

Registry versus Travel

Should you travel or work registry? Perhaps you are already working as a registry nurse and you are wondering if you should travel. Traveling is similar to registry in many ways and in many ways it is different.

Registry

In general, full time registry can change on a daily basis. One day you may work at this hospital and the next day you are assigned to a different hospital. One day you have no work scheduled for the week and the next day you are booked through the end of the week or month. One day you are asked to stay late and the next day you are sent home early. Registry is good for a person that likes lots of variety and flexibility in their schedule to keep things interesting. It's also best for someone that can afford to perhaps work a little less than a 40 hour work week at times without being financially ruined. Also, someone that enjoys having control of their schedule in order to meet other obligations and interests may find registry to fit their lifestyle.

Travel

Travel on the other hand, is for those who really have a craving to see the country and enjoy consistency with a little variety mixed in. A traveler likes to have the safety net of guaranteed hours and health benefits, yet likes to live on the edge a little bit too. Traveling is best for someone who is in good health and doesn't mind putting in a full work week (with relatively few if any sick days) and sticking to it till the end of the 3 month contract for the benefit of being paid to see the country, learn new skills, and meet new people.

Travelers are basically registry people except they stay for 3 months instead of one day. They both work for an outside company and are working for a limited amount of time. While both have much variety in their life, travelers may have more consistency in their work schedule. On the other hand, registry personnel may have not have consistency in the work place, but they may have more consistency in their social and home life. Variations to this consistency and variety balance do exist to create exceptions to this rule. Do you feel that you have a good balance in your life right now? This is a good question for all of us to ask ourselves.