



# Explore a Career as a **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST**

## What do Surgical Technologists do?

Surgical technologists are members of operating room teams, which include the surgeon(s), anesthesiologist and circulating nurse. They primarily fulfill the first scrub role. Before an operation, they help prepare the operating room by setting up sterile surgical instruments, equipment and supplies. They also prepare patients for surgery by washing and disinfecting incision sites, positioning the patients on the operating table, covering them with sterile drapes and taking them to and from the operating room. During the surgical procedure, the surgical technologist is responsible for anticipating the needs of the surgeon by passing instruments and providing needed supplies.

## Surgical Technologists are in demand in Kankakee County!

Kankakee County employment of surgical technologists is expected to increase through 2020. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recognizes the job outlook for medical assistants as growing much faster than average.

## Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a surgical technologist, but first you will need to obtain training in the care and safety of patients, sterilization techniques, how to set up technical or robotic equipment, and preventing and controlling infections. You will also be required to obtain state licensure through the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Some employers may seek candidates who have passed a national certification exam, such as the one administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting.

## As a Surgical Technologist you will:

- Check supplies and equipment needed for surgical procedures
- Clean and prepare instruments for sterilization
- Gown and glove surgeon and assistants
- Pass instruments to surgeon during procedure
- Set up sterile table with instruments, supplies and equipment

# Surgical Technologist

## Training Providers

The following certified training providers offer programs and certifications to train for a career as a surgical technologist:

- College of DuPage
- Parkland College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



## Types of Employers

There are two primary types of employers looking to hire surgical technologists in Kankakee County, including:

- Hospitals
- Outpatient centers

## Wages & Openings

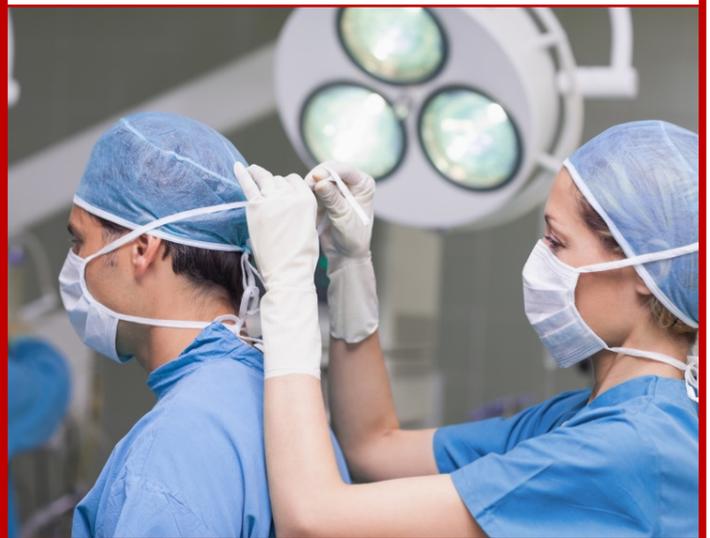
### Surgical Technologist Employment Data for Kankakee County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$16.12
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$23.91
Average Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	~10
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	37

## Opportunities

After earning your certificate or degree in surgical technology, you will have many opportunities for specialization and advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Obstetrical Surgical Technologist
- Operating Room Scrub Technician
- Tissue Recovery Technician



**Kankakee Workforce Services**  
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