



# MEDICAL SUPPORT

Individuals working in this field provide medical support to other health professionals by preparing for and assisting with medical procedures.

**Careers within this section include:**

Medical Assistant

Surgical Technologist



## **Medical Assistant**

### **What would I do?**

Medical Assistants perform both clinical and administrative tasks in a physician's office. Clinical duties may include taking vital signs, assisting the physician with patient exams and minor surgeries, giving injections, administering EKGs, drawing blood, and preparing lab specimens for processing. Administrative duties include scheduling appointments, processing insurance claims, calling in prescriptions, transcribing medical documents, updating patient records, and arranging hospital admissions and laboratory services. Medical Assistants work under the direction of a physician.

### **Where would I work?**

Medical Assistants work in ambulatory care settings. These settings include primarily physicians' offices and clinics, and may also include administrative work in hospitals. Medical Assistants are found in most health care specialties.

### **What would I earn?**

\$24,900–28,000

### **What do I need to know?**

After completing high school, Medical Assistants may complete a formal training program lasting from one to two years. Programs may award certificates as well as diplomas and associate degrees. Certification is not necessarily required for entry-level positions.

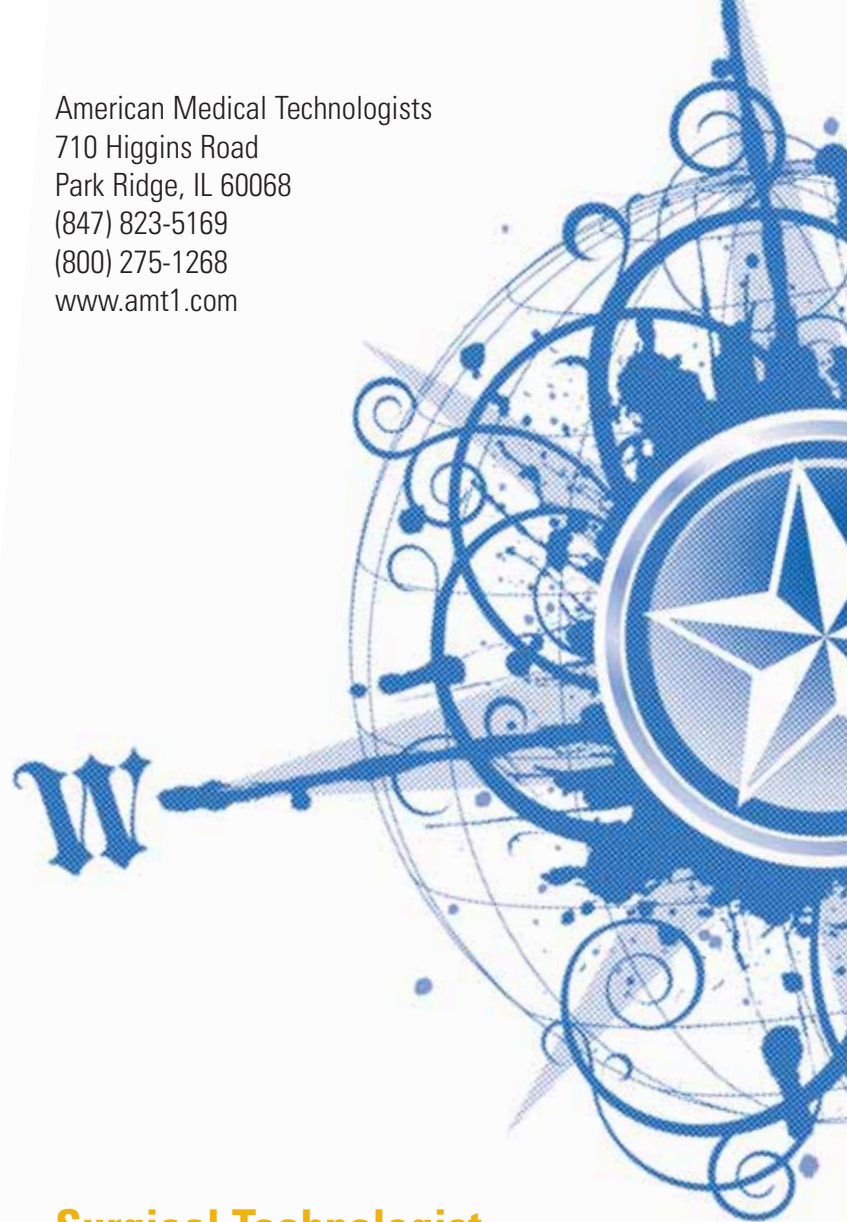
### **What schools can I attend?**

Hesser College  
New Hampshire Community Technical College -  
Claremont  
New Hampshire Community Technical College -  
Manchester

### **Where can I find more information?**

American Association of Medical Assistants  
20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1575  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 899-1500  
[www.aama-ntl.org](http://www.aama-ntl.org)

American Medical Technologists  
710 Higgins Road  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
(847) 823-5169  
(800) 275-1268  
[www.amt1.com](http://www.amt1.com)

