



## SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

Assist in operations, under the supervision of surgeons, registered nurses, or other surgical personnel. May help set up operating room, prepare and transport patients for surgery, adjust lights and equipment, pass instruments and other supplies to surgeons and surgeon's assistants, hold retractors, cut sutures, and help count sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a surgical technologist are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Surgical technologists	27.0%	57.0%	16.0%
Health technologists and technicians	20.1%	57.1%	22.7%
Healthcare practitioner and technical	9.9%	31.0%	59.1%

Most Common Educational Level: Postsecondary vocational award

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit [www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm](http://www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm)

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$15.10	\$18.05	\$21.75
	Yearly	\$31,400	\$37,500	\$45,200
Missouri	Hourly	\$13.61	\$16.82	\$20.28
	Yearly	\$28,300	\$35,000	\$42,200

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Surgical Technologist	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	86,200	107,300	+ 24%	4,740
Missouri	1,770	2,120	+ 20%	60

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive.

For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

#### Allied College North

Maryland Heights, MO  
(314) 595-3400  
[hightechinstitute.edu](http://hightechinstitute.edu)

#### Colorado Technical University

North Kansas City, MO  
(816) 472-0275  
[www.coloradotech.com](http://www.coloradotech.com)

#### Columbia Area Vocational Technical School

Columbia, MO  
(573) 214-3800  
[www.career-center.org](http://www.career-center.org)

#### East Central College

Union, MO  
(636) 583-5193  
[www.eastcentral.edu](http://www.eastcentral.edu)

#### Franklin Technology - MSSU

Joplin, MO  
(417) 659-4400  
[www.ftcjoplin.com](http://www.ftcjoplin.com)

#### High-Tech Institute - Kansas City

Kansas City, MO  
(816) 444-4300  
[www.hightechinstitute.edu](http://www.hightechinstitute.edu)

#### Hillyard Technical Center

Saint Joseph, MO  
(816) 671-4170  
[www.hillyardtech.com](http://www.hillyardtech.com)

#### Metropolitan Community College

- Penn Valley  
Kansas City, MO  
(816) 759-4000  
[www.mcckc.edu](http://www.mcckc.edu)

(more-over)

**Ozarks Technical Community College**  
Springfield, MO  
(417) 447-7500  
www.otc.edu

**Rolla Technical Institute**  
Rolla, MO  
(573) 458-0150  
rolla.k12.mo.us

**Saint Louis Community College - Forest Park**  
Saint Louis, MO  
(314) 644-9100  
www.stlcc.edu

**Sanford-Brown College**  
Hazelwood, MO  
(314) 687-2900  
www.sanford-browncollege.com

**South Central Career Center**  
West Plains, MO  
(417) 256-6152  
<http://wphs.k12.mo.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=5>

**Southeast Missouri Hospital College of Nursing and Health Sciences**  
Cape Girardeau, MO  
(573) 334-6825  
www.southeastmissourihospital.com/college



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