

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Information Session

Trident Technical College

General Information

- The Surgical Technology Program at Trident Technical College is a full-time, 2-year, associate degree program.
- A new cohort begins each Fall semester.
- Students will also attend clinical courses the last 3 semesters in the program.
- Clinicals are located throughout the Tri-County.

General Information

- **Students must have reliable transportation to and from campus for lectures and labs, as well as to and from clinical sites. Lack of transportation will not be a justifiable reason for missing lecture, lab, and/or clinicals.**
- **While enrolled in the surgical technology program, parking at clinical sites may not be provided free of charge. Students are responsible for any parking fees that they may incur.**

Admission Information

- You must be active in the Associate Health Science Prep Program and complete an online Health Sciences Application to apply for the Surgical Technology program. Can be found on the Health Sciences Webpage or at <https://hsapp.tridenttech.edu/HealthApp/>
- You must submit an OFFICIAL High School Transcript or GED.
- Complete BIO 210 Anatomy and Physiology I and AHS 104 Medical Vocabulary with a minimum grade of C. Both BIO 210 and AHS 104 must be completed within five years of the program start date.
- Achieve a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA in the above required pre-requisite courses (BIO 210 and AHS 104).
- Complete an advising and information session in person with Mr. Mohny on the Surgical Technology Program and ask any questions you may have or achieve a score of 100% on the quiz following the online session to verify the information was reviewed and understood.
- Submit a Statement of Completion form online. The link to the form can be found on the Health Science webpage.
- If you have questions about your application, contact your academic advisor regarding programs and admission requirements.

Admission Information

- When the number of applicants qualifying at the same time exceeds space available in the program, admission will be prioritized according to the date and time that the Health Science application was received by the Health Science Admissions Coordinator.
- Trident Technical College is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, national origin, disability, gender, or age in its admission policies, programs, activities, or practices.
- After you have met all of the admission criteria and submitted your Statement of Completion form online, you will be contacted by the Health Sciences Admissions Coordinator. Your name will be added to the Surgical Technology Program for the next available class.
- Students must respond promptly to the Health sciences Admission Coordinator of their intent to ACCEPT or DECLINE the seat being offered by the acceptance date listed on the letter. Lack of notification will result in the student being removed from the list.

Admission Information

- Be sure to keep your address, phone number, and email account current with the college through the Registrars Office. Current contact information is required in order to notify you of seat availability and the scheduled orientation date. Please check your my.tridenttech.edu email on a regular basis for updates and required information. Prior to beginning the program, you will receive notification via your my.tridenttech.edu email indicating the date, time, and place for the surgical technology program mandatory orientation. This orientation session is completed the Fall 1 term before the student enters the ST professional courses.

Program Information

- The Surgical Technology Program is an intensive, academic experience. Students can expect to study between 15-30 hours per week outside of class, lab and clinic.
- The program is full time. Learning experiences are provided on and off campus. Typically, classroom and clinical hours are during the day from 6:30am – 4:30pm.
- Students can expect to engage in learning experiences that require group projects with fellow classmates, public speaking, and collaboration with other disciplines.

Program Information

- **Surgical Technology students are required to successfully demonstrate skill competencies during lab practical exams each semester and competency check-offs during each semester to remain in the program.**
- **Students are assessed for professional development throughout the program.**
- **Once admitted to the Surgical Technology Program, students are required to achieve at least a grade of “C” or better in all courses required for the program as well as pass all competencies, critical safety areas on lab practical exams, and professional development. If a student does not achieve one of the above requirements at any time, he or she may not be able to progress in the program.**

Fa 11 2 Courses

- **BIO211**

- **Online / In person**

BIO211 MUST be completed by the end of Fall 2 1st year to continue in the program.

