

# Family & General Practitioners

## Occupational Profile



### SKILLS YOU NEED

#### Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
  - Active Listening
    - Writing
    - Speaking
    - Science
  - Critical Thinking
    - Active Learning
  - Learning Strategies
    - Monitoring

#### Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

##### High level

- Diagnosing diseases and disorders
  - Giving health care instructions
- Observing and analyzing physical problems
  - Planning health care treatments
  - Treating physical or mental problems
- Using medical or dental instruments to treat patients

##### Workplace Skills:

##### High level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Judgment and Decision Making

##### Medium level

- Coordination
  - Instructing
- Management of Personnel Resources
  - Negotiation
  - Persuasion
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
  - Systems Analysis
  - Time Management

### WHAT THEY DO

Diagnoses, treats, and helps prevent diseases and injuries that commonly occur in the general population. May refer patients to specialists when needed for further diagnosis or treatment. Belongs to the Health Science cluster and Therapeutic Services pathway.

### IS THIS FOR YOU?

**Work Interests** are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Investigative** – You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Social** – You are a "helper". You like being around people and helping them with problems. Socializing is fun for you.
- **Realistic** – You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.

**Work Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.
- **Recognition** – It's very important to you that your work satisfies your need for prestige and leadership opportunities, as well as opportunities for advancement.
- **Relationships** – It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.

**Aptitudes** reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Numerical Aptitude**
- **Spatial Perception**
- **Form perception**
- **Finger Dexterity**

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at

<http://www.iowaworkforce.org/pubs/careers/cps>

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	2010-20 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total All Occupations	1,717,020	1,948,700	231,680	1.3	64,525
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	81,850	100,305	18,455	2.3	3,500
Family & General Practitioners	2,275	2,810	535	2.4	100

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

## 2012 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total All Occupations	18.90	39,295	9.30	19,341	23.69	49,272
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	31.16	64,824	15.94	33,163	38.78	80,655
Family & General Practitioners	103.97	216,241	67.61	140,631	122.14	254,046

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Doctoral/Professional Degree	None	Internship/Residency

Formal education and training requirements for physicians are among the most demanding of any occupation: four years of undergraduate school, four years of medical school, and three to eight years of internship and residency, depending on the specialty selected. A few medical schools offer combined undergraduate and medical school programs that last six rather than the customary eight years. Following medical school, almost all M.D.s enter a residency - graduate medical education in a specialty that takes the form of paid on-the-job training, usually in a hospital. Most D.O.s serve a 12-month rotating internship after graduation and before entering a residency, which may last 2 to 6 years. All States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories license physicians. All states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories license physicians. To be licensed, physicians must graduate from an accredited medical school, pass a licensing examination, and complete one to seven years of graduate medical education. M.D.s and D.O.s seeking board certification in a specialty may spend up to 7 years in residency training, depending on the specialty. A final examination immediately after residency or after 1 or 2 years of practice also is necessary for certification by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialists (ABMS) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). For certification in a subspecialty, physicians usually need another 1 to 2 years of residency. The Iowa Board of Law website at [http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom\\_state\\_data/iowa\\_licensed\\_occupations/29-10611.htm](http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom_state_data/iowa_licensed_occupations/29-10611.htm) provides specific licensure and support information for the state of Iowa.

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	n. a.
Locating Information	n. a.
Reading for Information	n. a.



This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Home Health Aides Employed?)

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services  
Ambulatory Health Care Services  
Hospitals  
Self Employed

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit <http://iwin.iowaworkforce.org/> to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document under the **Publications** tab. Published 10/2013.