

# Medical Assistants Occupation

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*California and Riverside and San Bernardino Counties  
 (Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan Statistical Area)*

## Job Opportunities

In 2016, there were nearly 85,500 medical assistants jobs in California. Just over 9% or nearly 7,900 of these job opportunities were located locally in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA in 2016. Across the local region, employment of medical assistants is expected to increase 18% through 2021, growing slightly faster than California overall growing at 15%. Employers in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA will need to hire more than 2,300 workers over the next five years to fill new jobs and to backfill jobs that workers are leaving (includes retirements).

*Exhibit 1: Five-year projections for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA and California*

Region	2016 Jobs	2021 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	5-Yr Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	Annual Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)
<b>Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA</b>	7,850	9,244	1,394	18%	2,313	463
<b>California</b>	85,485	98,084	12,599	15%	22,424	4,485

Source: EMSI Class of Worker 2017.2

## Earnings

The average entry-level wage for medical assistants in Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA is \$10.20 per hour, below the MIT Living Wage estimate of \$12.10 per hour for a single adult living in the region. The average annual earnings for this occupation group in the region is \$30,500, assuming full-time employment. The average entry-level hourly wage in California is \$11.19 per hour.

*Exhibit 2: Earnings for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA and California*

Region	Entry to Experienced Hourly Earnings Range*	Avg. Annual Earnings
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA	\$10.20 to \$19.10	\$30,500
California	\$11.19 to \$24.55	\$35,700

\*Entry Hourly is 10th percentile wage, experienced is 90th percentile wage.

### Job Ads, Top Employers, Skills, and Education

In 2016, there were a total of 832 job advertisements (ads) for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA. There were 679 job ads for the same group of occupations in 2015, and 449 job ads in 2014.

The top employers posting job ads for medical assistants locally in 2016 included: Beaver Medical Group, Kaiser Permanente, and Arrowhead Orthopedics. The top worksite cities in the region were Riverside, San Bernardino, Redlands, Palm Springs, Corona, Fontana, Temecula, and Loma Linda.

*Exhibit 3: 2016 top employers for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA (n=388)*

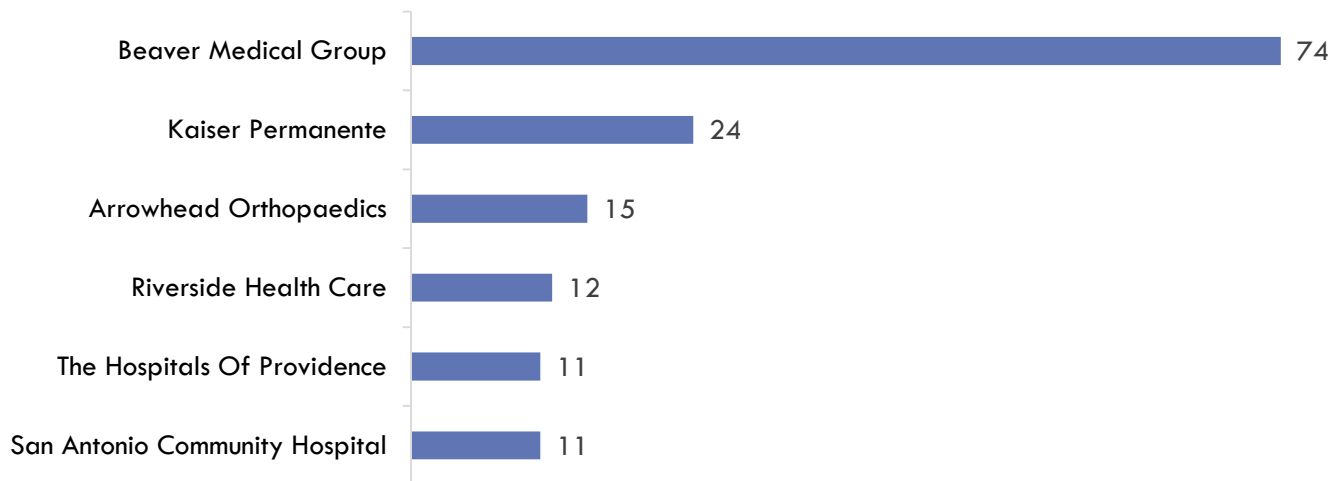


Exhibit 4 lists the top specialized and soft skills that employers are seeking when looking for workers to fill medical assistant positions.

*Exhibit 4: Top skills for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA (n=575)*

