

## The Russia Feldsher Overview

### Author Profile:

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Alexey is a student attending Medical College №7 and has been studying to be a Feldsher for 3 years. Alexey is 20 years old and he was interested in the health profession because his grandmother was a physician and he wanted to follow closely in her footsteps. Since he is a student, he did the internship in reanimation department. He had 8 weeks of reanimation experience which included providing patient care, performed physician prescribed procedures such as administering medicine, blood sample tests and electrocardiograms. He assisted in tracheostomy procedures, catheterization of veins, and interpreting of cardiograms.



### General Information:

The feldsher is sometimes considered the physician assistant (PA) prototype. The profession was developed in Russia during the 19th century to serve in the military. Many of the retired military feldshers after their service moved to rural locations to take care of the underserved populations. Feldshers were key healthcare personnel at a time of physician scarcity. Feldshers have provided medical services throughout the Russian Empire, later Soviet Union, and now the Russian Federation.

### Entry Criteria:

To enter into the Feldsher training program, one needs to complete 11<sup>th</sup> grade education in Russia, have a certificate with grades 4.5 to 5.0, and undergo psychological testing on a computer. There is no clinical entrance exam or clinical requirements. Other details about Russia's primary and secondary education system prior to Feldsher training can be found here:

<https://www.nuffic.nl/sites/default/files/2020-08/education-system-russia.pdf>

### Education:

The schooling entails the knowledge of the whole human body and all its ills with specific training on identifying, preventing, and treating disease. Classes include basic sciences to include anatomy and physiology, microbiology, pharmacology, and clinical medicine specialties to include medicine, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology, infectious disease, preventive medicine, surgery, accident and emergency, ambulance and pre-hospital medical care and field and tactical training.

Colleges with the direction of medical care " paramedic" in Moscow

Medical College No. 2 (paramedic + nursing) <https://xn--2-stbf.xn--p1ai/>

Medical College, No. 5 (medical assistant case + nursing) <https://mk-5.ru/>

Medical College No. 7 (paramedic + nursing)) <https://medcollege7.ru/>

The college has a referral to both a medical assistant and a referral to medical specialities.

There are 3 Colleges of Medicine Curative Affairs - "Feldsher " training in Moscow.

Medical College № 2 (feldsher+ nursing) <https://xn--2-stbf.xn--p1ai/>

Medical College № 5 (feldsher+ nursing) <https://mk-5.ru/>

Medical College № 7 (feldsher+ nursing) <https://medcollege7.ru/>

At the end of training, each student who has defended their work and passed the exams is issued a certificate for 4 years, stating that they may work as a paramedic, which is the classification of the profession as noted by the International Labour Standards. The degree earned by Feldshers is a Diploma. There are approximately 120 graduates per year per college.

#### Financing Education:

Feldsher training is paid for by the government.

#### Accrediting/Regulatory Bodies:

The accrediting body for Feldshers is National Information Centre on Academic Recognition and Mobility through the Ministry of Education and Science.

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The regulatory body for Feldshers is the Russian Department of Health.

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education may have a direct impact on the Feldsher substations which is where feldshers may work out of.

#### Professional Licensure:

Upon completion of training, each student who has defended his work and passed the exams is issued a certificate for 4 years, stating that he can work as a paramedical professional. There is no specific licensing exam other than passing the summative examinations at the end of their training.

There is no license or searchable licensing database for Feldshers in country; however, it is in the works. The Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation will create a federal register of medical workers and medical institutions. This will allow the country to analyze the situation and predict the need for personnel, as well as monitor professional medical education and accreditation of specialists. In Russia, the federal register of medical workers (FRMR) and the federal register of medical organizations (FRMO)

will collaborate on the registry. In 2021, The Deputy Minister of Health of the Russian Federation, Natalia Khorova, notified the heads of medical organizations, that the health authorities of the regions must enter all the information necessary for the creation of a register in a single electronic system. The registry of health workers will contain all the necessary information about the personnel resource of the state health system. It will include information about education, specialization, position, previous jobs, passport data, Russia Insurance Account Number (SNILS), and other information. The registry will be maintained by personnel officers of medical institutions, who will be instructed to monitor the relevance of data about their employees. Regional health ministries will only be able to get information about employees in their region, and the Ministry of Health will have access to all data. Ordinary users will not be allowed to join this register yet.

#### Scope of Practice:

Feldshers are located in rural and urban areas. In the rural areas, Feldshers may be the primary providers who see patients, take histories, perform physical exams, diagnose, treat, and administer medications. Rural Feldshers also refer to doctors when cases become more complicated than they may handle. Feldshers also work in departments of sanitation, laboratory, and epidemiology. Feldshers also work on the ambulances. In the urban setting feldshers typically work under a doctor.

Every Feldsher paramedic working at the substation is trained on the site, and is allowed to make a diagnosis, document, as well as administer drugs, paying specific attention to time and dosage. Each paramedic is attached to his own substation, and has their own substation supervisor.

#### Maintaining Role:

Every four years, feldshers must sit for an accredited course and test which involves a computer-based exam and practical and situational tasks.

#### Job Opportunities:

At the current time due to the COVID pandemic, the government began to allocate more jobs for future workers.

#### References:

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