

## SECTION SEVEN:

### RELATED OCCUPATIONS

**ACTIVITY:** Lecturette & discussion

**TIME:** 30 min.

**LEARNING OUTCOME:** Participants will know of at least one occupation related to their own.

#### DESCRIPTION:

- Review the material on **page 56** of the workbook.
- Has anyone applied for these types of positions?
- What has their experience been?
- How do people feel about possibly being underemployed?
- How do people feel about changing their resume to de-emphasize the professional training & experience?

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS: SUMMARIES

If you are unable to work in your profession in Ontario – either permanently or temporarily – you may wish to investigate related occupations which do not require professional registration. These occupations generally pay less than the regulated professions. However, employment may be easier to find – partially because many hospitals and clinics are trying to save money by hiring technicians and assistants, rather than professionals. The following information is provided to you to give you options if you are considering working in a related field.

### Medical Laboratory Technicians

A Medical Laboratory Technician -- sometimes called a laboratory assistant – is not a regulated profession. The duties of the job may include: collecting blood tissue and other samples; logging patient samples and preparing them for testing; setting-up lab equipment; conducting routine lab tests and sample analyses and cleaning and maintaining equipment. Technicians in Canada have usually completed a one or two-year college program or may have been trained on-the-job. The average yearly wage in Canada is about \$41,000/year.

### Occupational Therapy Assistants

Occupational Therapy Assistants prepare and maintain work materials and supplies and may assist patients in craft and other activities as directed by an Occupational Therapist. The job generally requires on-the-job training, although there are also college programs available. The average salary for an Occupational Therapy Assistant is \$39,000/year.

### Pharmacy Assistant

Pharmacy Assistants – sometimes called Pharmacy Technicians – work under the supervision of a registered pharmacist in hospital and community pharmacies. Pharmacy Assistants are often trained on-the-job; there are also pharmacy technician programs offered at some community colleges. These programs are generally six months to one year long. Starting salaries for Pharmacy Assistants are usually about \$26,000 to \$32,000 per year.