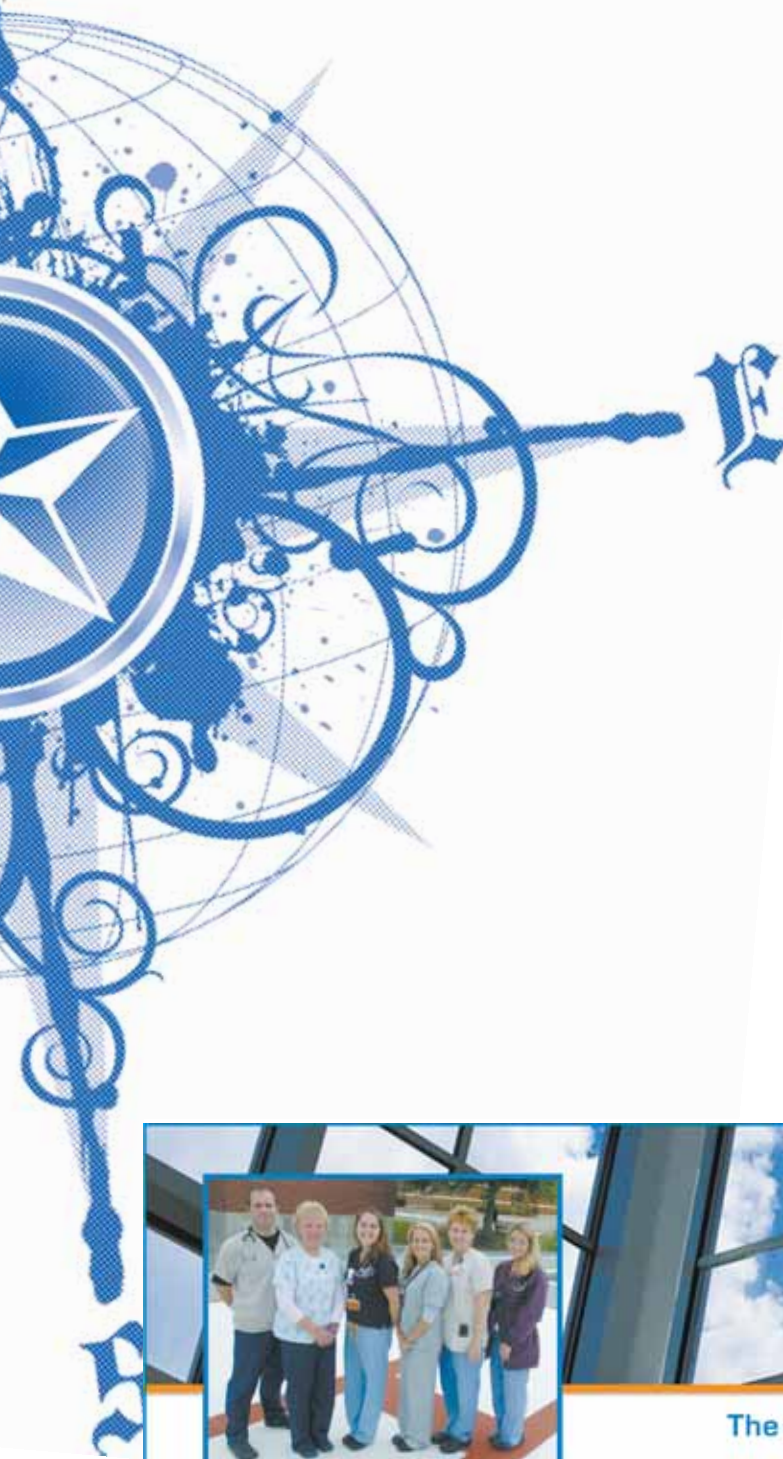


## **Surgical Technologist**

### **What would I do?**

Surgical Technologists assist surgical teams before, during and after surgery. Prior to surgery, Surgical Technologists prepare the operating room with all necessary equipment and instrumentation needed for a given procedure. They gown and glove the surgeons, provide sterile sheets for the patients, and assist in positioning the patient on the operating-room bed. During surgery, Surgical Technologists pass instruments to the surgeon. They operate lights, suction machines and other diagnostic equipment. After surgery, they may help transport patients to recovery or help clean and restock the operating room.

Surgical Technologists may specialize in specific surgical procedures such as open heart surgery, neurosurgery, organ transplantation, plastic surgery, or orthopedic surgery.



### Where would I work?

Most Surgical Technologists work in hospitals; some work in physicians' offices or for day surgery centers. Surgical Technologists may be required to be on call for emergencies.

### What would I earn?

\$27,720–34,882

### What do I need to know?

Surgical Technologists complete a formal program lasting from nine months to two years, resulting in a diploma, a certificate, or an associate's degree. Shorter programs are for Licensed Practical Nurses.

### What schools can I attend?

Concord Hospital  
New Hampshire Community Technical College -  
Stratham  
The School of Surgical Technology at Dartmouth-  
Hitchcock Medical Center

### Where can I find more information?

Association of Surgical Technologists  
6 West Dry Creek Circle, Suite 200  
Littleton, CO 80120  
(800) 637-7433  
(303) 694-9130  
[www.ast.org](http://www.ast.org)



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If you are interested in exploring career opportunities at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital, we invite you to contact Christi Green RN,MS at [hrcg@wdhospital.com](mailto:hrcg@wdhospital.com).



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