

Health Career Vocabulary

- **Associate's Degree**— an undergraduate academic degree awarded after the completion of a course of study usually lasting 2 years
- **Bachelor's Degree**— an academic degree awarded after the completion of undergraduate studies, usually lasting 4 years
- **Master's Degree**— a degree typically awarded 1-2 years after receiving a bachelor's degree
- **Doctoral Degree**— a degree of the highest rank, awarded after completing advanced work in graduate or professional school
- **Accreditation**— process by which a healthcare facility undergoes an examination to determine if it meets a set of regulations and standards designed to improve the quality of care
- **Continuing education**— Education provided after one has left the formal education system
- **Certification**— publicly attesting that a specified quality or standard has been achieved or exceeded
- **Registration**— state regulations of people with certain professional qualities which require his/her name, address and qualifications before practicing in the field
- **Licensure**— a government agency that regulates a profession, which grants permission to an individual to practice in his/her field, if it finds that the applicant has attained the degree of competency required to do so
- **Therapeutic Services Pathway**— a range of services that help to restore and/or maintain a patient's health
- **Diagnostic Services Pathway**— occupations related to the tests and evaluations that aid in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, injuries or other physical conditions
- **Health Informatics Pathway**— workers involved in all aspects of managing health care agencies, patient data and information, financial information, and computer applications related to health care processes and procedures
- **Environmental Support Pathway**— services that monitor physical factors at and near a healthcare facility that help protect and enhance employee health
- **Biotechnology Research and Development Pathway**— occupations involved in bioscience research and development as it applies to human health