

## Careers Cruising

1. Go to the site [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) and login:

Username: **yorkregion** Password: **careers**

2. Click “Careers” on the top of the screen.

3. Locate the career that you have identified. The best way to do this is using the “Search by Index” option.

**-Write down the career that you have chosen.**

### Career: Surgeon

4. Click on your career. This should bring up “At a Glance” section. Go through the images. Then click the “Job Description” on the left-hand side of the page. Read it closely.

**a) Briefly summarize the job description in a few sentences. USE YOUR OWN WORDS!!**

**Summary of job description:**

Basically, Surgeons are doctors who are highly trained and specialised and trained to complete surgeries that help people fix abnormal things with their bodies and conditions caused by disease and illness. They require a lot of skill because they work under life or death situations.

There are many different kinds of surgeons, and most of them are trained in a certain part of the body.

**b) Three things that appeal to me about this career:**

This career appeals to me because it requires so much training and knowledge of the body, which is what I aspire to have. In addition to this, I have a passion for the health sciences. Lastly, this career requires a lot of precision with your hands, and as an artist, I have a lot of this and experience with it. This would make me suitable for the career.

**c) One or two things that don't appeal to me about this career:**

This career requires a lot of school and that means a lot of money. Money is not necessarily an issue for me, but if I want to have enough training to be a surgeon, I am going to need at least seven years of school bringing the minimum amount spent around \$250,000.00. This amount is stressful to think about because it doesn't include anything else like food and residence.

5. On the left side, click on “Working Conditions”. Read them closely.

**a) Three aspects of the working conditions of the career:**

The patients that come to the surgeon are referred by a family physician, and go to a hospital to get surgery. The surgeon spends part of their day in the office, and part of it in the operating room.

The types of tasks that they perform can either be really simple, like removing tonsils, or complex, such as If the surgery is complex, then the surgeon will most likely have to spend a lot of extra time on the patient, as many as eight hours. A lot of this time is spent standing.

They work in teams.

This job requires long hours.

Surgeons aren't required to travel as part of their jobs, except for traveling to conferences.

**b) Which working conditions appeal to you? Which do not?**

The ones that appeal to me are the ones that include things like the range of the difficulty of the tasks. This means that I would not be doing either one simple thing over and over, or a lot of complex things. This means that the tasks I do would range a lot.

I don't like the sound of not travelling often, but I can handle it.

6. On the left side, click on “Earnings”. Read it closely.

**a) Expected earnings of this career:**

The expected earnings for this career are from less than \$100,000.00 to \$400,000.00 or more.

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**b) Other information about earnings, trends or demand:**

General surgeons make around 400 thousand annually from the government. Specialised surgeons make a little bit more, with an average earning of close to 500 thousand dollars every year. Incomes also vary according to the number of years a surgeon has practised, the geographical location of the practice, the number of hours worked each week, and the skill of the surgeon. Costly malpractice insurance fees and other overhead expenses, which surgeons normally have to pay for out of their own pocket, can also drastically affect income. Surgeons who are still training as residents usually earn somewhere between \$44,000 and \$80,000 a year.

7. Click on “**Education**”. Read it closely.

**a) Description of education/training/preparation to enter this career:**

Surgeons get the same training as doctors, and need to complete a minimum of two to three years in university and this is **before** medical school. The admissions to medical school are very competitive. Medical school takes from three to four years to complete. Medicine and Surgery are programs to take.

**b) Any other important information about education:**

If you want to be a surgeon, you have to be an excellent student, and be interested in helping people and work long hours. You also have to have really good manual dexterity and great hand-eye coordination. You must also have to have the ability to work under pressure.

**c) Three college or university programs that could lead me to this career:**

Medicine (MD) and Surgery are the only programs listed on this site, and will lead me to be a surgeon.

**d) Write down some of the high school courses that you should take to enter this field.**

Grade 9	Grade 10
English Mathematics Science Social Studies Creative Arts Computers French Health & Physical Education	English Mathematics Science Social Studies Personal & Career Development Computers
Grade 11	Grade 12
English Mathematics Probability & Statistics Biology Chemistry	English Algebra & Geometry Calculus Biology Chemistry

## Grade 11

Physics  
Social Studies  
Computers

## Grade 12

Physics  
Social Studies  
Computers

8. Click on “**Sample Career Path**”. Read it closely.

**What are the jobs that could lead you to your chosen profession?**

Resident comes first, as you have to complete this before you do anything else. This will earn you 44 thousand to 80 thousand annually and you have to have a bachelor’s degree and doctor of medicine and be accepted. You’re basically a helper, and an on call.

Next, there’s a staff surgeon who makes 150 to 300 thousand every year, and you have to complete your residency for this, be licenced and certified. You diagnose and treat patients and do consultations and operations.

Lastly, there’s a department head, which makes 200 to 400 thousand every year and needs at least 10 years of experience as a surgeon. You do the same things as a staff surgeon, but also manage budgets.

9. Select one of the interviews on the left bottom of the screen and read all sections.

**What are two points from the interview that you find interesting?**

One: You can go into sales from this job, as you gain the skill set that is required. Also marketing is an area that you could go into.

Two: An endoscope is a tool that surgeons use to see beneath the skin without cutting it. Lasers and liposuction are also less invasive procedures.

10. From the same interview, click on “**Advice**”

**What are some important pieces of advice provided to you?**

The advice provided to someone going into plastic surgery is that they really need to keep a good relationship between the arts and the visual arts. You should be involved with painting sculpting, and photography. These things are things you use in the rest of your career.

You need to have artistic vision.

11. From the same interview, click on “**Breakdown of Activities**”

**a) What are the top three activities of the job?**

Serving customers and clients, working inside, being on your feet, and doing physical work are the top activities all being more than eight hours.

**b) Do these activities appeal to you?**

These activities do appeal to me especially the working inside, on my feet, and doing physical work. I also like helping others.

12. Click on “**Related Careers**”.

**a) List 5 related careers.**

Allergist, Anaesthesiologist, Cardiologist, Chiropodist, and Chiropractor are the first five.

**b) Do any of these careers interest you as well?**

Some of them, like the cardiologist or the dentist appeal to me, also, orthopaedic surgeon, ophthalmologist, and the plastic surgeon.

13. Reflect about what you have learned about your chosen career. Has your investigation changed what you think about this career? Explain why or why not:

Yes, I think that the investigation has made me realise just how much experience you need to make a lot of money. You can start off making less than a quarter of what most surgeons make, and this means that paying off student debt will be hard.

**In a couple sentences, explain how your thinking about that career has changed or been reinforced.**

I now know that this career requires a lot of experience, and must not be taken lightly. The amounts of money you can make really varies, and there are many different kinds of surgeons out there. I have been reinforced, and know that I will be able to learn so much with this career, which I am really looking forward to.