

ONE FOCUS YOUR SUCCESS

FRONT RANGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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START A FULFILLING CAREER AS A NURSE AIDE

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JOIN THE HEALTH-CARE FIELD AS A NURSE AIDE

Hundreds of good-paying jobs are waiting for graduates and trained applicants

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts a national job growth for nurse aides of between 14 percent and 19 percent. In Colorado itself, the Department of Labor and Employment forecasts 579 job openings per year for nurse aides.

A Certificate in Nurse Aide from Front Range Community College will help you qualify for one of these jobs.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE Suzanne Sevy



The treatment her grandmother received following a stroke inspired Suzanne to enter the health-care field. Over a 22-year span, Suzanne worked as a registered nurse in a variety of settings – long-term care facilities, hospitals, and home health – always with a focus on geriatric populations. And now, she loves to teach students and share her experiences.

“Helping people get better is what I like,” she says. “As a teacher, I like to instill the values that are important for nurse aides. Values like caring, compassion, empathy, serving others, and taking care of the needs of people who can no longer take care of themselves.” Suzanne earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Colorado.

Salaries for Nurse Aides

	Entry level	Median	Experienced
Nurse Aide	\$21,462/year	\$27,034/year	\$30,294/year

¹Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Occupational Employment Statistics Survey (2009)

A career as a Nurse Aide could be just right for you.

- Do you like to help people? Nurse aides assist people with some of their health-care needs.
- Do you like to work with a team? Nurse aides are an important part of a health-care team. They are the “eyes and ears” of the team, many times with the most contact with patients.
- Are you detail-oriented? A nurse aide is careful about detail and completes assigned tasks thoroughly.

Nurse aides work in nursing and residential care facilities, hospitals, and home-care agencies. Not all of the patients a nurse aide cares for are elderly, but the special needs of the geriatric population are an emphasis of the Nurse Aide Program at FRCC.

Get started fast

This is a 5-credit-hour certificate, usually completed in five to seven weeks. But be aware it’s a rigorous program requiring full-day classes, homework, and a clinical experience in which you are placed in a work setting in the community.

Become a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)

Earning a certificate in Nurse Aide from FRCC qualifies you to take the State Certification Examination to become a Certified Nurse Aide. You will be well-prepared for the exam. Graduates of FRCC’s Nurse Aide Program have a pass rate on the state exam of 91 percent (latest reporting year). This outstanding pass rate is an indication of the quality and rigor of the program.

The State Board of Nursing requires a criminal background check for all applicants for the State Certification Examination. Illegal behaviors that may make students ineligible to be certified include, but are not limited to: physical abuse, theft, illegal use of weapons, or illegal use or possession of controlled substances. Students may be required to have immunizations to meet federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines (current TB test and MMR x 2).

MANY MEDICAL CAREERS BEGIN WITH NURSE AIDE

Certified Nurse Aides may qualify for tuition reimbursement

In Colorado, a CNA who paid for his/her own training and becomes a CNA employed at or has had an offer of employment from a Medicare/Medicaid-certified nursing home is eligible for pro-rated reimbursement of his/her training expenses within 12 months of having completed an approved nurse aide training and competency evaluation program.

STUDENT PROFILE

Simon Kyeyune



Simon has been working at a Boulder facility for six years. He started as a private aide before joining the staff in dining services. He next became a resident assistant. He completed the Nurse Aide Certificate in 2008 and became a Certified Nurse Aide. "Just being able to help people fulfilled," Simon says.

"Even when it's hard, at the end of the day I can say I made a difference in someone's life. It's a good feeling." Simon came to the United States in 2004 from Uganda, where he had earned a bachelor's degree in business and human resources management. Simon praises Patricia Graham, his instructor. "She would emphasize that patients sense whether you care. Everything I learned in class I try to apply. It surely works."

STUDENT PROFILE

MichaelAnn D'Ambrosia



MichaelAnn has been working at a Loveland facility for four years, starting as a housekeeper. "I didn't feel like I did enough to help people when I was a housekeeper," MichaelAnn says. "I wasn't sure about becoming a Certified Nurse Aide, so I asked around. When I found out my employer would pay for the training, I enrolled." Suzanne Sevy, her

instructor, was impressive. "My training was awesome," she says. "It was a great experience." She completed her training at FRCC and became a Certified Nurse Aide in 2007. MichaelAnn prefers to work the night shift "because I have more time to communicate with the residents." She likes helping the 44 residents on her wing get ready for their day. "I like that I make a difference in someone's life," she says.

Nurse Aide is a strong foundation for other health-care fields

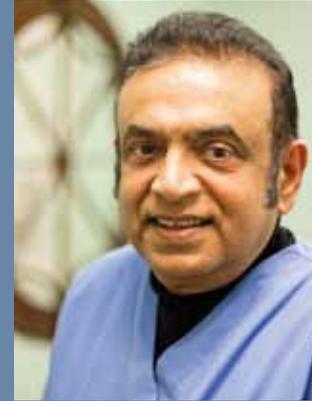
Many registered nurses, physician assistants, and other health-care professionals begin their careers as nurse aides. If you have an interest in any health-care field, or want to find out whether caring for patients in any setting is right for you, become a nurse aide first. It's a great foundation for any health-care career.

Learn from the best instructors in the business

They've worked in the medical field. And now they want to teach. They have stories to tell that help make their subjects real and exciting. You can expect to learn a lot and have a great time doing it in small classes where you get lots of personal interaction.

STUDENT PROFILE

Godwin Piyasena



Godwin, a native of Sri Lanka, had a career in high tech, advancing to such positions as systems management engineer and software engineer. At his last high-tech company, he was asked to train the offshore engineers who would take his job. Godwin then spent 3½ years caring for his mother. "She changed my life," he says. "I decided to go back to

school and help elderly people. I liked the atmosphere and staff at FRCC. You feel like you are in the right place." After graduating and becoming a Certified Nurse Aide, Godwin took a job at Balfour Retirement Community in Louisville. "My responsibility is helping people who are less able or unable to help themselves," he says. "I focus on the person, not the task. When I see a smile on their face, I know they are satisfied, and so am I."

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Megan Jensen



Megan worked as a registered nurse on an acute medical-surgical unit at St. Anthony Central in Denver. She also worked as a school nurse, starting a program at a charter school in downtown Denver that improved student health and attendance. Megan earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts.

"The best feeling in the world is to help somebody," Megan says. "All nurses are educators. I just do my educating in the classroom now. I give students the knowledge they need to succeed, and then I get to see them go on to help patients. I have high expectations of my students. We excel on our state exam, but more importantly thanks to our graduates, FRCC has an awesome reputation in the community."

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Patricia Graham



Patricia completed the Boulder County Campus Practical Nursing Program and received her Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Nursing from the Westminster Campus. She also earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in nursing education from the University of Northern Colorado. "I

am a first-generation college graduate," she says. "I started out working in a nursing home as a housekeeper after I graduated from high school." She took a nurse aide class at the nursing home. Her background "helps me relate to my students. I challenge students to be the best that they can be by holding them to high standards that will ensure they are competent, knowledgeable, and caring health-care providers."

GET STARTED!

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