

NURSE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN (NST)

Launch your healthcare career with the Nursing Support Technician course at Southern Union. This non-credit course provides hands-on training to assist patients in hospital and clinical settings under the supervision of a licensed nurse (RN or LPN), while supporting nurses in delivering high-quality care.

About the Course

This tuition-free 2-step Skills for Success course trains students to support nursing staff in patient care, including bedside care, monitoring, and assisting with basic clinical procedures under the direction of a licensed nurse. Course topics include vital signs, patient safety and monitoring, infection control, mobility assistance, proper documentation, and communication skills for working with patients, families, and healthcare teams. Training combines online instruction with in-person hands-on skills lab practice.

Step 1: complete 16-hours online through independent study

Step 2: complete 32 hours of scheduled skills lab on the Opelika campus- dates and times TBA

Admission Requirements

This course is offered at no cost. Participants must be **17 years of age or older** to enroll in this course and have either a high school diploma or GED.

Preparation for the NST-C Exam

Completion of this program prepares students to apply to take the **Nursing Support Technician Certified (NST-C) exam** through the Alabama Board of Nursing on the Opelika Campus. Application and certification fees apply (estimated total \$103.50). Training is aligned with exam requirements, giving graduates the clinical skills and confidence needed to earn certification and expand employment opportunities.

National median wage: ~\$39,500/year

Industries You Can Work In:

- Hospitals (acute care & hospital-based acute mental care units)
- Physician offices
- Ambulatory surgery centers (outpatient only)
- Home health agencies

For more information, or to register, please contact:

healthsciences@suscc.edu or (334) 745-6437 ext 5509