

Tech in Surgery Eligibility Criteria

CHOOSE YOUR PATHWAY

There are multiple pathways to become eligible for the TS-C (NCCT) certification exam. *Note: All required work experience must be obtained within the United States or its territories.* Select the pathway that describes your situation:

Current Student Pathway

Currently enrolled in a postsecondary Tech in Surgery program at an NCCT-authorized school. This includes the U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship programs.

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit a copy of your Tech in Surgery diploma, certificate of completion, or official signed transcript with graduation date to obtain full certification.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Certification Critical Skills Competency form.
  NOTE: Candidates are allowed a maximum of two (2) years from the test date for completion of case documentation.

Graduate Pathway

Graduate of a postsecondary Tech in Surgery program from an NCCT-authorized school within the past five (5) years. This includes the U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit a copy of your Tech in Surgery diploma, certificate of completion, or official signed transcript with graduation date.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery Certification Critical Skills Competency form.
  NOTE: Candidates are allowed a maximum of two (2) years from the date of successful program testing for completion of case documentation.

Experience Pathway

Three (3) years of verifiable full-time experience as a Tech in Surgery within the past five (5) years.

- You must submit a copy of your United States high school diploma or equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit your employer/supervisor's contact information for an electronic employment verification
- Your employer/supervisor must verify your employment and competency in the required Technologist in Surgery skills. Please review the NCCT Experience Pathways Requirements Guide before applying.

High School Pathway

Current student or graduate within the past five (5) years of a Tech in Surgery program from an NCCT-authorized high school.

- You must be a current student or have graduated within the past five (5) years.
- Upon graduation, you must submit a copy of your Tech in Surgery diploma or certificate of completion. (If career pathway courses are listed on your high school transcript, the official signed transcript will be required.)
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Certification Critical Skills Competency form.
  NOTE: Candidates are allowed a maximum of two (2) years from the test date for completion of case documentation.
- These documents are not required to take the exam but your certification will not be released until they are received.

Military Pathway

Completion of a Tech in Surgery program or its equivalent during U.S. Military service within the past five (5) years.

- You must be a high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must provide a copy of a SMART transcript or DD214 indicating successful completion of a formal medical services training program of the United States Armed Forces relating to the discipline for which you are testing. The DD214 or SMART transcript must be current and training completed within the past five (5) years.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery Certification Critical Skills Competency form.

Instructor Pathway

Three (3) years of current verifiable teaching experience in Surgical Technology at an NCCT authorized organization within the last five (5) years; and three (3) years of verifiable experience as a surgical technologist.

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit an Instructor Verification form verifying three (3) years of current employment as an instructor in the Surgical Technology field.
- You must submit an Instructor TS-C Qualification by Experience form.