



Central Sterile Processing Technician Apprenticeship – Occupational Overview for Employers – 6/2020

Employers, start adding to your skilled workforce today! The Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium (HCAC) training program for certified Central Sterile Processing Technicians is the solution to help you recruit and retain your sterile processing employees.

A certified Central Sterile Processing Technician is a trained staff person able to perform cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, and material management tasks in clinic and hospital settings. Apprentices “learn while they earn”—working full time while gaining skills taught by experienced teachers, coaches, and mentors. Central Sterile Processing Technician apprentices are supervised by their lab manager and work with other Central Sterile Processing Technicians who are trained as mentors. Classrooms and Lab are hybrid—virtual real-time classrooms and in-person labs available throughout Washington and adjoining communities.

Details:

The apprenticeship program for Central Sterile Processing Technician involves 354 hours of classroom and lab, and 2,000 hours of work experience.

To become Central Sterile Processing Technicians, program apprentices must pass the International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management exam leading to the nationally recognized Certified Registered Central Service Technician certificate.

Healthcare entities employing Central Sterile Processing Technician apprentices complete simple Training Agent and Non-Discrimination agreements to register as an employer (“training agent”) with the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (we help employers every step of the way).

Mentors at each location assist hospital and laboratory supervisors with Apprentices’ on-the-job learning.

Employer program cost: \$3,200 per apprentice (this is currently covered by grants, as of June 2020)



Program Timing

Countdown schedule to a Central Sterile Processing Technician cohort start (depends on the hiring sequence and background check timing for each employer):

- Three months before the program starts:
 - Employer discussions with Program/Training Agent Agreement
 - Clinic, shift, and lab arrangements defined
 - Local community & target recruiting starts

- Two months in advance:
 - Marketing for candidates
 - Mentor training
 - Establish hiring process
 - Collect applications/conduct interviews

- One month out:
 - Enrollment and onboarding
 - Complete mentor training and placement
 - Assign apprentices/final details
 - Apprentices register with the Clinic Commission

- Program starts
 - Orientation
 - Clinic work and classes start

Registered Apprenticeship & College Credit

The Central Sterile Processing Technician program is governed by and accredited through the Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium's Apprenticeship Program Standards with the State Apprenticeship Council. Apprentices earn college credit for classroom and lab time. Please ask for a copy of our program standards if you don't have them.

The Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium

The Consortium is open to all healthcare employers in Washington. The Health Care Apprenticeship Consortium is a multi-union and multi-employer Washington State-registered Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee, sponsored by SEIU Healthcare 1199NW Multi-Employer Training and Education Fund.

For more information, visit healthcareapprenticeship.org.