

Electroencephalograph (EEG) Technician

■ Job Description

The electroencephalograph (EEG) technician plays an essential role in the diagnosis of brain diseases (such as epilepsy or stroke), injury, and tumors. The technician also assists in determining that brain functions have stopped in a patient who has died. The EEG technician performs these diagnostic tests with an instrument that records brain waves. He or she attaches electrodes to specific areas of the patient's head to measure differences in the amplitude and frequency of electrical potentials between various parts of the brain. The technician can also record brain waves with the use of tapes and video equipment.

During an examination, the technician observes the patient's behavior and checks for false readings. Technicians are also responsible for the instrument's proper function and for making minor adjustments and repairs. "Evoked potential recording" is a related neurodiagnostic test frequently performed by EEG technologists.

■ Job Settings

Hospitals, offices and clinics of neurologists and neurosurgeons, research and psychiatric facilities, and sleep laboratories

■ Projected Need

Hospitals' use of cross-trained employees to cover many jobs will lessen the need for specially trained technologists. However, population growth and an increase in the use of electroencephalographs in surgery, diagnosis, monitoring, and research will create job opportunities.

■ Salaries

According to the American Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists, salaries average \$37,853 per year. Beginning technologists earn \$25,000 per year. Salaries for registered EEG technologists tend to be higher than non-registered technologists with equivalent experience.

■ Related Careers

Other careers that involve diagnostic testing with machinery are radiologic technologist, sonographer, and ophthalmic technician. A career that involves many types of machinery and is more involved in therapy is respiratory therapist.

■ Related Educational Programs

The programs of study listed below are the recommended areas of study to pursue for this occupation. Clicking on these will lead to files that show in-state and national schools that offer these programs.

The following link(s) will take you to CIS for more information. CIS requires an ID and password that can be obtained at <http://cis.ilworkinfo.com/loginhelp/>. You must log into CIS prior to clicking on the links below.

[Electroneurodiagnostic Technology](#)

■ Credentials

Training may be acquired through an AMA accredited school, certificate program, or associate's degree program. On-the-job instruction is frequently an avenue of entry. An optional two-part national registration exam through the American Board of Registration of Electroencephalographic and Evoked Potential Technologists is offered. Registered EEG technologists may find jobs more easily and may command higher salaries.

■ Advanced Training

Technicians may complete a BA/BS and apply to medical school and become a physician. A subspecialty is a registered evoked potential technologist.

■ Resources

American Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists
426 W. 42nd Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
Phone: 816.931.1120
E-mail: info@aset.org
<http://www.aset.org>

One \$300 scholarship is available for each of the training courses offered by the society. Also, four \$500 scholarships are available for the Scientific Program and courses held at the annual convention. Applicants must be members of the society for the preceding calendar year.

American Board of Registration of
Electroencephalographic and Evoked
Potential Technologists
1904 Croydon Dr.
Springfield, IL 62703
Phone: 217.553.3758
E-mail: abreted@aol.com
<http://www.abret.com>