

# ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

## WHO ARE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS?

- ASAHP defines allied health professionals as the segment of the workforce that delivers services involving the identification, evaluation and prevention of diseases and disorders; dietary and nutrition services; and rehabilitation and health systems management.
- Allied health professionals include dental hygienists, diagnostic medical sonographers, dietitians, medical technologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, radiographers, respiratory therapists, and speech language pathologists.
- Allied health professionals comprise nearly 60% of the healthcare workforce.

## HOW DO ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CONTRIBUTE TO THE HEALTH OF THE NATION?

- Works collaboratively with physicians, nurses, dentists, and pharmacists
- Providing comprehensive, patient-centered care
- Being the specialists in exercise, nutrition, health education, speech, and daily function

## WHY ARE MORE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS NEEDED?

- Healthcare is 18% of the U.S. economy, twice as high as in other countries
- The demand for healthcare workers between now and 2020 will grow nearly twice as fast as the national economy (Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2012)
- Jobs in the industry will grow from 15.6 million to 19.8 million between 2010 and 2020
- Increasing percentages of healthcare jobs require bachelors and graduate degrees



## THE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (ASAHP)

The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions ([www.asahp.org](http://www.asahp.org)) is the principal membership organization representing and promoting the schools and colleges of allied health. Its mission is to advance the professions of allied health and advocate for allied health programs in the United States and abroad.

## CONTACT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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