

INSPECTOR LEARNING MORE IN: THE CASE OF THE NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY MAJOR



CRC

DALE MABRY CAREER RESOURCE CENTER

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Nuclear Medicine Technologists prepare and administer radiopharmaceuticals (radioactive drugs) which are used for the diagnosis and treatment of certain diseases. After the drugs are administered, the technologist operates a gamma scintillation camera that takes pictures of the drug as it passes through or accumulates in the body of the patient. The images are used to diagnose and/or treat a disease or disorder.

The Technologists may also be required to perform lab testing such as blood or urine.



Sources:

Occupational Outlook Handbook
2006-2007

Careers in Focus

Salary

In 2004, medical & surgical hospitals median earnings were \$54,920.

The lowest 10% earned less than \$41,800.

Programs range in length from 1 to 4 years. You can earn a certificate, an associate's degree, or a bachelor's degree. One year certificates are usually earned by health professionals that have already earned an associate's degree in sonography, radiologic techs or other health fields.

Future Outlook: Overall employment is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2014.

Places of Employment:

Hospitals
Nuclear Medical Equipment
Development Facilities
Research Facilities

Personal Requirements:

Physical Stamina
Strong sense of teamwork
Compassion
Self-motivation

For more information on Nuclear Medicine Technology, visit these websites:

Occupational Outlook Handbook:
www.bls.gov/oco/

Echoices.com: www.florida.echoices.com

Or visit the **Career Resource Center.**

Related Occupations:

- Cardiovascular Technologists
- Clinical Lab Technologists
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
- Radiation Therapists
- Radiologic Technologists
- Respiratory Therapists

Special Points of Interest:

- 7 out of 10 Nuclear Medicine Technologists (NMT) work in hospitals.
- Approximately 18,000 NMT's are employed in the U.S.
- Go to <http://www.jrcnmt.org> to make sure the program you enroll in is accredited by the Joint Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology.
- NMT's typically work 35-40 hours a week.