

Specimen Receiving Technician



What do they do?

A Specimen Receiving Technician is responsible for receiving specimens and research kits into the laboratory, checking for correct labeling, and accuracy. They enter tests into lab information systems, process specimens, and load instruments to direct them to the appropriate destination. Clerical duties, basic instrument maintenance and maintaining daily checklists are also some additional tasks that might be performed.

Where do they work?

Most Specimen Receiving Technicians work in hospitals, physician's offices or specialized clinics.

Pay:

According to [payscale.com](https://www.payscale.com) the average yearly income in Wisconsin for a Specimen Receiving Technicians is about \$35,758.



Education:

To become a Specimen Receiving Technician a high school diploma or GED is required. In addition to having a high school diploma or GED, one year of work related experience is required. The University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics only requires a high school diploma or GED, and one year of related work experience.

Skills, Knowledge & Abilities:

- High level communication skills
- Ability to maintain good interpersonal relationships with clients and coworkers
- Ability to prioritize and organize work tasks
- Problem identification and solving skills
- Be able to work independently
- Knowledge of laboratory medicine & precautions (preferred)
- Knowledge of medical terminology (preferred)



Physical Requirements:

A specimen receiving technician must be able to lift up to 20 pounds maximum. There is frequent lifting and carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds in this role. A Specimen Receiving Technician will also endure frequently walking or standing a significant amount.

Room for Advancement:

A Specimen Receiving Technician specialized roles require higher levels of education and certification.

In some states licensing for certain positions and registration are required in addition to a high school diploma or GED and at least one year of work related experience.

Examples of Specimens:

- Organs
- Cells
- Tissue
- Blood
- Bones



Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for a Specimen Receiving Technician is expected to grow 30 percent between 2014-2024, which is much faster than the average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15*
Edition: www.bls.gov

