

Medical Writer

Medical writing is one of the fastest-growing fields of writing today. Not only that, but it is also one of the highest-paying writing fields. Along with these fantastic qualities, it is also one of the more daunting fields to get into. However, with the right knowledge and abilities—along with hard work and determination—you, as a freelance writer, can become a medical writer and start reaping the benefits.

There are two main types of medical writing: scientific and nonscientific.

Scientific

Scientific deals more with in-depth, doctor-level material. It's the type of writing that people in white lab coats and stethoscopes love to talk about and the average Joes on the street claw their eyes out over.

Scientific medical writing jobs can include clinical manuscripts, study reports, scientific papers, and grant applications, just to name a few. It can also include researching, reviewing, and editing various medical topics.

For this side of medical writing, an advanced medical or scientific degree is needed. This could be the perfect outlet for you as a physician who loves to write, as your vast experience will give you the knowledge necessary to handle important, technically filled content.

Nonscientific

Nonscientific writing speaks mainly to the nonmedically minded individual, in other words, to the majority of the population.

Jobs under nonscientific writing cover areas such as blogs, newsletters, educational materials, magazines, and news releases.

Primarily, nonscientific medical writing takes medical information and turns it into something understandable and practical. The average people looking for information on a drug they were just prescribed or in attempting to diagnose themselves need writing that they can read and easily grasp.

Students currently going through medical school are particularly well-adapted to this job. While they do not have years of experience behind them, they do have the knowledge gained from their classes, making themselves qualified candidates in the eyes of potential employers.

The nonscientific field is also particularly applicable to freelance writers who love medicine but don't have a string of letters after their names. They have the heads-up of being able to write clearly, as well as the passion of researching a topic they love.