

About 5,500 jobs available in healthcare: MOM

More than 80% of the job openings are offered by public healthcare clusters

Singapore

NEARLY 5,500 job openings are on offer in the healthcare sector, with three in four of them being long-term positions.

Close to 40 per cent, or 1,530, of the 4,080 long-term jobs available are in professional and executive roles, such as nurses, allied health professionals, and finance and human resources executives. The other 2,550 long-term job openings are support roles such as healthcare assistants, therapy assistants and patient service associates.

Meanwhile, support and administrative support roles also make up 95 per cent, or 1,330, of the 1,390 short-term jobs on offer. Close to

5 per cent, around 60, of short-term jobs are for professionals and executives.

These 5,500 long and short-term jobs are part of the 6,700 job, traineeship and training openings in the sector as at the end of last month, said the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) in its weekly jobs situation report on Thursday.

Apart from jobs, there are also about 470 company-hosted traineeships and attachments, as well as 760 training opportunities.

The long-term professional and executive roles include enrolled and registered nurses, with monthly salaries of between S\$3,300 and S\$5,200 within the first year of entry. The median monthly pay is S\$3,900.

The salary for allied health professionals is S\$4,100 to S\$5,000 a month, with a median of S\$4,400.

The long-term healthcare support jobs include roles such as patient ser-

vice associates, who typically earn S\$2,400 to S\$3,000 monthly, with a median of S\$2,700. Healthcare assistants and therapy assistants earn between S\$1,800 and S\$2,300 each month, with a median of S\$2,100.

Healthcare has been among the top sectors offering jobs and skills opportunities.

More than 80 per cent of the job openings are offered by the public healthcare clusters such as SingHealth, National University Health System and National Healthcare Group, as well as community care organisations such as Ren Ci Hospital, Vanguard Healthcare and St Luke's ElderCare.

The rest are offered by private organisations including Parkway Hospitals Singapore, Healthway Medical Group and Q & M Dental Centre.

The ministry said that about 8,350 people were placed into jobs, traineeships and training positions in the healthcare sector between April and last month.

About 93 per cent were placed into jobs, the majority of which were shorter-term in nature, said MOM. These include swabbers and swab assistants to support the Covid-19-related operations, as well as care ambassadors and patient concierge personnel attached to public healthcare institutions and community care organisations.

While some of these workers are still in their current roles, others have successfully transitioned into longer-term roles in the sector or other job opportunities that they have secured on their own, said the ministry.

It added that current workers can also consider switching into professional roles such as nursing or allied health by tapping on the Professional Conversion Programmes (PCPs).

Singapore's healthcare sector is supported by a workforce of more than 100,000 people across both public and private sectors.

About 70 per cent of the workforce is made up of healthcare professionals such as doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists and allied health professionals, while the remaining 30 per cent comprises support care, administrative and ancillary workers.

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has created temporary vacancies manpower needs for a range of roles, such as swabbers and swab assistants to support increased testing operations. Care ambassadors were also needed to support hospital nurses, as they were redirected from their original duties to care for Covid-19 patients.

In addition, healthcare professionals including nurses and doctors, and supporting staff such as phlebotomists were mobilised to serve at dedicated Covid-19 facilities and medical posts. THE STRAITS TIMES