

Surgical Technologist Program

General Information

The Surgical Technologist Certificate is a one-year program of classroom and clinical experience with an emphasis on proper application of sterile technique and modern operating room technology in the operating room.

Surgical technologists are an integral member of the surgical teams assisting before, during, and after surgeries. They work with the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and registered nurse to deliver direct patient care during surgery.

Graduates may work in hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, or research facilities.

Students graduating from the Blinn College Surgical Technology Program will not be eligible to sit for the Certified Surgical Technologist licensure exam after graduation since the program is not yet accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. Graduates may be eligible to sit for the exam after June 2010.

Job Responsibilities:

Surgical technologists prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment, sterile drapes, and sterile solutions. Technologists also prepare patients by washing, shaving, and disinfecting incision sites. They transport patients to the operating room, help position them on the operating table, and cover them with sterile surgical drapes. Technologists also observe patients' vital signs, check charts, and help the surgical team with sterile gowns and gloves.

During surgery, technologists pass instruments and other sterile supplies to surgeons and surgeon assistants. They may hold retractors, cut sutures, and count sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments. Surgical technologists help prepare, care for, and dispose of specimens taken for laboratory analysis, and

assist in the application of dressings. Some operate sterilizers, lights, or suction machines, and help operate diagnostic equipment.

Following an operation, surgical technologists may help transfer patients to the recovery room, and clean and restock the operating room.

Surgical technologists need manual dexterity to handle instruments quickly. They also must be conscientious, orderly, and emotionally stable to handle the demands of the operating room environment. Technologists must respond quickly and must be familiar with operating procedures in order to have instruments ready for surgeons. They are expected to keep abreast of new developments in the field.

Job Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Labor projects the number of jobs for surgical techs to increase much faster than the average for all other occupations through 2016 with certified surgical technologists (CST) having the greatest opportunity for employment. Hospitals will continue to be the primary employer, although rapid employment growth is expected in offices of physicians and in outpatient care centers, including ambulatory surgical centers, as the population ages and technological advances result in more surgical procedures.

The Association of Surgical Technologists places earnings at \$28,560-\$40,759 annually depending on location. Most surgical technologists work a regular 40-hour week, although they may be on call or work nights, weekends, and holidays on a rotating basis.

Prerequisites:

BIO1406	General Biology I	4
BIO2401	Anatomy and Physiology I.....	4
BIO2421	Microbiology.....	4
HITT1305	Medical Terminology	3
Total credit hours:		15

Semester I: (Fall)

BIOL2402	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
SRGT1405	Introduction to Surgical Technology	4
SRGT1409	Fundamentals of Perioperative Concepts & Techniques	4
SRGT1261	Clinical I	2
Total credit hours:		14

Semester II: (Spring)

SRGT1541	Surgical Procedures I	5
SRGT2461	Clinical II	4
Total credit hours:		9

Semester III: (Summer)

SRGT1542	Surgical Procedures II	5
SRGT2130	Professional Readiness	1
SRGT2360	Clinical III	3
Total credit hours:		9

Total Hours for Certificate: **47**

Blinn College seeks to provide equal education without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability, or any other constitutionally or statutorily impermissible reason. This policy extends to all programs and activities supported by the college.

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Admissions Criteria

- 1) Meet testing requirements for Blinn College – THEA or alternative (ACCUPLACER, COMPASS or ASSET).
- 2) GPA – 2.5 or better, with at least “C” in all prerequisite, corequisite, and SRTG courses
- 3) Complete prerequisites and as many of the academic courses as possible. **Applicants must supply final grades to the ADN Office only if taking courses elsewhere.**
- 4) Complete pre-admission test with average or above average score.
- 5) Complete an essay at the time of the pre-admission testing.
- 6) Must show computer literacy by either high school or college computer science courses. This can be shown by transcript or recent work history with data processing and/or management with letter from employer.
- 7) International students must have passed all sections of TOEFL.
- 8) Current immunizations, including Hepatitis B, criminal background check, and drug screens required upon admission. The Hepatitis B immunization is a three to six month series.



Blinn College

Blinn College has professional advisors on campus to provide confidential assistance, preferably by appointment, with no cost to the students. Walk-in appointments will be accepted if an advisor is available. The advisor will assist with the most frequently expressed student concerns:

ACADEMIC: Program overviews, program selection and degree plan information, academic advisement, individual and small group tutoring, computer assisted tutorials, ADA modifications, a study skills station, information on transferring college credits, and a Texas School Catalog Library.

CAREER: Computerized career exploration (Choices CT and Texas Cares), a variety of vocational assessment; career resources, career counseling, workshops on resume writing, interviewing techniques and job-search skills, job placement, and job follow-up.

PERSONAL: Workshop class presentations; individual counseling, support groups (on a variety of issues), self-help library, information/referrals on community services, and assistance for adults with disabilities.

FINANCIAL: Financial aid resource station, computer assisted and web financial aid search programs. Additionally, to qualified students: Textbook Lending Library, childcare assistance and transportation aid.



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www.blinn.edu/twe/surgical

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