SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Employment of surgical technologists is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations through the year 2021 as the volume of surgery increases. The number of surgical procedures is expected to continue to rise as the population grows and ages. Older people, including the baby-boom generation, which generally requires more surgical procedures, will continue to account for a larger portion of the U.S. population. In addition, technological advances, such as fiber optics and laser technology, have permitted an increasing number of new surgical procedures to be performed and also have allowed surgical technologists to assist with a greater number of procedures.

Hospitals will continue to be the primary employer of surgical technologists, as they try to reduce costs by replacing nurses in the operating room. However, because of better paying opportunities, much faster employment growth is expected in offices of physicians and in outpatient care centers, including ambulatory surgical centers. Job opportunities will be best for technologists who are certified and for those who are willing to relocate.

Employment Information

Greater Kansas City Area: In 2016, those employed in the surgical technologist field held an estimated 604 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), with 674 jobs projected by 2021 (+12%).

State: In Kansas, those employed in the surgical technology field held an estimated 921 jobs in 2016, with 1,018 jobs projected by 2021 (+11%). All together 97 openings are anticipated due to the need for replacements and growth.

National: About 107,996 jobs were held by those employed in the surgical technology field in 2016, with 116,474 jobs projected by 2021 (+8%). Approximately 8,478 openings are expected due to growth and the need for replacement workers.

Salary Information

Greater Kansas City Area: Surgical technologists employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of $22.13 in 2016.

State: Surgical technologists in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of $19.79 in 2016.

National: Surgical technologists working full-time earned an average hourly wage of $23.37 in 2016.

September 2017
JCCC Placement and Salary Information

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Since the surgical technology program is a cooperative effort through the Metropolitan Community College District, salary and placement data are collected primarily on students initiating their studies at JCCC and are thus incomplete. Therefore, no salary or placement information was available for JCCC surgical technology program completers from recent follow-up studies.

Note: Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2016 third quarter data. JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics