



# STEM Careers

## Critical Care Nurse

**Job Description:** Provide advanced nursing care for patients in critical or coronary care units.

### What do Critical Care Nurses do?

- Provide care for patients in critical condition
- Assess patients' pain levels and sedation requirements
- Set up and monitor medical equipment such as heart rate monitors, ventilators, and oxygen delivery devices
- Provide patients with medication either by injection, orally, intravenously or other methods
- Document patients' medical histories and assessment findings
- Advocate for patients' and families' needs, or provide emotional support for patients and their families
- Evaluate patients' vital signs and laboratory data to determine emergency intervention needs

### Your Interests:

- Do you like to help people?
- Do you work well under pressure?
- Do you communicate well?
- Do you like working on a team?
- Do you pay attention to details?

### Outlook: **Bright**

Average Salary - \$30.65 hourly, \$63,750 annual

Projected Job Openings - 1,039,000 over the next 10 years

### Education/Program of Study:

- Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN) or
- Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN)
- Pass the national licensing exam

Sources:

O\*NET Online

[http://www.nursesource.org/critical\\_care.html](http://www.nursesource.org/critical_care.html)