

Medical Technician

Medical technicians operate anaesthetic, cardiac, operating theatre and medical testing equipment, perform and assist with laboratory tests, and fill prescriptions in support of health professionals.

Job title examples

- Anaesthetic Technician
- Audiometrist
- Cardiac Technician
- Dialysis Technician
- Medical Laboratory Technician / Medical Laboratory Technical Officer
- Mortuary Technician
- Operating Theatre Technician
- Pharmacy Technician / Dispensary Technician
- Pathology Collector / Specimen Collector
- Renal Technician

Other jobs in this field of work

What medical technicians do

- operate equipment used in diagnosing and monitoring disorders of the heart, kidneys, nervous system and hearing, and in anaesthesia
- undertake and assist with medical analytical procedures and assist anaesthetists and surgical teams
- record the electrical activity of the heart, from which the heart rate is measured and pattern and rhythm interpreted
- take, collect and label blood, urine and other samples from patients
- prepare and stain slides and tissue sections for blood and histological examination
- perform diagnostic tests on tissues and body fluids and analyse the chemical constituents of blood, urine, faeces and tissues
- test for diseases by looking for the presence of antibodies and the products of immune response in samples
- set up, check and maintain operating theatres, anaesthetic workstations, life support machines and associated equipment
- refer prescriptions to pharmacists and assist in preparing medications

Main employing industries



- Health Care and Social Assistance

Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate III in Pathology Assistance available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Pathology Collection available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate IV in Audiometry available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate IV in Hospital/Health Services Pharmacy Support available as a traineeship or qualification

Diploma of Audiometry available as a qualification

Apprenticeships and traineeships: Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay



- There are around 7,942 medical technicians working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Medical technicians: \$979
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Science Technician

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014