

# MEDICAL ASSISTANT (MA)

## POSITION SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER (CHW)

- Frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has a close understanding of the community served.
- Serve as a link between health services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve service delivery.

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT (MA)

- Cross-trained to perform administrative and clinical duties.
- Duties can include aseptic procedures, blood withdrawal, basic first aid, basic laboratory procedures, and general administrative duties.

## TRAINING AND PREREQUISITES

- Completion of an approved CHW Training Program by SD DSS.
- Certification through Indian Health Service Community Health Representative basic training, a CHW program approved by the South Dakota Board of Technical Education or the South Dakota Board of Regents, or a CHW training program approved by the State.

- High school diploma or GED.
- Schools offering MA Training: Globe University, National American University, Lake Area Technical Institute, Mitchell Technical Institute, and Presentation College.
- On-the-job training that can take several months.

## CERTIFICATES AND LICENSURE

- No certificate or license is required in SD.

- Registered with Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners or SD Society of Medical Assistants for certification.
- Optional certification: CMA, RMA, NCMA, CCMA, and CMAA.

## TYPICAL SUPERVISORS

- Clinic, nursing, or another organizational manager.

- Physicians, physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, or nurse midwives.

## MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE *(NATIONAL)*

Community Health Worker (CHW) - \$20.19

Medical Assistant (MA) - \$17.23

### SOURCES

To view the complete comparison of a CHW and MA and to review the sources for this information, visit [www.chwsd.org/career-comparisons/](http://www.chwsd.org/career-comparisons/)