

## **HB2464: SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST CERTIFICATION MODERNIZATION:**

### *Why are Oregon's Health Professionals, Providers, and State Agencies in Agreement?*

*The current, statutorily limited model isn't meeting the need, and has led to a severe workforce shortage.*

The current program, first drafted almost a decade ago, is falling behind, and leaving your community health care providers facing a huge shortage of qualified, trained surgical techs. This delays care, and drives up health care costs.

Hospitals and ASCs need to hire dozens of these important and skilled positions over the next two years, but the current program only graduates around a dozen each year.

The bill leaves the existing program and option fully intact. It simply adds a new path to meet the huge and increasing need.

*The current model discriminates against rural, young, and low-income Oregonians.*

The existing certification program requires most Oregonians interested in this field to move to new community, pay high housing and tuition costs, take classes unrelated to surgical technology and often leave their families behind. The new work-based apprenticeship model maintains the same high training standards, but in a carefully structured work based system, overseen by a non-profit board, BOLI and the OHA. This makes these high paying jobs available to rural residents, young parents and BIPOC Oregonians.

*HB2464 modernizes the system, allowing a more diverse group of Oregonians to benefit.*

HB2464 brings modern, proven educational tools and workforce skills development to the S/T arena.

The bill, developed with input from OHA and BOLI, uses existing standards, an existing National Accreditation body (NCCT), and creates a new non-profit organization to create the curriculum and oversee the program.

The last year has taught us that education can be done remotely over the internet, and that work-based training is often even more effective than years in a classroom.

*The Proven Oregon Apprenticeship Model Creates Highly Qualified Workers and High Paying Jobs.*

Oregon is nationally recognized for its high level apprenticeship programs, which regularly turn out skilled electricians who work on the most complicated construction / tech jobs, plumbers and steamfitters who design and develop complex industrial systems for data centers, hospitals and manufacturing plants, and certified medical assistants who are a critical link in the health care industry. Their record of safety & quality is undisputed, and S/Ts will meet these same high standards.

S/T jobs in Oregon ASCs average a \$25-27/hour.

**What are the Standards?**

**HB2464 will utilize the existing NCCT Accreditation, which has proven comparable to other existing accreditation bodies.**

	<b>High School or GED Pre-requisite?</b>	<b>Graduate Surgical Tech Program by Degree or Certificate?</b>	<b>Complete Surgical Tech Competency Testing?</b>	<b>Military Experience Option?</b>	<b>Continuing Education?</b>
<b>CAAHEP</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
<b>NBSTA</b>	Yes	Yes - CAAHEP or ABHES only	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>NCCT</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**HB 2464 does not restrict the current accreditation bodies for surgical technologists; It simply provides an additional pathway for students to participate in the NCCT pathway.**

**What national organization will guide and regulate certification?**



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**NCCT ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH ASSOCIATION OF PERIOPERATIVE REGISTERED NURSES**



NCCT has partnered with AORN as a source of quality continuing education courses for surgical technologists. In accordance with its [Outside CE Course Submission and Acceptance Policy](#) for recertification, contact hours provided by AORN can be completed and submitted to NCCT for outside CE approval for recertification credit.

**Is a Health Care Apprenticeship Program “Dangerous or Unsafe or Unique?” NO!**

Safe, successful, proven medical apprenticeships are used in dozens of states.

***Examples of Certified Medical/Nursing Assistant***

**Apprenticeship Programs 2021**

Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board:

[https://8d607294-ba4e-41e5-adb3-81acb1fbb87d.filesusr.com/ugd/a3f1d6\\_67efe7226d954f50ba1bc2657a5001be.pdf](https://8d607294-ba4e-41e5-adb3-81acb1fbb87d.filesusr.com/ugd/a3f1d6_67efe7226d954f50ba1bc2657a5001be.pdf)

National Database:

<https://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-industries/healthcare>

Programs, including Kaiser Permanente, Fred Hutchison Cancer Center, etc.

<https://www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org/kaiser-washington-medical-assistant-apprenticeship-program-2019>

<https://www.apprenticeship.gov/finder/listings?occupation=medical%20assistant&location=>

<https://chas.org/about-chas/careers/educational-programs/medical-assistant-apprenticeship-program/>

<https://www.fairview.org/careers/career-opportunities/student-internships-and-training/apprenticeship-opportunities>

[http://sumnercollege.com/our-programs/medical-assistant-program/?gclid=EAAlQobChMI2ZzoqPa17wIVRAnnCh3gYAe-EAAYAIAAEgK3O\\_D\\_BwE](http://sumnercollege.com/our-programs/medical-assistant-program/?gclid=EAAlQobChMI2ZzoqPa17wIVRAnnCh3gYAe-EAAYAIAAEgK3O_D_BwE)

