

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (STI)
ELECTRONEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGY (ENDT) PROGRAM
TECHNICAL STANDARDS

To assist in making a decision about pursuing this program, the following is a general overview of the physical requirements, working conditions and job duties of a Polysomnographic (Sleep) Technologist and a Neurodiagnostic Technologist.

Polysomnographic (Sleep) Technologists

Polysomnographic Technologists (PSG techs) perform sleep diagnostics working in conjunction with physicians to provide comprehensive clinical evaluations that are required for the diagnosis of sleep disorders. By applying non-invasive monitoring equipment, the technologist simultaneously monitors multiple variables in the person's breathing and oxygen levels during sleep. During the sleep tests, the PSG tech documents observations including sleep stage and clinical events, changes in procedure, and significant events in order to interpret the results. They are also responsible for scoring sleep/wake stages and generate accurate reports by tabulating sleep/wake and clinical event data. Since most sleep recordings are made during the patient's usual sleep hours, many PSG techs work during the evening and night. They typically work 3-4 shifts per week that may be 10 or 12 hours in length. PSG techs may be exposed to stressful situations, which may include occasional sudden change in work load or critical patient situations such as cardiopulmonary arrest. Most hospitals/clinics will require a certification from the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists and to comply with the BRPT standards of conduct.

Neurodiagnostic (EEG or EP) Technologists

Electroencephalography (EEG), which measures the electrical activity (micro volts) of the brain, and is a specialty for diagnosing patients with neurological disorders such as epilepsy, stroke, coma, multiple sclerosis, and other disorders. An EEG tech measures electrical activity of brain waves, using electroencephalograph (EEG) instrumentation, for use in diagnosis of brain and nervous system disorders. They measure the patient's head and other body parts, using tape measure, and marks points where electrodes are to be placed. Then they attach electrodes to predetermined locations, and verify functioning of electrodes and the recording instrument. They observe and note patient's behavior during the test.

Evoked Potentials (EP) is the electrical response of the central nervous systems produced by an external stimulus. Electroneurodiagnostic techs are frequently requested to come to the operating room in order to perform various electrodiagnostic techniques, including sensory EPs, auditory EPs, facial nerve monitoring, somatosensory EPs, visual EPs and intraoperative monitoring during spinal cord surgery.

Work hours for Neurodiagnostic techs may include day and night shifts, weekends and holidays. They may be exposed to stressful situations, which may include occasional sudden change in work load or critical patient situations such as cardiopulmonary arrest. Most hospitals/clinics

will require a registry with the American Board of Registered Electroencephalographic and Evoked Potential Technologists (ABRET).

Polysomnographic (Sleep) and Neurodiagnostic (EEG or EP) Technologists are expected to have the ability to:

- regularly talk and hear
- regularly communicate effectively via oral communication, reading, and writing
- frequently sit; reach with hands and arms; use hands and fingers to handle and feel; bend/stoop
- regularly use high degree of hand-eye coordination to manipulate equipment, while simultaneously inputting data into a machine or working with a patient
- routinely able to discern small numbers and gauges on medical equipment in dimly lit conditions; extreme attention to detail
- occasionally stand, walk, kneel, crouch or crawl
- occasionally lift and/or move or use pushing/pulling force for up to 50 pounds
- occasionally reach above shoulder level

*Source: www.occupationalinfo.org, www.aanem.org, www.aptweb.org and local job descriptions

By signing below, I am acknowledging I have read the above information and understand the general physical requirements, working conditions and job duties typically associated with professionals in the Electroneurodiagnostic field. I understand that this information is general in nature and that actual conditions and job duties may vary.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____