

Texarkana College
Community & Business Education Center - Allied Health Program
EKG Technician Course Information

Spring 2019

The course will include important practical background information on anatomy & physiology of the heart, medical disease processes, medical terminology, medical ethics, and legal aspects of patient contact. This EKG Technician program prepares students to function as an EKG Technician. This course covers the following key areas and topics:

- Detailed anatomy and physiology of the heart
- Medical disease processes and terminology
- Medical ethics and legal aspects of patient contact
- Electrocardiography and echocardiography
- An introduction to the components, function, and proper use of the EKG machine
- The normal anatomy of the chest wall for proper lead placement
- 12-lead placement and other practices

Note: Upon successful completion of this program, students would be eligible to take the National Healthcareers Association (NHA) Certified EKG Technician examination. The exam is scheduled two weeks after course is completed at TC, the fee is \$117 and not due until end of the course.

All student registrations submitted online or in person will be “incomplete” until a copy of the student’s high school diploma or GED equivalent from the United States of America and their social security number is submitted to the Allied Health Coordinator. If the student has an “out of country” diploma they must provide a translation report verifying it is equivalent to one issued in the USA.

Dates & Times: Monday & Wednesday; March 18 - May 6 | 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. | 50 hrs. | 8 wks.

Student Tuition: \$1,075 (includes books, study guide for certification exam and access to online practice exams)

Location: Health Sciences Building, Room 151.

Refund Policy: Student will receive a 100% refund upon request 24 hours prior to the first class meeting.

Criminal Background Requirement: For students who may have a criminal background, please be advised that the background could keep you from being licensed by the State of Texas. If you have a question about your background and licensure, please check with the National Healthcareers Association certification board by calling 1-800-499-9092 to discuss your topic of study to determine if you are qualified to obtain a certificate in that field. You also have the right to request a criminal history evaluation letter from the applicable licensing agency.

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The EKG Technician Profession

EKG technicians work in physician's offices, hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities and organizations. EKG technicians also work for insurance companies to provide data for health and life insurance policies. Similar to other growing healthcare professions, the demand for EKG technicians is expected to grow substantially.

EKG rhythms provide important data for the diagnosis of heart conditions. As a certified EKG Technician (CET), you'll have the credentials nearly all healthcare employers require to perform critical tasks of administering EKG's, as well as Holter monitoring and stress testing. These tests can be performed during physical exams, when cardiovascular problems are suspected, or in preparation for surgery.

By administering EKG's – testing the electrical activity of the heart through small electrode patches attached to the body, you'll be making a life-changing difference by helping people of all ages prevent and treat heart disease.

As an EKG Technician you may perform some or all of the following tasks:

- ❖ Set up and administer EKG's (electrocardiograms) stress tests
- ❖ Prepare patients for Holter or ambulatory monitoring.
- ❖ Schedule appointments.
- ❖ Transcribe physician's interpretations.

Detailed Course Topics Covered

- Role of the EKG technician
- Function of the EKG department in a variety of settings (hospital, clinic, office, mobile service)
- Medical terminology related to electrocardiography
- Care and safety of patients including medical and legal aspects of patient care
- Anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system
- Electrophysiology, the conduction system of the heart, and the cardiac cycle
- Circulation of blood through the heart and vessels
- Lead placement for 12-lead electrocardiography
- Basic EKG interpretation of normal rhythms and arrhythmias
- EKG troubleshooting including recognizing artifacts
- Waves and measurements
- EKG strip analysis (P,Q,R,S,T wave-form interpretation)
- Identification of rhythms using the 12-lead EKG
- Pacemakers
- Holter monitoring and the echocardiogram