

Training

To train as an anaesthetic technician, you must first be employed in a training hospital approved by the New Zealand Anaesthetic Technician's Society (NZATS). You will be paid while you train on the job with an assessor who mentors your training. While working at the training hospital, you must complete a Diploma in Applied Science (Anaesthetic Technology) through Auckland University of Technology (AUT). This involves 3 years of part-time study by distance learning and block courses.

AUT minimum entry requirements:

Complete Year 12

NCEA: 48 level 2 credits including eight level 2 credits in any one subject from: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science, Science

Meet Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (HPCA Act) requirements including police clearance.

Letter of confirmation from Training Hospital.

To qualify as an anaesthetic technician you must:

- Gain the Diploma Applied Science (Anaesthetic Technology)
- Complete the required clinical training course
- Pass the NZATS Registration Exam after gaining the Diploma

Personal Qualities

An anaesthetic technician needs to be:

- good at communicating
- skilled at problem-solving
- organised
- able to work well under pressure and remain calm in emergencies
- meticulous and methodical
- flexible and adaptable
- able to work in a team



Information collated by NZIRH

Where to go for more information:

<https://www.nzats.co.nz/>

www.careers.govt.nz

www.kiaorahauora.co.nz

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Anaesthetic Technician



Anaesthetic technician

Being an anaesthetic technician involves ...

- doing comprehensive anaesthetic machine checks
- setting up an anaesthetic machine and life support equipment
- preparing equipment before an operation
- keeping the patient happy and calm before an operation
- assisting with intubating (put a breathing tube into their throat) patients
- assisting with the insertion of intravenous lines into patients
- putting a pulse oximeter, blood pressure cuff and ECG leads on the patient
- monitoring heart rate, blood pressure and breathing before, during and after the operation
- monitoring the drugs being administered
- helping to induct (put to sleep) a patient
- checking documentation
- helping to wake patients after their treatment
- disposing of, decontaminating or sterilising equipment and cleaning all areas
- taking blood samples



What do they do?

The anaesthetic technician assists an anaesthetist when a patient has an anaesthetic for an operation or other medical procedure. The anaesthetic technician prepares the anaesthetic machine and equipment, ensuring it is safe, functional and available. The technician helps with monitoring the patient before, during and after an operation.

A systematic and methodical approach is vital to ensure nothing is missed during the preparation, the operation and the clean-up after the operation.

Where do anaesthetic technicians work?

An anaesthetic technician trains in an approved training hospital, working in a hospital operating theatre. Once training is completed, they can work in either public or private hospitals. There can be shift work and being on call for emergencies may be involved.



In New Zealand, the role of anaesthetic technician is listed amongst the jobs in the health sector where there is a skill shortage, so the prospects for gaining work are excellent. Studying whilst working is not easy but the advantage is being paid while you train. Here are two video links

<https://youtu.be/-JnMRrVdsJw>

<http://www.cdihcareers.co.nz/Science-Technical/Anaesthetic-Technician/>