

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (STI)
CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY – INVASIVE CARDIOVASCULAR
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 Invasive Cardiovascular (Cath Lab) Technologist.

Invasive Cardiovascular Technologists assist physicians with cardiac catheterization procedures in which a small tube, or catheter, is threaded through a patient’s artery from a spot on the patient’s groin to the heart. The procedure can determine whether a blockage exists in the blood vessels that supply the heart muscle. Part of the procedure may involve balloon angioplasty, which can be used to treat blockages of blood vessels or heart valves without the need for heart surgery. Technologists prepare patients for cardiac catheterization and balloon angioplasty by first positioning them on an exam table and then shaving, cleaning and administering anesthesia to the top of the leg near the groin. During the procedures, they monitor patients’ blood pressure and heart rate with EKG equipment and notify the physician if something appears to be wrong. They may also prepare and monitor patients during open-heart surgery and during the insertion of pacemakers and stints that open up blockage in arteries to the heart and major blood vessels. Invasive Cardiovascular Techs may work various shifts and tend to work long hours and may work evenings. They are also typically required to be on call during the night and on the weekends. Most employers recommend a credential of a Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS).

Invasive Cardiovascular (Cath Lab) Technologists are expected to have the ability to:

- regularly talk and hear muffled sounds over medical equipment and through surgical masks
- regularly stand, sit, reach with hands and arms, use hands and fingers to handle and feel
- regularly communicate effectively via speech, reading, and writing
- regularly use high degree of hand-eye coordination to manipulate equipment, while simultaneously inputting data into a machine or working with a patient
- regularly possess fine finger dexterity and good “hand-eye” coordination
- regularly read small print/numbers, sometimes in dim lighting
- frequently be able to wear 20# lead apron for long periods of time
- occasionally walk, climb or balance, bend/stoop, squat, crouch or crawl, reach above shoulder level
- occasionally lift patients requiring 50 pounds of force
- occasionally push equipment and patient transport carts
- occasionally be able to remain in one position for up to 6 hours at time

*Source: www.bls.gov, www.acp-online.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 Invasive Cardiovascular Technologists. I understand that this information is general in nature and that actual conditions and job duties may vary.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____