

EKG (Electrocardiogram) Technician



What do they do?

EKG Technicians perform electrocardiograms which is a test that monitors the heartbeat of a patient. The test requires the EKG Technician to place electrodes on the patient's body. The EKG Technician is responsible for operating the EKG machine and monitoring the patient during the procedure.

Where do they work?

EKG Technicians work in clinics and hospitals. EKG Technicians can also work in diagnostic laboratories. They spend most of their time working on their feet.

Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for EKG Technicians is \$70,380.



Education:

A high school diploma is required to become an EKG Technician. Many EKG Technicians have an associate degree or have completed an EKG training program. On the job training is also a common option to become an EKG Technician. It is preferred that all EKG Technicians are certified.

EKG Technician training in Madison:

Madison Area Technical College: www.madisoncollege.edu

High School students interested in becoming an EKG Technician should take classes in biology, anatomy & physiology, physics, math, health and social sciences.

Accreditation:

Education programs for EKG Technicians are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Professions (CAAHEP).

www.caahep.org



Professional Associations:

EKG Technicians can choose to join the following professional associations.

National Healthcare Workers Association:

www.nationalhealthcareworkersassociation.com



American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians:

www.aspt.org



Certification:

After completion of an EKG Technician program or on-the-job training an EKG Technician certification exam can be taken. The exam is often a two part exam that consists of a multiple choice section and a clinical skills section.

EKG Technician certification exams can be taken through various organizations:

National Certification Career Association:

www.nccanow.com/ekg_technician_certificaion.html



National Health Career Association:

www.nhanow.com/certifications/ekg-technician



Important Skills:

- Attention to detail
- Communication
- Technology skills
- Compassion for patients
- Active listening skills



Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for EKG Technicians is expected to grow 14 percent between 2020-2030, which is faster than the average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Diagnostic Medical Sonographers and Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians, Including Vascular Technologists, www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/diagnostic-medical-sonographers.htm (visited September 08, 2021)

