

By Ella Lucas

Do you ever wonder where your water comes from? Most water comes from a water treatment plant. Water treatment plants hold many jobs that are vital to making your water accessible and safe to drink. One of those jobs is a lab technician. This essay focuses on what a lab technician is.

A lab technician's job at the plant is to analyze water samples, to operate and maintain lab equipment, collect, analyze, and monitor raw water sources, and record data and prepare reports of the results. A raw water source is the place that raw water comes from. Raw water is any form of natural water (Such as rainwater, groundwater, well water, and water from lakes and rivers) found in the environment that has not been treated or ever had minerals, or organisms removed from it.

Some lab equipment that a lab technician uses includes: a high-pressure homogenizer, sterilizers, spectrometers, centrifuges, and more. What are some of these things, you ask? Well, a homogenizer is used to blend a chemical or biological sample. A centrifuge is a rotor driven lab instrument that separates fluids or gases at a high speed. A sterilizer is used to sterilize lab equipment and waste.

To be someone who does all these things, you need proper education or training. To be a lab technician, you need technical school training. Technical school is a postsecondary educational institution, which is just a college. To qualify for this position in a water treatment plant, you need to have an associate degree in chemistry and biology. An associate degree is a degree granted after a two-year course of study.

Overall, lab technicians are very important in the process of purifying your water. They analyze many samples of water to make sure that the water that you drink every day meets the safe drinking standards. Without them, you wouldn't be sure if your water was safe to drink. Lab technicians are one of the many important people who work at a water treatment plant.