

# SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

## Surgical Technology

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals who are an important part of the team of medical practitioners providing surgical care to patients. Surgical technologists work under the supervision of a surgeon to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of surgical procedures, ensuring that the operating room environment is safe, that equipment functions properly, and that the operative procedure is conducted under conditions that maximize patient well-being. Surgical technologists possess expertise in the theory and application of sterile and aseptic technique and combine the knowledge of medical terminology, human anatomy, surgical procedures, and implementation tools and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance of surgeries. Graduates of Elgin Community College's Surgical Technology Program are eligible for certification by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA), an administratively independent body from the Association of Surgical Technologists. Students who pass the NBSTSA exam earn the title of Certified Surgical Technologist (CST).

## Sterile Processing and Distribution

Sterile Processing and Distribution technicians clean, inspect, assemble, and sterilize surgical instruments, equipment, and supplies for use in operating rooms and other medical and surgical facilities. The program includes instruction in decontamination, infection control, sterilization, and surgical instrumentation processing, distribution, and record-keeping. Successful graduates will be granted an Elgin Community College Sterile Processing and Distribution Basic Vocational Specialist certificate (BVS). Graduates are also eligible for certification by the Certified Board of Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD); and by the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA).

## Accreditation

### Surgical Technology:

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

9355 – 113th St. N, #7709  
Seminole, FL 33775  
Phone: (727) 210-2350  
Email: [mail@caahep.org](mailto:mail@caahep.org)

Upon the recommendation of:

The Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA)

19751 East Mainstreet, Suite #339  
Parker, CO 80138  
Phone: (303) 694-9262  
Email: [info@arcstsa.org](mailto:info@arcstsa.org) ([info@arcsta.org](mailto:info@arcsta.org))

Accreditation through ARC/STSA ensures students receive an education in surgical technology adhering to strict standards established by the profession. In addition, Elgin Community College is regionally accredited through North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

## Entrance Requirements

### Surgical Technology

- Grade of C or higher in **BIO 110** Principles of Biology or **BIO 113** Molecular & Cellular Biology or equivalent within the last 10 years.
- Grade of C or higher in **HPE 112** Into to Medical Terminology or equivalent within the last 5 years
- Grade of C or higher in **BIO 245** Human Anatomy and Physiology I or equivalent within the last 5 years

Note: Students who have earned a grade of C or higher in **BIO 240** Human Anatomy and Physiology, or **BIO 245** Human Anatomy and Physiology I and **BIO 246** Human Anatomy and Physiology II, or equivalent are not required to complete **BIO 110** Principles of Biology or **BIO 113** Molecular & Cellular Biology.

All applicants will be ranked based on these requirements and the most-qualified individuals will be selected for admission to the Surgical Technology Program. Refer to the **Surgical Technology** web page for a description of the applicant screening process.

## Sterile Processing and Distribution

Proof of High School Diploma and,  
One of the following:

- Reading: Grade of C or better in RDG 091 or LTC 099, or **satisfaction of other placement criteria.**
- Grade of C or better in HPE 112 within 5 years

## Admission Procedures

### Surgical Technology

Admission to the program is selective. For more information, please see **admission requirements.**

## Sterile Processing and Distribution

- Apply for this program no later than October 1st for a spring semester start.

## Program Requirements

### Surgical Technology

Students must purchase their own ECC program scrubs and provide their own transportation to the clinical agencies. Students must complete all required courses with grades of C or higher to be eligible for graduation and to be eligible to take the National Surgical Technologist Certification exam offered by:

The National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA)  
3 West Dry Creek Circle  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Phone: (800) 707-0057

Fax: (303) 325-2536  
 Email: [mail@nbstsa.org](mailto:mail@nbstsa.org)

Students will be assisted with the exam application process during the final semester of the program.

### Sterile Processing and Distribution

Students will purchase their own ECC program scrubs and provide their own transportation to the clinical agencies. Students must complete SGT-100 with a grade of C or higher to be eligible for certification.

### Policies and Procedures

Students applying to health professions programs must provide a valid Social Security number in order to be screened for a criminal background check. Any student who demonstrates an unclear background check will be denied admission to any health professions program. A valid Social Security number is also needed to apply for licensing/certification exams.

### Surgical Technology

Prior to the first day of class, students must have the following documentation on file with CastleBranch: negative drug test results, clear background check results, completed and signed medical form, proof of immunizations/titer results, proof of health insurance coverage, and proof of BLS healthcare provider CPR certification.

Health professions students will be required to update their drug test, TB test/TB survey, and flu vaccine information on an annual basis. Any student demonstrating a positive drug test will be dismissed from the Health Professions Division.

The standards, policies, and procedures of the Surgical Technology Program are published in the surgical technology student handbook. Copies of the student handbook may be obtained online at [Surgical Technology Program](#)

### Sterile Processing and Distribution

Prior to the first day of class, students must have the following documentation on file with CastleBranch: negative drug test results, clear background check results, completed and signed medical form, proof of immunizations/titer results, and proof of health insurance coverage.

### Surgical Technology

- Incorporate critical thinking and use of problem-solving techniques.
- Act responsibly.
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- Interpret and communicate information.
- Recognize patient rights, needs, and values.
- Incorporate basic patient-care concepts.
- Integrate the principles of asepsis in practice to provide optimum patient care.

- Incorporate basic surgical case preparation skills.
- Facilitate the creation and maintenance of the sterile field.
- Incorporate the role of first scrub on all basic surgical cases.
- Integrate responsible behavior as a health care professional.

