

# Phlebotomists

SOC: 31-9097 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

<b>\$43,660</b> Median Salary	<b>139,700</b> Employment	<b>+6.0%</b> Growth Rate
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## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Postsecondary

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Medium Risk** - 48.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.  
This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

## ■ Work-Life Balance

**4.6/10** - Fair work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	5.8/10	Investigative	6.0/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	8.4/10
Enterprising	4.6/10	Conventional	7.4/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Compassion, Detail oriented, Dexterity, Interpersonal skills, Physical stamina

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Phlebotomists are allied healthcare professionals who specialize in **collecting blood samples safely and accurately** for testing, transfusions, research, or donations. Their work is essential to medical diagnosis and treatment, as blood tests guide a wide range of clinical decisions. Phlebotomists combine technical skill with patient interaction, helping ensure procedures are performed correctly and comfortably.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on healthcare work, have strong interpersonal skills, and are comfortable working with patients in clinical settings.

## What Do Phlebotomists Do?

Phlebotomists collect blood specimens and prepare them for laboratory analysis while maintaining strict safety and hygiene standards.

Common responsibilities include:

- Drawing blood using venipuncture or finger-stick methods
- Verifying patient identity and explaining procedures
- Labeling and handling specimens accurately
- Following infection control and safety protocols
- Transporting samples to laboratories
- Maintaining equipment and supplies
- Documenting procedures in medical records

## Types of Phlebotomy Work

Phlebotomists may work with different patient populations or settings:

- Hospital Phlebotomists: Collect samples from inpatients and emergency cases.
- Clinic or Laboratory Phlebotomists: Perform scheduled outpatient blood draws.
- Blood Donation Technicians: Collect blood in donation centers or mobile drives.
- Pediatric or Geriatric Phlebotomists: Specialize in age-specific patient care.
- Mobile Phlebotomists: Travel to homes or care facilities to collect samples.

## Skills and Abilities Needed

Phlebotomists combine technical precision with patient-centered care.

### ***Core Professional Skills***

### ***Personal Qualities That Matter***

## Education and Training Pathway

Phlebotomists typically enter the field through short-term healthcare training programs:

- Postsecondary Certificate or Diploma: In phlebotomy
- Clinical Practice Hours: Supervised hands-on blood collection
- Certification (often required or preferred): National phlebotomy credentials
- On-the-Job Training: Facility-specific procedures and protocols
- Continuing Education: Maintaining skills and certification

## Where Do Phlebotomists Work?

Phlebotomists work across many healthcare environments:

- Hospitals and Medical Centers
- Diagnostic Laboratories

- Physician Offices and Clinics
- Blood Banks and Donation Centers
- Long-Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities
- Mobile and Home Healthcare Services

Work schedules may include early mornings, weekends, or rotating shifts.

## How Much Do Phlebotomists Earn?

Earnings vary by location, certification, and work setting:

- Entry-Level Phlebotomists: Typically earn hourly wages
- Certified or Experienced Phlebotomists: Often earn higher pay
- Specialized or Lead Roles: May earn more with responsibility

Compensation may include benefits and flexible scheduling options.

## Is This Career Difficult?

Phlebotomy requires precision, emotional intelligence, and resilience. Professionals may work with anxious or ill patients and must perform procedures accurately on the first attempt. The challenge lies in maintaining technical accuracy while providing compassionate care in fast-paced clinical environments.

## Who Should Consider Becoming a Phlebotomist?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy direct patient interaction
- Are comfortable with medical procedures and blood
- Have steady hands and attention to detail
- Want a quick entry point into healthcare
- Prefer a role that combines technical skill with human care

## How to Prepare Early

- Take biology or health science courses
- Practice professionalism and communication skills
- Learn basic anatomy and infection control principles
- Research accredited phlebotomy training programs
- Consider volunteering or working in healthcare settings

**Phlebotomists provide a critical link between patients and diagnosis, turning careful blood collection into accurate information that supports medical decisions and quality patient care.**