



Surgical Technologist Eligibility Criteria

CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE

There are **FIVE (5)** routes of eligibility to take the **TS-C (NCCT) exam**. Select your route of eligibility from the following:

1. Current High School Student

Are you a **CURRENT** High School Student in a Surgical Technology program from an NCCT (authorized) school?

- You must be a United States high school student.
- Upon obtaining a passing score on the Tech in Surgery certification exam, you will receive a provisional certification.
- Upon graduation, you must submit a copy of your Surgical Technology diploma, certificate of completion, or transcript with graduation date within 60 days of graduation; or contact NCCT for other suitable arrangements.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Critical Skills Competency form. Candidates are allowed a maximum of TWO (2) years from graduation for completion of case documentation.
- These documents are not required to take the exam but your full certification will not be released until they are received.

2. Current Non-High School Student

Are you a **CURRENT** Non-High School Student in a Surgical Technology program from an NCCT (authorized) school?

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit a copy of your Surgical Technology diploma, certificate of completion, or transcript with graduation date within 60 days of graduation; or contact NCCT for other suitable arrangements.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Critical Skills Competency form. 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.

3. Graduate

Are you a **GRADUATE** from an NCCT (authorized) school, within the past **FIVE (5)** years?

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must submit a copy of your diploma from your surgical technologist program, certificate of completion, or transcript with graduation date.
- You must complete and submit a Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Critical Skills Competency form. Candidates are

allowed a maximum of **TWO (2)** years from the test date for completion of case documentation. This includes U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship programs.

4. Experience

You have three years of verifiable full-time experience as a Surgical Technology practitioner within the past **FIVE (5)** years.

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
 - You must submit a copy of your high school diploma (or equivalent) and the Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT)
 - Qualification by Experience form completed by your employer.
 - You must have **THREE (3)** years of full-time employment or equivalent* (6240 hours) in the past **FIVE (5)** years working as a surgical technologist under the direct supervision of a Certified/Licensed Physician, Primary Care Provider, and/or RN.
- NOTE:** Working as an instructor is not equivalent to working as a practitioner.

5. Military

Have you completed Surgical Technology training or its equivalent during U.S. Military service within the past **FIVE (5)** years?

- You must be a United States high school graduate or hold equivalent credentials (e.g., GED).
- You must provide a copy of a SMART transcript or DD214 indicating you have successfully completed 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 within the past **FIVE (5)** years.
- You must complete and submit a **Tech in Surgery TS-C (NCCT) Critical Skill Competency form**.