

Event Name: Health Career Display
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HOSA Division: Secondary
HOSA Chapter #: 15329
School Name: Belleview High School
Chartered Association: Florida HOSA
Chosen Profession: Cardiothoracic Surgeon

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CARDIOTHORACIC SURGEON

Career Overview

A cardiothoracic surgeon is a physician who performs surgical procedures on the human chest region. There are many specialties that work with the heart, lungs, esophagus, and other chest areas. Although the path to becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon is lengthy, the career is very profitable. This includes monetary, and through their contribution to society.

Challenges

- Extensive schooling
- Physically demanding
- Emotional/Physical
- Health-related stress levels
- The extensive process to become a Cardiothoracic Surgeon
- Keeping up with technology



Benefits

- Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- High Salary
- Flexible Work Schedule
- Housing Allowance

Education Requirements



- 1. Obtain a Bachelor's Degree in a science field (4 years)
- 2. Obtain a Medical Degree (4 years)
- 3. Complete a Residency Program (5-7 years)
- 4. Complete a Fellowship Program (1-2 years)
- 5. Obtain Board Certification (1 year)
- 6. Obtain a License to Practice (1 year)
- 7. Obtain a State License (1 year)
- 8. Obtain a Board of Certification (1 year)
- 9. Obtain a Board of Medical Specialties (1 year)
- 10. Obtain a Board of Surgeons (1 year)



Job Responsibilities

- The ability to Conduct Medical Management - On the patient level, this refers to a cardiothoracic surgeon informing the patient about their condition and proposing the best possible treatment. On the organizational level, this term applies to ensuring that medical equipment is delivered to meet the needs of all patients.
- Formulating Accurate Diagnoses - This is important in verifying that the patient gets the appropriate medical attention.
- Determining the Method to take when Performing a Surgical Procedure - The surgical approach taken can determine whether the surgery is successful or not.
- Considering Patient History to Determine Treatment - This is essential in knowing what genetic disease to look for and to avoid potential errors, especially with procedures involving organ transplants and certifications is vital to ensuring long-term success of cardiothoracic surgery.
- Conducting Follow-up Visits - These follow-up visits can help to ensure correct responses are being provided and additional needed care, and to answer any questions that the patient may have.

Salary

Setting	Entry Level Salary	Mid-Level Salary	Senior Level Salary
Hourly	\$28.00	\$35.00	\$45.00
Monthly	\$336.00	\$420.00	\$540.00
Yearly	\$4032.00	\$5040.00	\$6480.00

There are opportunities for advancement and increased pay as a cardiothoracic surgeon progresses through their level, providing higher pay to those with more years of experience. As a senior cardiothoracic surgeon, an average salary of \$100,000 has been reported. However, some cardiothoracic surgeons may make more than \$100,000, up to \$120,000, depending on the type of practice.

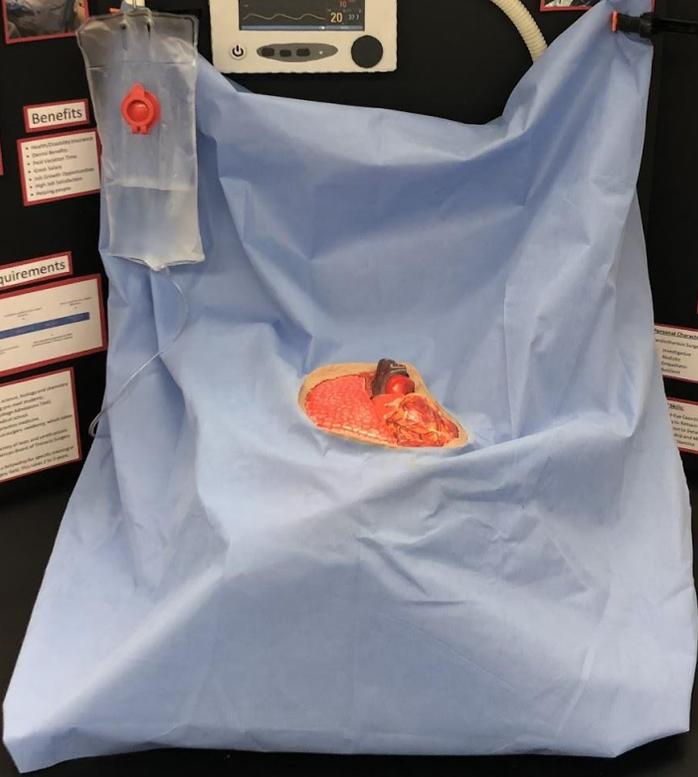
Additional Information

Work Schedule:
Cardiothoracic surgeons also have a long, demanding work schedule.
• Work more than 40 hours a week
• Younger cardiothoracic surgeons may work up to 84 hours a week
• On-call for 24-hour shifts
• Night shifts
• Bank holidays

General Characteristics:
• Cardiothoracic surgeons tend to be:
• Analytical
• Detail-oriented
• Independent
• Logical
• Organized

Technological Growth:
• Cardiothoracic technology and techniques in Cardiothoracic surgery include:
• Endovascular
• Minimally Invasive
• Robotic
• Transcatheter
• Percutaneous
• Minimally Invasive
• Percutaneous
• Minimally Invasive
• Percutaneous

Other Information:
• Cardiothoracic surgeons tend to be:
• Analytical
• Detail-oriented
• Independent
• Logical
• Organized



Career Overview

A cardiothoracic surgeon is a physician who performs surgical procedures in the thorax (chest) region. Many procedures involve work with the heart, lungs, esophagus, and other chest areas. Although the path to becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon is lengthy, the career is very profitable. This includes monetarily and through their contribution to society.

