S.O.T. Systems of Timor
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JOB PROFILE

Medical doctor (general practitioner)

Doutór medisina jerál

Health & care · ISCO-08 2211

General doctors examine sick and injured people, find out what is wrong, and treat them. They also help people stay healthy and prevent illness. Timor-Leste's national plan wants at least one doctor at every health post.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**University (UNTL)** Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**Priority · Foreign workers** National plans; foreign doctors in 2017
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$292 / month** Average for all professionals in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Examine: Ask patients about their illness and their health history; Examine the body: listen to the heart and lungs, check blood pressure; Order blood tests, X-rays and other tests.

Treat: Decide what is wrong and explain it to the patient; Prescribe medicines and give treatment; Send patients to a specialist or a hospital when needed.

Prevent illness: Give vaccines and check pregnant women and young children; Teach families about hygiene, food and safe water; Follow patients with long-term illnesses.

Records and team: Write clear notes about each patient; Work with nurses, midwives and laboratory staff; Report diseases that can spread to the health authorities.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 2211, Generalist medical practitioners.

WHERE YOU WORK

Hospitals (Referral hospitals have general practitioners); Community health centres (In the municipalities); Health posts (Target: at least one doctor at each); Private clinics (Also run by doctors).

The work carries a lot of responsibility. Doctors work long shifts, nights and weekends, and some work in health posts far from town.

In 2011 the national plan said the health sector was still short of skilled workers, despite medical training with Cuba, and that health workers were spread unevenly between towns and rural areas.

Some doctors come from abroad. For 2017 the Labour Inspection listed 21 foreign workers as "medics" and 19 as "doctors".

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Science: biology and chemistry, Studying for many years, Staying calm in emergencies, Listening to people, Making careful decisions.

You like: Helping sick people, How the body works, Learning all your life, Serving your community.

Strong science and language subjects at secondary school help you prepare for medical studies.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Faculdade de Medicina e Ciências da Saúde, UNTL** · Trains health professionals for the country. Medical degree title: to confirm.
- **Training in hospitals** · The national hospital and referral hospitals serve as training centres for health professionals
- **More training places for doctors** · The national plan promises more and better training for doctors, including university medical courses

Degree length, entry rules and fees: to confirm with UNTL. This list is incomplete. The directory never shows a number without a source.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Medical student** · UNTL Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- **General doctor** · Health posts, health centres and hospitals
- **Specialist doctor** · The government wants more specialists at the national hospital (ISCO 2212)

WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · No official programme recruits Timorese doctors for work abroad yet. Australia's Pacific Engagement Visa allows any occupation, but you need a job offer from an Australian employer first.

Never pay a fixer. Join only through SEFOPE, the Timor-Leste government office for work abroad. No one can sell you a place, and a real overseas job never asks you for a recruitment fee.

SOURCES

1. ILO, ISCO-08 unit group 2211 Generalist medical practitioners https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco08/
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3. Government of Timor-Leste, Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030 (2011), health https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Timor-Leste-Strategic-Plan-2011-20301.pdf
4. Programme of the IX Constitutional Government 2023–2028 (18 Jul 2023), health https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EN-Programa-IX-Governo.pdf
5. SEJT, Labour Market Outlook No. 7, Feb 2018 (foreign workers 2017, Labour Inspection) https://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/2018/LMOFeb2018en.pdf
6. Pacific Engagement Visa: any occupation, job offer needed (employer fact sheet 2025) https://pev.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-02/PEV%20for%20Employers%20Fact%20Sheet_2025.pdf
7. Labour Force Survey 2021, Table 29: average monthly wage of employees by occupation group https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40asia/%40ro-bangkok/%40ilo-jakarta/documents/publication/wcms_863064.pdf

From the Servisu jobs directory. Every figure has a source; "to confirm" means none yet. http://servisu.oftimor.com/jobs-directory/medical-doctor/?lang=en