

Health Career Observer



The Official Newsletter of the WNY R-AHEC

February, 2025

Cardiologist

Cardiologists are doctors who diagnose, treat, and manage heart and blood vessel diseases. They work in hospitals, clinics, medical offices, and private practices. They treat chest pain, high blood pressure and heart failure, as well as problems with heart valves, blood vessels and other heart and vascular issues. They can order tests like electrocardiograms, echocardiograms, CTs (computed tomography), CMR (cardiac magnetic resonance imaging) and nuclear imaging to find out what's wrong. With diagnosis, they can prescribe medicine, advise on healthier habits, or perform cardiac catheterization. If surgery is needed, they can refer to a cardiothoracic surgeon.



"It is rewarding when patients who have a severely debilitating condition respond very well to a particular therapy, and they are incredibly grateful when they feel that they almost have their life back."

-Dr. Matthew Cox, MD

Average Annual Pay: \$ 423,250

How Do I Become a Cardiologist?

**PROJECTED JOB
GROWTH RATE IS
5% BY 2033**

Cardiologists must earn a **bachelor's degree**, ideally with a focus on life sciences and then attend **medical school** and obtain a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree and pass the **USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Examination)**. They then must complete a **residency program** in internal medicine, usually lasting three years and enroll in a **cardiology fellowship program** for an additional three years of specialized training before obtaining board certification in cardiology through the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM).

What Does a Cardiologist Do?



Perform physical exams

✓ Order tests such as EKG's, echocardiograms, and stress tests

✓ Prescribe medications

✓ Perform procedures such as angioplasty & stenting



Recommend surgery

✓ Advise on lifestyle modifications like diet & exercise.

✓ Educate patients

✓ Conduct research



WNY R-AHEC, 20 Duncan St, Warsaw, NY 14569

585-786-6275 info@r-ahec.org

<https://www.r-ahec.org/>

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A Professional Account

Dr. Matthew Cox, M.D. Cardiologist at Olean Medical Group gives insight on a career in Cardiology.

What is the most rewarding part of your journey?

"A lot of what we do in Cardiovascular Medicine is to deal with medical conditions that are "silent killers" and treating them doesn't really make the patients "feel" any better. However, occasionally patients will have a severely debilitating condition that responds very well to a particular therapy, and they are incredibly grateful when they feel that they almost have their life back because of some type of treatment or intervention you performed."

What is the most challenging?

"In this day and age of the internet and social media there is so much information available to patients, but unfortunately, they do not always have the proper training to discern what is factual information and they will make medical decisions based off of false or only partially true information. As a provider, it is sometimes very challenging to get patients to adhere to the standard of care because they found something contradictory on the internet."

What do you wish you knew back in school that you know now?

"I wish I knew how I would spend more time as a provider in front of a computer and on the phone charting and talking to insurance companies rather than having the majority of my time spent with patients."



Click on the image for information on a career in Cardiology

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4G9HgLOzE0>



Click on the image for a professional account from a Cardiologist.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHHjFAKvQb8>



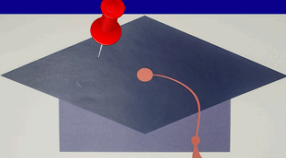
For more information visit the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physicians-and-surgeons.htm>

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Apply Today
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR UP TO
\$6,000 for college

Requirements:

- Permanent resident of Western New York
- Minimum 2.0 GPA or "C" average
- Accepted to any nonprofit college/university in the United States, full-time
- Preference is given to Pell eligible students attending school in Western New York

Deadline:
MAY 1, 2025
visit cfbgscholarships.org

Sign up for text alerts
TEXT "SCHOLARSHIPS"
to 855-628-3269

Community Foundation
for Greater Buffalo

Visit
cfbgscholarships.org
for more information



Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)
July 8-August 14, 2025

Eligible Students Paid \$10 an Hour to Attend!
Health Career Exploration Summer Camp for Rising Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors in Western NY



- Hands-on learning, exposure to health profession careers, and skill building
- Become First Aid & CPR Certified, learn Stop the Bleed, Teen Mental Health First Aid, Simulation Education Training, Social Determinants of Health Course & much more
- Opportunities to tour, shadow, and volunteer in the community (local healthcare facilities, non-profits, businesses, etc.)
- Overnight opportunity at DYU campus, college experience and additional health profession exposure and experiences
- Health career pathways and college enrollment education

Camp Location: WNY R-AHEC, Warsaw, NY & DYU, Buffalo, NY
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9am-3pm


STUDENTS APPLY TODAY!
Application Deadline: March 31
[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/DYUVNLFR](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dyuvnlfr)
Use QR Code for More Info and to Apply!




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WNY R-AHEC Contact: info@r-ahec.org | 585-786-6275 | 20 Duncan St, Warsaw, NY



The WNY R-AHEC
Health Career Resource Guide



Health Careers
Resource Guide
QR Code



Apply for the 2025

WNY R-AHEC SCHOLARSHIP

Graduating high school seniors pursuing a degree in healthcare **Please Apply!**
Deadline: March 24, 2025

WNY R-AHEC will be awarding scholarships to high school seniors entering healthcare related programs after graduation. Students must be graduating from a high school and attending college within R-AHEC's region which includes Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauque, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates county.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QBRCR6L>

For more info contact: info@r-ahec.org | 585-786-6275

