**Lab Assistant Jobs**

**Who is a Lab Assistant?**

A **Lab Assistant** is someone who assists with work in a building or room equipped for conducting scientific research or for teaching practical science, such as cleaning and sterilizing equipment.

**What is the job of a Lab Assitant?**

**Lab Assistants** are a type of Allied Health Professional, and they work directly alongside doctors, physicians, and other medical providers to provide patients with the highest level of care. A Laboratory Assistant is an important member of a medical team, and play a vital role in healthcare. Lab Assistants are the medical professionals responsible for performing tests and procedures that physicians and other healthcare providers order. Lab Assistants are the individuals primarily responsible for conducting tests and reporting results, they provide a critical aspect of a patient’s medical care. However, Lab Assistants are also hands-on health workers, working directly with patients. Lab Assistants may work with patients during sensitive and critical times, and may at times accompany patients through difficult processes. Despite a patient’s fears or nerves, Lab Assistants must carefully and professionally conduct tests or draw blood from patients in delicate states. A tolerant and patient manner is critically important for these workers.

**Opportunities working as a Lab Assistant**

**Lab assistants** can continue their education to become laboratory technicians. **Laboratory technicians** hold an associate degree and are usually responsible for supervising lab assistants and performing more complex laboratory tasks. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the median annual salary of medical and clinical laboratory technicians and technologists as $52,330 in May 2018. While job opportunities for medical and clinical lab technologists are expected to increase by about 12% between 2016 and 2026, according to the BLS, technicians will likely witness employment growth of about 14% during the same decade.

**What kind of jobs do Lab Assistants have?**

* Receiving and processing samples to identify suitability
* Preparing test samples using laboratory equipment
* Performing laboratory testing and preparing and maintaining accurate lab records
* Labeling specimens and distributing them to appropriate departments
* Performing quality control as directed by the Laboratory Manager
* Cleaning and maintaining the work area as well as all lab equipment and supplies

**What kind of work Lab Assistants** **do?**

**Lab Assistants** work with medical professionals, researchers, scientists and laboratory technicians to identify and diagnose diseases, screen for illegal substances or develop medications and treatments. They may work in a medical lab, testing collected blood or tissue samples for diagnosing diseases or screening for illegal substances. They may also work in the science field, helping scientists and researchers with lab tests and experiments.

**Is becoming Lab Assistant a good career?**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, **Lab assistant** and technician jobs will continue to experience significant growth in the near future. This rate is much greater than the national average for all careers, making a career as a lab assistant an excellent option for those interested in laboratory work.