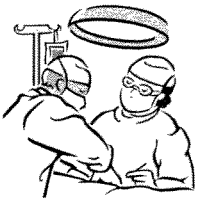


	Current Number of Workers 2006	Projected Number of Workers 2016	% Change to 2016	Average Annual Openings	 Surgical Technologists SOC # 29-2055	
Regional	100	150	50.00%	10		
Texas	6450	9150	41.90%	470		
Education/ Training Time	Is License Required?	Wage Rate \$/Hr. 2008 Regionally	Percent Female	Average Age	Job Turnover	Why Most Job Openings Occur
1—2 years	Yes	\$14.60	67.3%	34.3	Average	Equal Growth/ Replacement

JOB DESCRIPTION

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.

WHERE DO WORKERS FIND JOBS?

General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
 Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse)
 Hospitals
 Offices of Physicians
 Outpatient Care Centers

RELATED COLLEGE PROGRAMS

CIP 510909 Surgical Technology/Technologist

IMPORTANT KNOWLEDGE

- ARTS AND HUMANITIES
- * English Language
- * Customer and Personal Service
- EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- * Education and Training
- HEALTH SERVICES
- * Medicine and Dentistry
- LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
- * Public Safety and Security
- MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE
- * Biology
- * Psychology

IMPORTANT SKILLS

- CONTENT
- * Active Listening
- * Speaking
- PROCESS
- * Critical Thinking
- * Monitoring
- SOCIAL SKILLS
- * Coordination

IMPORTANT ABILITIES

- AUDITORY AND SPEECH ABILITIES
- * Speech Recognition
- FINE MANIPULATIVE ABILITIES
- * Arm-Hand Steadiness
- * Finger Dexterity
- IDEA GENERATION AND REASONING ABILITIES
- * Problem Sensitivity
- VERBAL ABILITIES
- * Oral Comprehension
- VISUAL ABILITIES
- * Near Vision

NATURE OF THE WORK: Surgical Technologists

Surgical technologists, also called scrubs and surgical or operating room technicians, assist in surgical operations under the supervision of surgeons, registered nurses, or other surgical personnel. Surgical technologists are members of operating room teams, which most commonly include surgeons, anesthesiologists, and circulating nurses. Before an operation, surgical technologists help prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment, sterile drapes, and sterile solutions. They assemble both sterile and nonsterile equipment, as well as adjust and check it to ensure it is working properly. Technologists also get patients ready for surgery by washing, shaving, and disinfecting incision sites. They transport patients to the operating room, help position them on the operating table, and cover them with sterile surgical "drapes." Technologists also observe patients' vital signs, check charts, and assist the surgical team with putting on sterile gowns and gloves.

During surgery, technologists pass instruments and other sterile supplies to surgeons and surgeon assistants. They may hold retractors, cut sutures, and help count sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments. Surgical technologists help prepare, care for, and dispose of specimens taken for laboratory analysis and help apply dressings. Some operate sterilizers, lights, or suction machines, and help operate diagnostic equipment.

After an operation, surgical technologists may help transfer patients to the recovery room and clean and restock the operating room.