<https://dhwri.org/medical-assistant-apprenticeship-program/>

<https://www.hawkeyecollege.edu/business-community/training/apprenticeship/certified-nursing-assistant-apprenticeship>

[https://www.iot.edu/lp/practical-nursing-2/?campus=salem&program=pn&utm\\_source=bing&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=salem-nur-practical-nursing&keyword=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&adgroup=1251244712818360&matchtype=b&device=c&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaignid=287605130&adposition=&geo-loc=109590&geo-int=&extension=&placement=&keyword=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&adgroup=1251244712818360&matchtype=b&device=c&utm\\_source=bing&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaignid=287605130&adposition=&geo-loc=109590&geo-int=&extension=&placement=&msclkid=ed17791380ea17b07f7d1942b92c0e36&utm\\_campaign=Salem-NUR%20-%20Practical%20Nursing&utm\\_term=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&utm\\_content=Salem-NUR%20-%20Practical%20Nursing%20-%20Only](https://www.iot.edu/lp/practical-nursing-2/?campus=salem&program=pn&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=salem-nur-practical-nursing&keyword=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&adgroup=1251244712818360&matchtype=b&device=c&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaignid=287605130&adposition=&geo-loc=109590&geo-int=&extension=&placement=&keyword=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&adgroup=1251244712818360&matchtype=b&device=c&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaignid=287605130&adposition=&geo-loc=109590&geo-int=&extension=&placement=&msclkid=ed17791380ea17b07f7d1942b92c0e36&utm_campaign=Salem-NUR%20-%20Practical%20Nursing&utm_term=%2Bnursing%20%2Bcertification&utm_content=Salem-NUR%20-%20Practical%20Nursing%20-%20Only)

<https://www.ccbcmd.edu/Programs-and-Courses/Professional-Development-and-Job-Skills/Health-and-Human-Services/Healthcare-Apprenticeship.aspx>

<https://www.apprenticeship.gov/finder/listings?occupation=medical%20assistant&location=florida>

**Are Health Care Apprenticeships Used in Oregon? YES!**

For instance, a program created by BOLI and the **Southern Oregon Workforce Investment Board** has been in place for three + years and has been a tremendous success.



## Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Program

### About the Program

Medical Assistant Apprenticeship with Allied Health West creates a true “earn and learn” pathway to employment for job seekers, leading to a nationally-recognized credential, the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) through National Healthcareer Association.

**Apprenticeship combines paid on-the-job training, related instruction online, mentorship, and incremental wage increases.**

Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in the offices of physicians, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities. Their duties vary with the location, specialty, and size of the practice.

Benefits to employers include increased number of MAs completing training with certification and a formalized onboarding process. Potential to lower recruitment costs by centralizing processes through apprenticeship program.



100% of our test-takers pass the CCMA exam on the first attempt

**12**  
**12 month period**  
The Medical Assistant Apprenticeship program takes just one year to complete.

  
**156 hours of online training**  
Apprentices are responsible for completing the online coursework on their own time.

  
**2,000 hours**  
The term of the apprenticeship program is 2,000 hours of on-the-job, paid work experience.

  
**No Charge to Candidates**  
Apprenticeship costs are currently covered by grants, includes CCMA test preparation, and testing fee.

### **Protections and Minimum Standards:**

HealthSTAR's Clinical Program Development Committee (CPDC) will develop and recommend specifics, including:

#### **Minimum Requirements (Others may well be added by the CPDC):**

- ✓ High school diploma or GED Prerequisite = **YES**
- ✓ Complete required coursework = **YES**
- ✓ Obtain Graduate Surgical Tech Program or Degree Certificate = **YES**
- ✓ 100+ hour practicum/work based supervised experience = **YES**
- ✓ Complete Surgical Tech Competency Testing = **YES**
- ✓ Work supervision by physician, nurse administrator, operating room staff = **YES**. (Certification is not conveyed on applicant until they have completed all coursework, clinical hours and passed all required competency testing. *A surgical tech apprentice must be supervised at all times in an operating room until they meet all above requirements*).
- ✓ Military Experience Option = **YES**
- ✓ Encouragement and support of a diverse student/candidate population = **YES**
- ✓ Continuing Education Requirement = **YES**
- ✓ NCCT Certification Requirement = **YES**
- ✓ Continuous Oversight and Systems Improvement by HealthSTAR = **YES**
- ✓ Compliance with all Oregon health rules and regulations = **YES**

*HB2464 is good for Oregonians looking to get into the health workforce, good for your community providers who are struggling to fill these important positions, and good for patients who will receive quality and timely care because of this program.*