

## WHAT IS AN ANAESTHETIC TECHNICIAN?

When a patient needs an operation there are times when they are required to be unconscious. There are other times when a patient would like to be fully aware, just not in pain. These examples require anaesthetic care. ATs work alongside the anaesthetist in providing high standards of anaesthetic care, as well as a variety of roles within the operating theatre department using a wide range of clinical competencies. This includes safely caring for patients during surgery, as well as immediately after, when patients wake up and recover from their anaesthetic and surgical procedure.



# AUT

## A FUTURE AS AN ANAESTHETIC TECHNICIAN

### Bachelor of Health Science in Perioperative Practice

Are you interested in a career in operating theatre patient care? An operation is often an important step along a patient's journey in returning to normal life. Anaesthetic technicians (AT) are a key member of the operating theatre team that cares for patients at a vital time during their perioperative journey.



### ENQUIRE NOW

 [aut.ac.nz/enquire](https://aut.ac.nz/enquire)

 [futurestudents@aut.ac.nz](mailto:futurestudents@aut.ac.nz)

 0800 AUT AUT (288 288)

# AUT

 New Zealand  
Anaesthetic  
Technicians'  
Society

The information in this brochure was accurate at the time of publication.  
Visit [www.aut.ac.nz/healthsciences](https://www.aut.ac.nz/healthsciences) for the latest information.





## WHERE DO ANAESTHETIC TECHNICIANS WORK?

ATs are a vital part of the hospital operating theatre team, providing high standards of care to patients of all ages and operation types. This includes childhood, pregnancy, care of the older adult, as well as planned and emergency surgery. ATs may work in both public and private hospital settings.

ATs may work:

- In operating theatres
- On resuscitation teams
- In post-anaesthetic care units (PACU), or recovery departments
- Radiology suites
- Emergency departments
- Intensive care units

There are excellent career progression opportunities for ATs including moving into management, education or advanced clinical roles such as resuscitation teams.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES/ OUTLOOK/PAY

With a Bachelor of Health Science in Perioperative Practice you'll be highly employable nationally. Starting salaries for ATs range from approximately \$54,000 to \$80,000, commensurate with experience. Salaries for designated positions may be higher.

## WHAT TRAINING IS INVOLVED?

To become an anaesthetic technician, you need to study the Perioperative Practice major in the Bachelor of Health Science at AUT, with online learning options available.

After completing this programme you will be eligible to apply for registration with the Medical Sciences Council of New Zealand. Upon registration, you'll have the protected title of registered Anaesthetic Technician. Auckland University of Technology (AUT) is the only tertiary education provider for this qualification. This qualification may be completed outside of Auckland.

POINTS	360 points, level 7
VENUE	AUT South Campus, 640 Great South Road, Manukau, Auckland Or online learning options
START DATE	2022 Two intakes per year, typically February and July
DURATION	3 years full-time

## For a career as an anaesthetic technician, you need to:

- Be able to relate to a diverse range of people
- Be self-assured, confident, trustworthy and ethical
- Have effective communication skills
- Be physically fit and able to deal with long shifts
- Be motivated, resilient and realistic



## Responsibilities of an anaesthetic technician:

- Supporting anaesthetists in providing high standards of anaesthetic care, including airway management
- Working alongside the anaesthetist to place patients' breathing tubes and intravenous lines, including placement of peripherally inserted central catheters
- Working alongside the anaesthetist to administer anaesthetics, including local anaesthetics and nerve blocks
- Monitoring patients' vital signs (such as heartbeat) while under anaesthesia
- Checking and setting up life support and anaesthetic machines
- Delivering high standards of patient care after surgical operations

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

University Entrance is the minimum requirement for admission to bachelor's degrees at AUT.

You may be eligible to apply for 'Special Admission' if you:

- Are a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident; and
- Don't have a University Entrance qualification; and
- Are 20 years or over by the first day of semester in which the programme begins

For further information regarding entry requirements visit [aut.ac.nz/universityentrance](https://aut.ac.nz/universityentrance)



If you're planning to start university for the first time, you may be eligible for fees-free support. For more information visit [aut.ac.nz/fees-free](https://aut.ac.nz/fees-free)

