

BECOME A SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

ON THE JOB



Surgical technologists assist surgeons and their assistants in operations by:

- Setting up operating rooms, sterilizing equipment, and making sure there are enough supplies for surgery
- Preparing patients for surgery and helping the surgical team to scrub and put on sterile gowns, gloves, and masks
- Passing instruments and other supplies to surgeons during surgery
- Counting supplies, such as sponges and needles, before and after surgery



PAY RANGE



IN BOSTON:

Entry Pay

\$38,000 - \$41,700 /yr

Middle Pay

\$48,800 /yr

Experienced Pay

\$59,600 - \$76,700 /yr

EMPLOYERS



IN BOSTON INCLUDE:

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Medical Center
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- St. Elizabeth's Medical Center

EMPLOYERS WANT



SOMEONE WHO:

- Is reliable, on time or early getting to work, and works well under pressure
- Has strong communication, teamwork, and problem solving skills
- Pays attention to detail, is safety-oriented, and eager to learn
- Can stand for long stretches of time, is comfortable working very closely to others, and can tolerate unpleasant sights and odors

GET TRAINING AT



Bunker Hill Community College's Surgical Technology Certificate Program

Chelsea Campus
(Free shuttle from Charlestown campus to Chelsea)

Contact: **Jayne MacPherson**,
CST, Ph.D., Department Chair,
617-228-3362

- Full-time, 11-month program begins in September and is completed in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. It combines classroom teaching, lab observation and practice, and a clinical internship three days a week in the spring semester and full time in June and July.

Admission requirements include:

- A high school diploma or equivalent and attendance at an information session
- Grade C or higher in Writing Skills II (ENG-095) or placement into College Writing I (ENG111). Also, Grade C or higher in Foundations of Mathematics (MAT-093) or placement above Fundamentals of Mathematics/Pre-Algebra (MAT-093) on the college placement test
- Completion of the college placement tests in reading, math, and English (10th-grade reading level preferred)
- Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and Sex Offender Registry Information (SORI) checks as prerequisites for placement into clinical internship
- Program graduates qualify to take the national certification exam to become a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST). Many hospitals prefer that you are certified when you apply for a job.

Jobs for the Future developed this Best Bet Profile in collaboration with the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative and with generous funding from the Ford Foundation. Sources: Occupational Outlook Handbook website, 2016-17 Edition, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; CareerOneStop website; May 2015 Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Area Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA NECTA Division, Occupational Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics website; May 2015 Occupational Employment and Wages for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA NECTA Division, Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development website at <http://www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/>; Bunker Hill Community College website; and program and employer interviews. Photo Credit: Alicea, Jon. "Surgical Tech Beginnings." 2016. JPEG file.