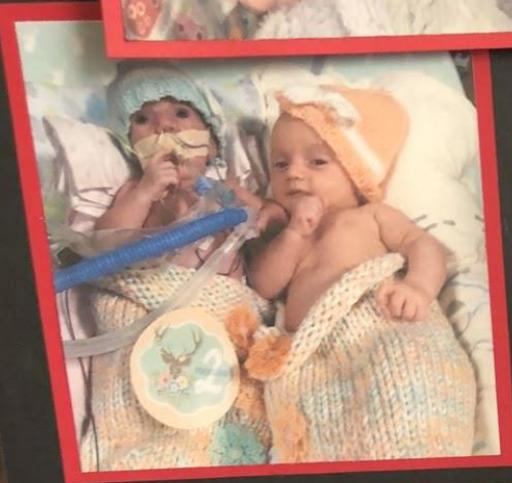
Challenges

- Extensive Schooling
- Physically Demanding
- Emotional Burnout
- Possible Medical Error Lawsuits
- The Expensive Process to become a Cardiothoracic Surgeon
- Keeping Up with Technology



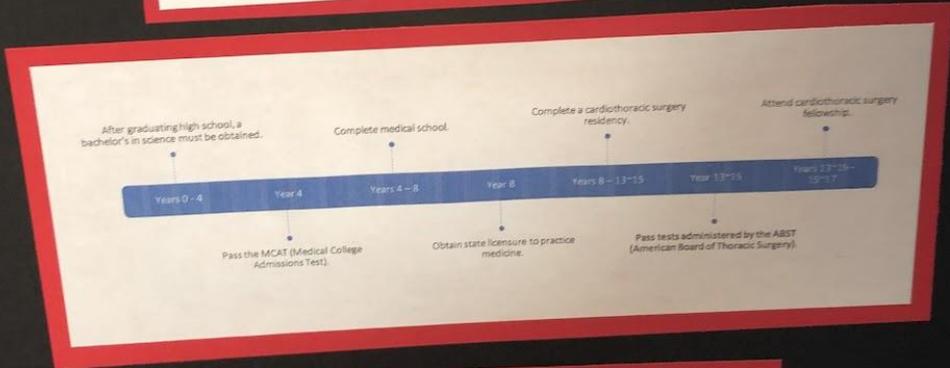
Benefits

- Health/Disability Insurance
- Dental Benefits
- Paid Vacation Time
- Great Salary
- Job Growth Opportunities
- High Job Satisfaction
- Helping people



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Education Requirements



- In chronological order:
1. Gain a bachelor's degree in science, biology and chemistry are common majors among pre-med students.
 2. Pass the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test).
 3. Complete four years of medical school.
 4. Obtain state licensure to practice medicine.
 5. Along with a cardiothoracic surgery residency, which takes five to seven years.
 6. Then, you must pass a variety of tests and certifications administered by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS).
 7. Finally, apply to attend a fellowship for specific training in the cardiothoracic surgery field. This takes 2 to 3 years.

Job Responsibilities

A cardiothoracic surgeon's job responsibilities include:

- The Ability to Conduct Medical Management - On the patient level, this refers to a cardiothoracic surgeon informing the patient about their condition and providing the best possible treatment. On the organizational level, this term alludes to ensuring that medical treatment is delivered to meet the needs of all patients.
- Formulating Accurate Diagnoses – This is important in verifying that the patient gets the appropriate medical attention.
- Determining the Method to take when Performing a Surgical Procedure - The surgical approach taken can determine whether the surgery is successful or not.
- Considering Patient History to Determine Treatment - This is essential in knowing what genetic diseases to look for and to avoid potential errors, especially with prescriptions.
- Conforming to Laws and Regulations – Obtaining and renewing proper licensure and certifications is vital to continue being a cardiothoracic surgeon.
- Conducting Follow-up Visits - These follow-up visits can help to ensure correct incision site healing, provide any additional needed care, and to answer any questions that the patient may have.

Salary

Average Entry Level Salary

	Local	National	Global
Hourly	\$68/hour	\$70/hour	\$50/hour
Monthly	\$21,903/month	\$22,589/month	\$16,079/month
Yearly	\$262,842/year	\$271,075/year	\$192,954/year

There are opportunities for advancement and increased pay as a cardiothoracic surgeon progresses through their career. These changes in salary can be correlated with skill level, practicing location, subspecialties, and years of experience. As a senior cardiothoracic surgeon, the earnings are considerably higher than from an entry level point. A senior cardiothoracic surgeon would make \$689,626 locally, \$711,228 nationally, and \$613,700 globally.

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Additional Information

Work Schedule:

Cardiothoracic surgeons also have a long, demanding work schedule:

- Work more than 60 hours a week
- Younger Cardiothoracic Surgeons may work up to 84 hours a week
- Office hours: 8am-5pm a couple of times a week
- On-call for a 24-hour shift
- Night shifts
- Back-to-back shifts

Personal Characteristics:

Cardiothoracic Surgeons tend to be:

- Investigative
- Realistic
- Empathetic
- Resilient

Technological Growth:

Advanced technology and techniques in Cardiothoracic surgery include:

- Coronary revascularization
- Mechanical circulatory support devices
- Ventricular replacement devices
- Ventricular assist devices (VADs)
- Valvular surgery changing into robotic and minimally invasive surgery

Helpful Skills:

- Hand-Eye Coordination
- Ability to Remain Calm in Stressful Situations
- Attention to Detail
- Leadership and Management
- Physical Stamina

Career Environment:

Cardiothoracic surgeons typically work in:

- Hospitals
- Private Clinics
- Medical Schools
- Government Funded Facilities

