long-term care facilities</li> <li>• Home care</li> </ul>

Note: Please review the Human Services website for frequently asked questions, program information, and admissions guidelines at [humanservices.waketech.edu](http://humanservices.waketech.edu).

Note: The Nursing Aide program is offered through Wake Tech's Workforce Continuing Education Division and has its own Information Session.





Phlebotomy

Certificate: One semester  
Annual Salary Range: \$26,728-\$34,049  
Hourly Salary Range: \$12.85-\$16.37

Phlebotomists perform the manual and technical tasks involved in the collection, labeling, and handling of blood samples for laboratory testing.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good hand-eye coordination</li><li>• Enjoy helping people</li><li>• Attention to detail</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assemble equipment needed for drawing blood</li><li>• Perform venipuncture, finger sticks, heel sticks to obtain blood</li><li>• Label and store blood samples for processing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• Clinics</li><li>• Doctor offices</li><li>• Laboratories</li></ul>

Note: Because this is a one-semester certificate program, students are not eligible to receive most kinds of financial aid such as the Pell grant.



Human Services Technology / Substance Abuse

AAS Degree: Two-year program  
Certificate: Five courses  
Annual Salary Range: \$23,500-\$41,704  
Hourly Salary Range: \$11.30-\$20.05

Human Services/Substance Abuse professionals assist in drug and alcohol counseling, prevention-oriented educational activities, and rehabilitation with recovering clients.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoy helping people</li><li>• Good problem- solving skills</li><li>• Good communication skills</li><li>• Thoughtful, genuine, and empathetic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist in counseling of clients with drug, alcohol, and tobacco problems</li><li>• Provide prevention-oriented education</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human services agencies</li><li>• Clinics</li><li>• Residential services</li><li>• Shelters</li><li>• Corrections</li><li>• Halfway houses</li></ul>

Note: Please review the Human Services website for frequently asked questions, program information, and admissions guidelines at [humanservices.waketech.edu](http://humanservices.waketech.edu).





## Human Services Technology / Mental Health

## CT/MRI

AAS Degree: Two-year program  
 Annual Salary Range: \$28,850-\$38,520  
 Hourly Salary Range: \$13.87-\$18.52

Human Services entry level positions in mental health settings may involve assisting a treatment team, implementing treatment plans, providing community liaison, becoming a behavioral disorder counselor, a treatment assistant or working in a variety of settings in institutions or communities.

Diploma: One-year program (MRI)  
 Certificate: Two-semester program (CT)  
 Annual Salary Range: \$54,184-\$67,600  
 Hourly Salary Range: \$26.05-\$32.50

The MRI diploma and CT certificate programs are available to radiographers who wish to specialize in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and or Computed Tomography (CT).

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations	Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy helping people learn to help themselves</li> <li>• Good problem-solving and communication skills</li> <li>• Thoughtful, genuine, and empathetic</li> <li>• Respect for different cultures and experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with individuals and groups with mental health challenges</li> <li>• Transport and accompany clients to appointments, services, vocational opportunities</li> <li>• Work on community prevention efforts</li> <li>• Assist in admission and discharge of patients</li> <li>• Facilitate group support and activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social service agencies</li> <li>• Shelters</li> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Mental health agencies</li> <li>• Rehabilitation centers</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Corrections</li> <li>• Residential services</li> <li>• Outreach programs</li> <li>• Veteran's affairs offices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy hands-on or manual activities</li> <li>• Good math and science skills</li> <li>• Enjoy helping people</li> <li>• Strong problem-solving and communication skills</li> <li>• Good computer skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use specialized equipment to produce images of the human body from cross-sectional perspective</li> <li>• Direct patient care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Imaging centers</li> <li>• Physician offices</li> </ul>

Note: Please review the Human Services website for frequently asked questions, program information, and admissions guidelines at [humanservices.waketech.edu](http://humanservices.waketech.edu).





## \*Radiography

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$40,684-\$60,944**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$19.62-\$29.30**

Radiographers produce images of all parts of the human body for use in diagnosing and treating illnesses. Radiographers work with patients with various levels of illness and injury.



## Medical Assisting

**AAS Degree: Two-year program**  
**Diploma: One-year program**  
**Annual Salary Range: \$29,600 - \$35,573**  
**Hourly Salary Range: \$14.23 - \$17.10**

A career as a health care professional who performs administrative, clinical, and laboratory procedures in physicians' offices and hospitals; eligibility to sit for the American Association of Medical Assistants Certification Examination - CMA (AAMA).

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations	Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy hands-on or manual activities</li> <li>• Good math and science skills</li> <li>• Enjoy helping people</li> <li>• Strong problem-solving and communication skills</li> <li>• Good computer skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use radiation to produce images of the human body</li> <li>• Use computerized equipment to process images of the human body</li> <li>• Direct patient care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospitals</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Imaging centers</li> <li>• Physician offices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy working in a medical office setting</li> <li>• Good organization and communication skills</li> <li>• Enjoy working with people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document patient history and administer medications</li> <li>• Perform clinical procedures such as laboratory tests, electrocardiography, and vital signs</li> <li>• Perform administrative office tasks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physician offices</li> <li>• Clinics</li> <li>• Health departments</li> <li>• Hospitals</li> </ul>

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Medical Laboratory Technology

AAS Degree: Two-year program  
Yearly Salary Range: \$35,692 –\$57,720  
Hourly Salary Range: \$17.16 – \$27.75

Medical Laboratory professionals perform clinical procedures in laboratory departments, including chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and the blood bank. They help physicians diagnose, monitor, prevent, and treat diseases.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interest in science, medicine, pathology, and hands-on activities</li><li>• Good problem-solving and communication skills</li><li>• Self-directed learner</li><li>• Good math and science skills</li><li>• Good computer skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perform and analyze lab tests on blood and other body fluids for use in diagnosis and treatment</li><li>• Interpret findings involving tissues, blood, and body fluids</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• Laboratories</li><li>• Industry</li><li>• Physician offices</li><li>• Research facilities</li><li>• Research labs</li></ul>



Pharmacy Technology

AAS Degree: Two-year program  
Diploma: One-year program  
Annual Salary Range: \$20,100-\$44,590  
Hourly Salary Range: \$9.66-\$21.44

Pharmacy Technicians assist licensed pharmacists in preparing medications, compounding IV admixtures, maintaining patient records, managing inventories and purchases, and providing pharmaceutical care services.

Skills and Interests Needed	Job Duties	Work Locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interest in math and science</li><li>• Enjoy helping people</li><li>• Good critical thinking skills</li><li>• Good communication and people skills</li><li>• Enjoy working as part of a team</li><li>• Strong organizational skills</li><li>• Good computer skills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist pharmacist in preparing and compounding medications according to prescriptions and medication orders</li><li>• Calculate medication dosage</li><li>• Compound sterile medications, including drug admixtures, IV antibiotics, ophthalmics, total parenteral nutrition and chemotherapy</li><li>• Use automation and robotics to process and distribute medications</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hospitals</li><li>• Medical centers &amp; clinics</li><li>• Community pharmacies</li><li>• Medication therapy management pharmacies</li><li>• IV &amp; infusion pharmacies</li><li>• Medication compounding pharmacies</li><li>• Long-term care pharmacies</li><li>• Mail order pharmacies</li><li>• Nuclear pharmacies</li><li>• Investigational drug pharmacies</li><li>• Pharmaceutical companies</li></ul>

Note: General education courses are taught at Wake Tech while the pharmacy classes are taught at the Johnston Community College Workforce Development Center located in Clayton, NC.