YOU MUST PASS ALL CLASSES WITH A GRADE OF 'C' OR BETTER TO CONTINUE ON THE SUR TRACK

Program Requirements

- **Students MUST have a lap top computer for classes, labs, and clinicals!**
- Students will incur additional expenses outside of tuition for clinicals such as uniforms, parking, additional immunizations, physical examinations, TB testing, uniforms, supplies, books, insurance, health related expenses, etc.
- By orientation, students will be required to provide the following to the program coordinator. More detailed information about immunizations and titers can be found by clicking on the “Healthcare Personnel Vaccinations Recommendations” link or Frequently Asked Immunization Questions” in the Important Links section.

Books

- **Estimated: \$900.00**
 - **Alexander's Surgical Procedures (2012)**
 - **Surgical Technology for the Surgical Technologist: A Positive Care Approach (6th Edition) TEXTBOOK**
 - **Surgical Technology for the Surgical Technologist: A Positive Care Approach (6th Edition) WORKBOOK**
 - **Surgical Instrumentation: An Interactive Approach (4th Edition)**
 - **[https://www.surgical counts.com](https://www.surgicalcounts.com)**
 - **Sterile Processing Technical Manual (9th Edition) TEXTBOOK**
 - **Sterile Processing Technical Manual (9th Edition) WORKBOOK**
 - **Lange Q&A: Surgical Technology Examination (8th Edition)**

Program Requirements

- **Students must provide the following items:**
 - **Completed Student Health Record (physical, immunizations, titers, and 2 step PPD testing, etc.)**
 - **Proof of major medical, health insurance coverage**
 - **Professional Liability Insurance**
 - **Meningococcal Vaccination**
 - **Proof of CPR certification for the Healthcare Provider (BLS)**
 - **Background check through College approved vendor only – information to be provided at Orientation**

Program Requirements

- Pay for drug screen through College approved vendor – information to be provided at Orientation
- Proof of professional liability insurance
- Submit transcript demonstrating completion of Care Learning Modules due by the end of Spring 1, first year.
- The flu shot will be required during the Fall semester prior to attending clinicals.

General Information

HINT:

Students should put aside money for these requirements as they can be very costly. Students should also start receiving the immunizations and having titers (blood tests) drawn as soon as possible as they may take up to 18 months to complete.

****Keep all documentation received from the doctor or lab regarding immunizations and titers and all other paperwork required for continuation in the Surgical Technology Program.**

REMINDERS

- **Complete FAFSA**
- **Check TTC email frequently**
- **There are scholarships and grants available through the TTC Foundation**

NBSTSA

- NBSTSA – National Board of Surgical Technologists and Surgical Assisting
- Credentialing Board
- Certification exhibits pride in the profession, the desire to be recognized for mastery of scientific principles, as well as an ongoing commitment to quality patient care.
- Certification is a means for upward mobility, a condition for employment, a route to higher pay, and a source of recognition nationwide.
- Approved candidates who take and pass the CST examination are authorized to use the initials CST as long as they maintain certification currency.
- **Students are required to sit for Certification Exam through NBSTSA**

CST ELIGIBILITY POLICY

- **Candidates may establish eligibility to take the CST examination under the following condition:**
 - **Candidate is a graduate from a surgical technology program undergoing accreditation. Candidate is eligible to take the CST examination as long as they were actively enrolled when the accreditation site visit occurred and are subsequently eligible upon the official granting of accreditation.**

What is a Surgical Technologist

- Stand next to the patient
- Are the surgeon's right-hand person
 - During an operation, surgical technologists pass sterile instruments and supplies to surgeons and first assistants.
 - Surgical technologists hold retractors, hold internal organs in place during procedures, and/or set up robotic equipment.

2 Main Roles as a Surgical Technologist

- 1. Surgical technologists manage the sterile field and handle specimens.**
- 2. Surgical technologists perform a count of sponges and supplies to prevent foreign retained objects**
- 3. Surgical technologists assist the surgeon and anticipate his/her needs**

ST?

- **Surgical Technology is one of the most careers in the healthcare field that people are unaware of**
- **“You will have some of the most remarkable experiences known to human beings in medicine.”-Mel Angelisanti
CSFA/CST**
- **You will have your hands on and sometimes in the incision or wound.**

What's the Difference Between a Surgical Technologist & Surgical Technician?