### Sterile Processing Distribution

- Correlate knowledge of purpose of safe practice and patient care concepts related to infection prevention and control.
- Incorporate principles, safety standards and regulations as it relates to Central Services and Materials Management.
- Apply basic understanding of surgical instrumentation.
- Identify and implement proper sterilization methods as an entry-level sterile processing and distribution technician.
- Integrate responsible behavior as a health care professional.
- Apply their knowledge of the biologic sciences and biomedical technology to their role in the Sterile Processing and Distribution department (cognitive program goal).
- Demonstrate and value the skills that are required for quality patient care, safe practice, and aseptic techniques in the Sterile Processing and Distribution department (psychomotor program goal).
- Communicate effectively with team members and other facility departments (psychomotor program goal).
- Assume responsibility as a member of the profession of Sterile Processing and Distribution by applying established standards of practice, professional ethics, and ongoing self-evaluation (affective program goal).
- Maintain an "Ethical Conscience" and accountability for personal actions (affective program goal).

## Surgical Technology-Associate of Applied Science

Course	Title	Credit Hours
<b>First Semester</b>		
SGT 100	Sterile Processing and Distribution	5
ENG 101	English Composition I	3
CMS 215	Intercultural Communication	3
BIO 246	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
SGT 102	Intro to Surgical Technology	7
ENG 102	English Composition II	3
BIO 265	Microbiology	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Third Semester</b>		
SGT 111	Surgical Technology II	13
PSY 100	Intro to Psychology	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>

Fourth Semester		
SGT 120	Surgical Technology III	12
HUM 216	Ethics	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Program Total</b>		<b>60</b>

## Sterile Processing and Distribution-Basic Vocational Specialist

Course	Title	Credits
SGT 100	Sterile Processing and Distribution	5

## Surgical Technology Courses

All SGT courses numbered 100 and above may be applied to the major field and elective requirement for the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees.

### SGT 100 Sterile Processing and Distribution (5) 2,9

This course introduces students to the decontamination, processing, sterilization, and distribution of surgical instrumentation and supplies. Classroom and clinical practice include instruction in aseptic techniques, patient care concepts, theories and practices of sterile processing departments, as well as professionalism and ethical behavior in healthcare. Successful completion offers eligibility to take the International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSCMM) Provisional Examination as well as the Certification Board of Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD) Sterile Processing and Distribution Technician Certification Examination. (1.2) Proficiency: (2E) Pass/No Credit Not Available **Surgical Technology Program (SGT)**

SPECIAL NOTE: Explore the Surgical Technology Program and come to an **information session**

A criminal background check and drug test are required. Sterile Processing and Distribution BVS certificate students take this course spring semester. Surgical Technology AAS program students take this course fall semester. For more information please refer to **Surgical Technology Information**.

**In-District Tuition/Fees:** \$715 (effective 2025/26 academic year)

**In-district tuition rates are subject to change based on Board approval.**

**Prerequisite:** Admission into Sterile Processing and Distribution program or Admission into the Surgical Technology program or program director consent.

**Semester(s) Offered:** Spring

### SGT 102 Intro to Surgical Technology (7) 6.5,1

This course introduces the student to the role, necessary skills, and working environment of the surgical technologist. Studies also include the preoperative care of the surgical patient as well as the practice and demonstration of aseptic technique. (1.2) Proficiency Credit Not Available Pass/No Credit Not Available

### **Surgical Technology Program (SGT)**

SPECIAL NOTE: Explore the Surgical Technology Program and come to an **information session**

A criminal background check and drug test are required for the Surgical Technology (SGT) program. Successful completion of the SGT program allows students eligibility to take the National Board of Surgical Technologists and Surgical Assistants (NBSTSA) Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) Exam. For more information please refer to **Surgical Technology Information**.

**In-District Tuition/Fees:** \$1026 (effective 2025/26 academic year)

**In-district tuition rates are subject to change based on Board approval.**

**Prerequisite:** Admission to the Surgical Technology Program. Grade of C or better in SGT-100 and BIO-246

**Semester(s) Offered:** Spring

### SGT 111 Surgical Technology II (13) 6.5,19.5

This course introduces the Surgical Technology student to the principles of intraoperative surgical care. Students will participate in a clinical rotation within a hospital/surgery center where surgical asepsis and patient care will be implemented. (1.2) Proficiency Credit Not Available Pass/No Credit Not Available

### **Surgical Technology Program (SGT)**

SPECIAL NOTE: Explore the Surgical Technology Program and come to an **information session**

### **Surgical Technology Information**.

**In-District Tuition/Fees:** \$2141 (effective 2025/26 academic year)

**In-district tuition rates are subject to change based on Board approval.**

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C or better SGT-102 and BIO-265.

**Semester(s) Offered:** Fall

**SGT 120 Surgical Technology III (12) 4,24**

Common surgical procedures will be studied in detail while the student further develops perioperative skills assisting the surgeon in the operating room. This course also reviews professional skills and the certification exam. Special Note: A criminal background check and drug test required for the Surgical Technology (SGT) program. Successful completion of the SGT program allows students eligibility to take the National Board of Surgical Technologists and Surgical Assistants (NBSTSA) Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) Exam.(1.2) Proficiency Credit Not Available Pass/No Credit Not Available

**Surgical Technology Program (SGT)**

SPECIAL NOTE: Explore the Surgical Technology Program and come to an **information session**

A criminal background check and drug test are required for the Surgical Technology (SGT) program. Successful completion of the SGT program allows students eligibility to take the National Board of Surgical Technologists and Surgical Assistants (NBSTSA) Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) Exam.(1.2). For more information please refer to **Surgical Technology Information**.

**In-District Tuition/Fees:** \$1696 (effective 2025/26 academic year)

**In-district tuition rates are subject to change based on Board approval.**

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C or better in SGT 111.

**Semester(s) Offered:** Spring