Student Resource 3.4

Writing Assignment: Health Care Career Profiles

Directions: Follow the instructions below to research health care careers, and then create a career profile about each career you chose using the template your teacher gives you. Study the example on the next page of this resource to get some ideas about how to answer the questions. Make sure you read and understand the assessment criteria at the end of this resource before you begin to work.

1. Pick three careers that interest you from the Health Science Career Pathways Chart. The three careers you choose must be in different pathways.
2. Open the Health Care Career Profile template, and use it to create a career profile for each of your chosen careers. (Your teacher will give you access to this template.) As soon as you open the template, click Save As, and save the document with the name of the career you are researching in the file name. (Your file name might be something like Health Educator Career Profile.docx.) Repeat this procedure for each of your other two career profiles.
3. Use the Internet to research each of your chosen careers, and fill in the career profile as you do your research. You can consult the websites listed here, but you may find sites that have more interesting information for your particular career choices. You may need to go to more than one website to find all of the information you need; [www.healthcarepathway.com](http://www.healthcarepathway.com) and [www.healthcarecareers.org](http://www.healthcarecareers.org) are good websites to start with.
4. As you complete each career profile, check your work to make sure your answers are complete and accurate.

Make sure your career profile meets or exceeds the following assessment criteria:

* Each career profile provides thorough information about the career, with complete and precise answers to each question.
* All information is accurate and demonstrates the use of thoughtful research.
* All information is communicated clearly so that other students who read the career profiles can understand the information and evaluate whether a career is suited to them.
* The career profiles are neat and use proper spelling and grammar.

Example

**Health Care Career Profile**

**Student name:** Frank Hernandez

**Name of career**: Occupational therapist (OT)

**Pathway(s):** Therapeutic services

**Career level:** Technologist or therapist

**One- or two-sentence career description (note the distinguishing characteristics of this career):** Occupational therapists help people with physical, developmental, mental, or emotional disabilities develop, improve, or restore functional daily living skills.

**Main duties**:

* Help patients develop learning, daily living, and job skills
* Help patients regain lost function
* Help patients adapt to disabilities
* Use physical treatments, mental exercises, and computer programs
* Use various methods to help increase patients’ motor skills

**Educational requirements (list degrees, majors, or coursework)**: Occupational therapists must obtain a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree, with courses in psychology, sociology, anatomy, and human development.

**Other requirements (type of license or certification, on-the-job training, other):** Occupational therapists are required to complete an internship, and then they must be certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. Occupational therapists must have a license in order to practice. Each state has its own licensing procedure.

**Recommended high school coursework and/or GPA requirements:** In order to get into a good college program, it is important to excel in science courses in high school. If possible, focus on anatomy, sociology, and psychology.

**Typical places of employment**: Occupational therapists often work in rehabilitation centers or nursing facilities.

**Projected growth rate (what percentage of growth is expected):** The projected growth rate is above average, with expected growth of 27% or more through 2014.

**Average yearly earning range**: $43,900 to $93,600 according to the US Labor Department

**Characteristics of people who succeed**: Creative, patient, flexible

**Resources for people interested in this career**: The American Occupational Therapy Association