

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title General Practitioner (GP)

Job description:

General Practitioners diagnose and treat the health problems of individuals and families in the community. They are also involved in screening at-risk groups for diseases such as cervical cancer and diabetes.

Qualifications required

To become a GP you need:

- Complete the first year of Bachelor of Health Science or Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science
- Complete a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) degree at Otago or Auckland University
- Work for two years as an intern (supervised junior doctor) in a hospital
- Complete another three years of specialist training and examinations to become a Fellow of the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners.

Training costs (approx – per year)

Bachelor of Health Sciences \$5,742 - 6,460

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery - Year 2 onwards \$12,764

Career path

GP's may move into:

- Sports and travel medicine
- Police and prison work
- Childcare and childbirth
- Appearance medicine
- Others go on to work in hospitals and medical administration

Salary range

General practitioners usually earn between \$90,000 and \$120,000 a year. Their pay varies depending on the number of patients they see, and how many hours they work.

Other careers this profession could lead to

As above (career path)

How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry

Secondary Education:

Useful school subjects: physics, chemistry, biology, health.

Other places to source information about this job

www.healthcareers.org.nz