

5 Milspouse-Friendly Careers You May Not Know About



BRIGHTON COLLEGE

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As a military spouse, you may find yourself moving more frequently, perhaps even more than you expected. This can create an issue with employment. Your family may be counting on your income for their survival. You may not be able to get by on your spouse's salary alone. The challenge is finding gainful employment, knowing you may have to pick up and move at any given time. In addition to that, you need a career that pays a decent wage.

This eBook will cover five careers that work well for military spouse life. These careers are all in "high-demand." This means there are typically more jobs available than people to fill those jobs. Moreover, there is an estimated increase in these careers every year.

Better yet, if you need training for one of these careers, The Department of Defense offers the [Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts](#) (MyCAA) in appreciation for the sacrifices made by husbands and wives to support their spouse's career and our country. MyCAA has scholarships available for training in all of the careers listed in this eBook.

Brighton College is an approved MyCAA college. You can use your military spouse scholarship for career training and be on your way to a new career path in no time. Check out the following milspouse-friendly careers that you can train for at Brighton.



Electronic Medical Records Technician

What You Do



Each time a patient visits a medical clinic or hospital, the staff is required to create and maintain a record of that visit. These cumulative reports comprise the patient's permanent medical record with that facility. As an electronic medical records technician, you would help your employer organize and track all of this data.

Most hospitals and clinics have done away with paper records and instead rely on electronic versions to save space and increase worker productivity. In addition to organizing records, you would verify credentials before releasing confidential data to patients and insurance companies.

What Salary You Can Make

The [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS) reports that someone employed in this role full-time in 2012 earned an average hourly salary of \$16.42, which is the equivalent of \$34,160 per year. This is the average of all people who worked as an electronic medical records technician, including those brand new to the field and those with several years of experience.

As with most healthcare careers, the BLS expects double-digit career growth over the next five to seven years. The anticipated increase in demand for this specific position is 22 percent per year through 2022.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.

What Training You Need

Brighton College offers a comprehensive electronic [Medical Records Technician diploma program](#) that you can complete entirely online. Even if you already work full-time, you could potentially finish the program in six to nine months by devoting 10 to 15 hours a week towards your studies. Upon enrollment into the program, you are required to complete training in the following:

- Medical terminology
- Anatomy and physiology
- Medical records
- Medical office procedures
- Introduction to medical coding

These are the most important skills needed for someone new to the career.

Health Management Services

What You Do

Health and medical services managers, also known as healthcare administrators or executives, are responsible for coordinating, planning, and directing health services for their employer. People with this degree typically work in offices in healthcare settings, including clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities.

What Salary You Can Make

According to [The Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS), Managers with an associate degree in health services management can typically expect to make somewhere between \$30,000 – \$55,000 per year, depending upon work experience and location of employment. Individuals who go on to acquire more education (a bachelor's or master's degree) can rise faster in the field.

Demand for Health Services Managers is on the increase due to the aging population and the rapid growth of the number of medical exams, procedures, and treatments performed today.

The growth rate for health management services occupations is expected to grow at a rate of 23 percent annually from now until 2022. Hospitals will continue to employ the most medical and health services managers over the next decade. However, employment will grow fastest in doctors' offices, clinics, and in home health care agencies.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.

What Training You Need

As a student working toward an [associate degree in Health Services Management](#) at Brighton College, you would need to complete the following training:

- Medical coding
- Anatomy and physiology
- Management procedures
- Medical transcription
- Medical office procedures
- Medical terminology
- Human resource management
- Accounting
- Interpersonal communication skills

The Associate Degree in Health Services Management program has a total of 60 credit hours.



Pharmacy Technician

What You Do

The main roles of a pharmacy technician are to assist licensed pharmacists with dispensing prescription medication and providing education to patients on proper uses of each drug. A pharmacy technician may work in a drugstore, a hospital, or a grocery store pharmacy.

What Salary You Can Make

According to a [May 2014 wage report from the BLS](#), certified pharmacy technicians earned an average annual salary of \$31,090. This amounts to \$14.95 per hour. When the [BLS](#) created its predictions in 2012, it estimate an addition of 70,700 new jobs in this field over the next 10 years, which is roughly equivalent to a 20 percent annual growth rate.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.



What Training You Need

While many pharmacy technician training programs offer only a basic overview, Brighton College provides students with a thorough [online Pharmacy Technician diploma program](#). In addition, you can expect to get training in the following:

- Human diseases
- Alternative medicine
- Basic medical terminology
- Procedures for hospital and retail pharmacies
- Classifications of drugs
- Understanding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996
- History of pharmacology
- Pharmacy ethics
- How to process prescriptions
- Major systems of the human body

On top of providing you with a well-rounded program, Brighton College will work with you after graduation to provide job assistance. This includes giving you the opportunity to participate in an externship through a partnership with one of the largest pharmacies in the country.