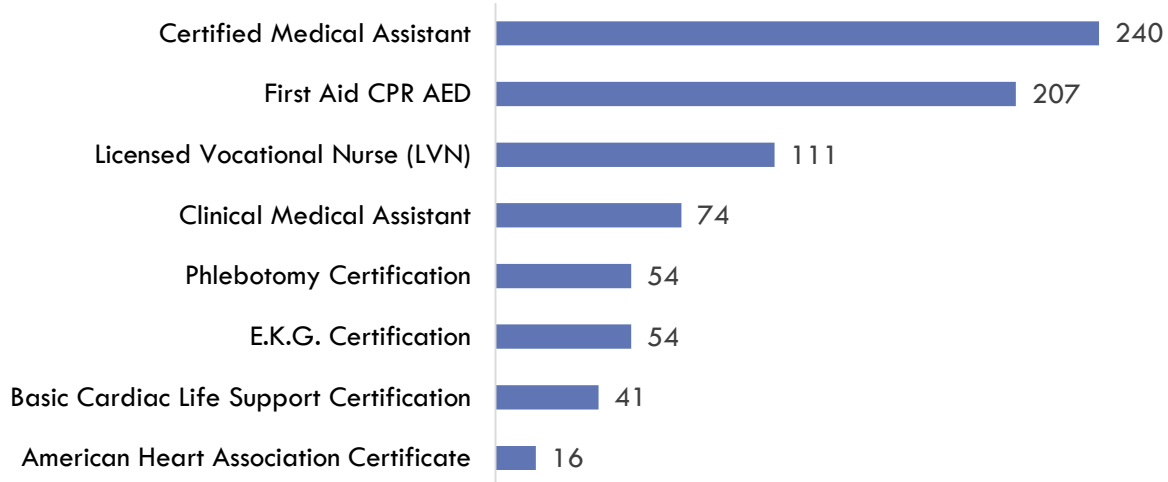
Occupation	Specialized skills	Soft skills	Computer skills
Medical Assistants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient Care</li> <li>• Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)</li> <li>• Patient Preparation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication skills</li> <li>• Bilingual</li> <li>• Spanish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Excel</li> <li>• Word Processing</li> <li>• WordPerfect</li> </ul>

Employers posting job ads in 2016 were looking for medical assistants candidates with a high school education or vocational training (99%). According to Bureau of Labor Statistics, most employers are looking for a medical assistant with a postsecondary nondegree award.

## Licensing and Certifications

Medical Assistants are not licensed, certified, or registered by the State of California. Nonetheless, employers posting job ads wanted medical assistants candidates with the following certifications in:

*Exhibit 6: 2016 top certifications for medical assistants in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA (n=415)*



## Student Completions

Exhibit 7 shows the annual average regional community college awards (associate degrees and certificates) conferred during the three academic years between 2013 and 2016, as well as other awards granted in private education institutions outside of the California Community Colleges from 2012-2015, with the relevant TOP code. Please note an award is not equivalent to a single person in search of a job opening since a student may earn more than one award, such as an associate degree in addition to a certificate.

Exhibit 7: Annual average community college student completions for medical assistants programs in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA

<b>120800 – Medical Assisting</b>	<b>Annual Avg. Community College Headcount (2013-16)</b>	<b>Community College Annual Avg. Awards (2013-16)</b>	<b>Private Education Facilities Annual Avg. Certificates or Other Credit Awards (2012-15)</b>
<b>Mt. San Jacinto</b>			
Associate Degree		-	
Certificate 30 to < 60 semester units		1*	
<b>Moreno Valley</b>			
Associate Degree		10	
Certificate 18 to < 30 semester units		14	
<b>Riverside</b>			
Associate Degree		-	
<b>Victor Valley</b>	117		
Associate Degree		2	
Certificate 18 to < 30 semester units		4	
<b>American College of Healthcare</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			112
<b>Everest College-Ontario</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			77
Award < 1 academic yr			55
<b>Everest College-San Bernardino</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			80
<b>Mayfield College</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			162
<b>Milan Institute-Palm Desert</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			80
<b>Platt College-Ontario</b>			
Associate Degree			67
<b>Platt College-Riverside</b>			
Associate Degree			55
<b>Riverside County Office of Education</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			97
<b>Summit College</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			119
<b>Westech College</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			169
<b>Westwood College-Inland Empire</b>			

<b>120800 – Medical Assisting</b>	<b>Annual Avg. Community College Headcount (2013-16)</b>	<b>Community College Annual Avg. Awards (2013-16)</b>	<b>Private Education Facilities Annual Avg. Certificates or Other Credit Awards (2012-15)</b>
Associate Degree			5
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			33
<b>InterCoast Colleges-Riverside</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			1
<b>Four-D College</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			31
<b>California Nurses Educational Institute</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			16
<b>American Career College-Ontario</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			214
<b>Concorde Career College-San Bernardino</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			226
<b>North-West College-Riverside</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			65
<b>Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program</b>			
Award < 1 academic yr			27
<b>UEI College-Riverside</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			55
<b>United Education Institute-Ontario</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			10
<b>Brightwood College-Palm Springs</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			194
<b>Brightwood College-Riverside</b>			
Award 1 < 2 academic yrs			77
<b>TOTAL Annual Average Private Education Facilities</b>			<b>2,027</b>
<b>TOTAL Annual Average Community College</b>		<b>30</b>	

\*Mt. San Jacinto reported one completion in academic year 2013-14 only



## Student Outcomes

Community College student outcome information was obtained from the CTE LaunchBoard based on the selected TOP code(s) and region.

### **1208.00 Medical Assisting program outcomes in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA in academic year 2013-14:**

- The median annual wage after program completion is \$18,277.
- 17% of students are earning a living wage.
- Course completers reported a wage increase of 84%.
- 53% of students are employed within six months after completing a program.

## Sources

O\*Net Online

Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

CTE LaunchBoard

Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey

Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)

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## **Appendix A: Occupation definitions, five-year projections, and earnings for psychiatric technician occupational group**

### ***Occupation Definitions (SOC code), Education and Training Requirement, Community College Education Attainment***

#### **Medical Assistants (31-9092)**

Perform administrative and certain clinical duties under the direction of a physician. Administrative duties may include scheduling appointments, maintaining medical records, billing, and coding information for insurance purposes. Clinical duties may include taking and recording vital signs and medical histories, preparing patients for examination, drawing blood, and administering medications as directed by physician.

*Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Postsecondary nondegree award*

*Training Requirement: None*

*Percentage with Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 65%*