

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY, Associate in Applied Science Degree - 3646

Health & Public Service Department

The Surgical Technology AAS curriculum prepares an individual to assist in caring for the surgical patient in the operating room and to function as a member of the surgical team. Students apply theoretical knowledge to the care of patients undergoing surgery and develop the skills necessary to prepare supplies, equipment, and instruments; maintain aseptic conditions; prepare patients for surgery; and assist surgeons during surgical interventions. The program provides supervised clinical experience that enables students to develop surgical skills required for entry into practice. Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the National Board for Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) National Examination for the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST). Graduates must pass this certification exam to obtain employment within the state of Pennsylvania. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARCSTSA). The complete program is available at the Harrisburg Campus.

Selective Program: Entry into this program is not guaranteed with admission to the College; this is a selective and competitive admission program; specific admissions criteria must be met. Please go to the Health Careers website (www.hacc.edu/healthcareers), or contact us by email at start@hacc.edu for specific program entry requirements.

The following requirements must be completed (at the student's expense) after being selected for, but prior to starting the clinical portion of the program. Requirements include physical examination and immunizations, background checks, drug and alcohol screens and CPR certification. The student should consider these factors before enrolling. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the program director.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of this program prepare for employment as surgical technologists in hospital operating rooms, and outpatient surgery centers.

Competency Profile

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Perform as an entry-level surgical technologist (ST) in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains
- Anticipate the needs of surgical patients by properly preparing the operating room suite, equipment, and instrumentation required for surgical interventions
- Function effectively as a member of the healthcare team
- Communicate effectively with all communities of interest in the delivery of safe patient care
- Value a commitment to life-long learning
- Take the Certified Surgical Technology exam administered by the NBSTSA

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 61)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	SURG 101 Concepts in Surgical Technology	3	BIOL 105 Medical Terminology	3
COMM 203 Interpersonal Communication	3	SURG 105 Pharmacology	1	BIOL 122 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
Humanities & Arts Elective*	3	SURG 110 Introduction to Surgical Technology	5	BIOL 221 Microbiology	4
Mathematics or Science Elective - BIOL 121	4	SURG 111 Surgical Procedures I	5	BIOL 230 Physiological Pathology	3
Social & Behavioral Science Elective - PSYC 101	3	SURG 112 Surgical Procedures II	5		14
First-Year Seminar Elective	1	SURG 210 Surgical Clinical Externship I	3		
Wellness	1	SURG 220 Surgical Clinical Externship II	4		
	18	SURG 230 Surgical Clinical Externship III	3		
			29		

*Students are to select courses from the following: ART 181 or 182; ENGL 206; HUM 101, 115 or 201; MUS 104; PHIL 200; THTR 101; or a foreign language course.