Please Note: Some states require that a pharmacy technician be certified. Certification exam information can be obtained at the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board website (www.ptcb.org) or The National Healthcareer Association website (www.nhanow.com). A student should check with the state in which he/she intends to practice for specific licensing/certification requirements.

Medical Billing

What You Do

People who work in this position gather insurance and demographic information from patients in order to submit a claim for reimbursement. It requires someone with strong attention to detail, as each insurance provider and federal government program has different rules for paying claims.

What Salary You Can Make

The median annual wage for this occupation was \$35,560 in May 2014, [according to a report published by the BLS](#). Medical billers typically work in private clinics or hospitals.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.

What Training You Need

The [Medical Billing program diploma](#) at Brighton College takes 22 semester hours to complete. Our program includes training in the following:

- Medical claims processing
- Best practices to bill insurance companies correctly
- Medical terminology
- Processing patient invoices
- In-depth medical billing procedures

Your coursework also involves learning how to apply the correct [Current Procedural Terminology](#) (CPT) code as well as the most appropriate [International Classification of Diseases](#) (ICD) code. Most clinics and hospitals use the ninth version of the ICD manual at this time, although they are required to upgrade to the ICD-10 as of October 1, 2015.



Medical Coding

What You Do



While a person working in medical billing must understand CPT and ICD codes, a medical coder is responsible for choosing the correct codes for billing purposes. It is essential that he or she does the job right to avoid payment delays or even denials. Before assigning the required numeric codes to insurance claims, the medical biller must read patient visit summaries to determine the current condition for the ICD code as well as how it was treated for the CPT code.

What Salary You Can Make

[According to information posted on PayScale.com](#), medical coding technicians earn an average salary of \$16.09 per hour. This wage jumps significantly when the employee takes on a supervisory role. Due to recent changes under the Affordable Care Act, which requires every American to carry health insurance, the demand for qualified medical coders is just as high as it is for medical billers. By conservative estimates, the anticipated growth rate is at least 20 percent per year for the next several years.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.

What Training You Need

At Brighton College, we offer a comprehensive [Medical Coding diploma program](#). In this program, you will learn the following concepts and more:

- Medical office procedures
- Medical terminology
- Evaluation and management
- Anatomy and physiology
- Coding diagnoses found in the ICD-9 and ICD-10
- CPT coding procedures
- History of coding at the national level
- Coding compliance
- Third-party reimbursement issues
- Official reporting guidelines

If certification is one of your goals, upon completion of our medical coding diploma program, you will be prepared to sit for your Medical Coding certification exam.

Medical Billing and Coding

What You Do

As a medical biller and coder, you will prepare claims for submission to an insurance provider by reading medical reports to determine the correct CPT and ICD codes. If you accept a position in this role, you will also be expected to prepare and send the bill as well as follow up on it until the payment is posted to accounts receivable.

Since medical billing and medical coding are very closely-related fields, many students choose to study both areas in order to expand their career options. With Brighton College's Medical Billing and Coding program, the learning time for both of these fields is considerably shorter, while also preparing students for more career opportunities upon graduation in medical billing, medical coding, or a combination of the two.



What Salary You Can Make

The salary for someone trained in both medical billing and coding can vary greatly, depending on his or her employer and job title. You may take on one function or several at the same time. For example, a [medical billing clerk](#) earns a typical median salary of \$34,500 per year. A [billing specialist](#) usually earns about \$5,000 more by having a greater understanding of billing procedures, government programs, and private insurance companies.

Salary can vary from state to state and be based on experience and position.

What Training You Need

If you're interested in more than an entry-level job, consider completing [our Medical Coding and Billing diploma program](#). It provides you with more in-depth training and a wider knowledge base than the billing or coding programs do individually. In addition to the training already listed for each specialty, you will also learn about the following:

- Legal medical record
- Reimbursement cycle
- Health services claim preparation and transmission
- Claim adjudication
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Collections
- Commercial health insurance providers
- Managed care organizations
- Differences in hospital and clinic billing
- Disability and workers' compensation issues

When you've completed the program, Brighton College goes a step further to assist you with obtaining a job. We help you build your resume and cover letter so you can achieve your ultimate goal – starting a successful billing and coding career.



Make Your Benefits Work for You

As the spouse of a military member, you have sacrificed family time and your own goals in order to support your spouse's career. Without you keeping everything running smoothly at home, your spouse could not make the same commitment to his or her country. By taking advantage of the MyCAA scholarship, you're finally taking some time for you. Of course, the higher salary you could potentially earn benefits your family as well.

Brighton College, which is physically located in Scottsdale, Arizona, and was also one of the very first schools to be approved and participate in the MyCAA program.

You can complete your diploma, degree or certificate in one of the healthcare programs in this eBook. We also offer business programs and paralegal and criminal justice programs through The Paralegal Institute at Brighton College.

Our college is accredited by the Distance Education Accrediting Committee (DEAC) which is listed by the U.S. Department of Education as a nationally recognized accrediting agency and is a recognized member of the [Council for Higher Education Accreditation](#).

As a military spouse, we understand that career flexibility is important. You just never know when your husband or wife's job will require your family to move on short notice. We think you will be pleased to learn that several of our training programs are in fields considered among the most popular **work-at home jobs** available today.

Whether you're ready to enroll in one of our healthcare programs or have additional questions, the entire staff of Brighton College is here to help. We encourage you to **contact us before our limited time matching grant to help with the cost of tuition expires.**



Bonus Section – MilSpouse Friendly Employers

Below is a list that was gathered from several sources for Military Spouse friendly employers. We've specifically added employers in the health and medical industries. This information could change at any time. Brighton College is not associated with any of these employers.

[24 Hour fitness](#)

[Abbtech Staffing Services Inc.](#)

[ADEX Medical Staffing, LLC](#)

[Accentcare inc](#)

[Aegis Living](#)

[AFL](#)

[All's Well Healthcare Services](#)

[American Hospital Service Group](#)

[American Physical Therapy Association](#)

[American Red Cross](#)

[Anthem](#)

[Any-Time Home Care, Inc.](#)

[The Arc of The Central Chesapeake Region](#)

[Arise Virtual Solutions](#)

[Armed Forces Insurance \(AFI\)](#)

[Banner Health](#)

[Banyan Senior Living](#)

[BETAH Associates](#)

[Bethesda Lutheran Homes & Services, Inc.](#)

[Bright Now! Dental](#)

[California Hospital Medical Center](#)

[Cardinal Health](#)

[CareNet, Inc.](#)

[Carilion Clinic](#)

[Carolina Therapy Services, Inc.](#)

[Cleveland Clinic](#)

[Combined Insurance](#)

[Chandler Regional Hospital](#)

[CVS](#)

[Delaware Psychiatric Center \(DPC\)](#)

[Eye Care Centers of America, Inc.](#)

[Farmers Insurance Group](#)

[Federal Staffing Resources LLC](#)

[Fresenius Medical Care Extracorporeal Alliance](#)

[Gentiva Health Services, Inc](#)

[The Hartford](#)

[HealthNet](#)

[HealthSouth](#)

[Home Instead Senior Care](#)

[Hospital Corporation of America \(HCA\)](#)

[Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc.](#)

[The Hygeia Group, Inc](#)

[iMedX](#)

[Inova Health System](#)

[Kaiser Permanente](#)

[LabCorp](#)

[LifeCare, Inc.](#)

[Mankuta, Gallagher & Associates](#)

[Marquis Companies](#)

[May Institute, Inc.](#)

[McKesson](#)

[Medical Staffing Network](#)

[Medline Industries, Inc.](#)

[MedStar Health](#)

[MemorialCare](#)

[Methodist Healthcare](#)

[MRINetwork](#)

[MultiCare Health System](#)

[Natividad Medical Center](#)

[North Star Behavioral Health System](#)

[The OMO Group, Inc.](#)

[OMV Medical, Inc.](#)

[Orbital](#)

[Patterson Companies, Inc.](#)

[PRA International](#)

[Progressive](#)

[Pro Staff](#)

[PsyCare, Inc.](#)

[QTC Management, Inc.](#)

[Randstad Holding](#)

[Renal Advantage, Inc.](#)

[Sharp Healthcare](#)

[Sierra Vista Regional Health Center](#)

[Silverado Senior Living](#)

[Spectrum Healthcare](#)

[State Farm®](#)

[STG International Inc](#)

[Supplemental Health Care](#)

[Sutter Health](#)

[Tenet Healthcare](#)

[TerraHealth, Inc. \(THI\)](#)

[Texas Children's Hospital](#)

[TriWest Healthcare Alliance](#)

[UCSF Medical Center](#)

[UHC Solutions](#)

[UnitedHealth Group](#)

[U.S. Public Health Service – Commissioned Corps](#)

[VeritasHealthCare, Inc.](#)

[Walgreens](#)

[Wexford Health Sources Inc.](#)

[Williamsburg Landing, Inc.](#)

[Yoh](#)

[Youngblood Staffing, Inc.](#)

DISCLAIMER: Brighton College does not guarantee job placement, advancement, or continued employment and does not provide job placement services.

This e-book is for information purposes only. Brighton College does not make representation, warranty, or guarantee that following all of the information in this e-book will result in getting hired. Brighton College cannot offer guarantees of job placement, advancement, or continued employment and does not provide job placement services.