	Accredited Surgical Technology Programs (ARC/STSA or ABHES)	Non-Accredited Surgical Technology Programs / On-the-job Training Programs
Degree/Diploma/Certificate	Associate's Degree	Diploma/Certificate of Completion
Certification	CST (Certified Surgical Technologist) through NBSTSA	TS-C through NCCT or another credential that is not nationally recognized
Length of Program	1 year for pre-requisites 1 year for Surgical Tech program	5 days to 6 months
Clinical Time in Hospital	120 cases minimum required for graduation and certification	0 cases required prior to completion or certification. Many programs do not provide clinicals and students must seek out their own clinical experience.
Hands-On Skills Labs	1 Semester prior to clinical rotation	Minimal or online
Instrument Identification	1 Semester prior to clinical rotation	Minimal or online
Aseptic Technique Training	1 Semester prior to clinical rotation	Minimal or online
Anatomy & Physiology, Microbiology, Pharmacology Courses	Completed during or prior to the Surgical Technology program	No Requirement
Cost of Program	Less than \$10,000 for pre-requisites and Surgical Tech program	Prices vary up to \$40,000, but most programs are for profit. Programs tend to cost more but offer less.

What's the Difference
Between a
Surgical Technologist
&
Surgical Technician?

	CST	TS-C, NST, or other credential
Certifying Organization	National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NCCA accredited)	National Center for Competency Testing or National Medical Licensing Association
Program Accreditation Required	Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA through CAAHEP) or Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)	No
Nationally Recognized	Yes 17 states recognize ONLY this credential	No
Surgical Cases Required	120 minimum completed prior to graduation and sitting for certification per ARC/STSA standards	No case requirement prior to the credentialing exam. For the TS-C, cases may be completed up to 2 years after sitting for the exam. Other credentials require no cases for certification.

Educational Training

- What does the program look like?
 - Anatomy – The names and locations of parts of the body
 - Physiology – How these parts work
 - Medical Vocabulary/Terminology – The fancy names for all these parts
 - Microbiology – The germs that can infect these parts
- Classes will be divided 3 ways: Lecture, Lab, and Clinicals

Educational Training

- **Lecture**
 - **You will learn about:**
 - Patients
 - Laws
 - The operating room in hospitals and surgery centers
 - The equipment, supplies and instruments used
 - Wounds, wound care and closure, including sutures, staples and/or other supplies.
 - **You will also learn and understand how to apply the concepts associated with surgical technology.**

Educational Training

- Lab consists of:
 - Learning instrumentation, understanding the names and uses of a variety of instruments
 - Practicing skills in a mock operating room
 - Learning how to open sterile supplies and instruments
 - Creating and maintaining a sterile field
 - Gowning and gloving and how to move around the operating room (This is hands on!!)

Educational Training

- **Clinicals:**
 - In clinicals, you will go to an actual operating room and put your skills and knowledge you learned in lecture and lab to work on live patients
 - You will participate in over 120 real cases, where you will then be eligible to graduate (120 is the minimum cases)

Certification

- Upon completion of the surgical technology program, you are eligible to sit for the national certification exam through NBSTSA (National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical First Assistants)
- If you pass, you will have earned the designation CST (Certified Surgical Technologist)
- Just as a doctor can use MD, or a nurse can use RN after his/her name you earned the right to have CST after your name

Certification

- **States with Laws Requiring Certification:**
 - Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia
- **States with Registration Requirements:**
 - Colorado, North Dakota, and Washington
- **States with State Licensure:**
 - Arkansas, Illinois, and New Hampshire

Certification

- **NBSTSA (National Board for Surgical Technology and Surgical First Assistants)** allows candidates to sit for the national certification to become a **CST (Certified Surgical Technologist)**
- **NCCT (National Center for Competency Testing)** allows candidates to sit for the **TS-C (Tech in Surgery Certified)**

Certification

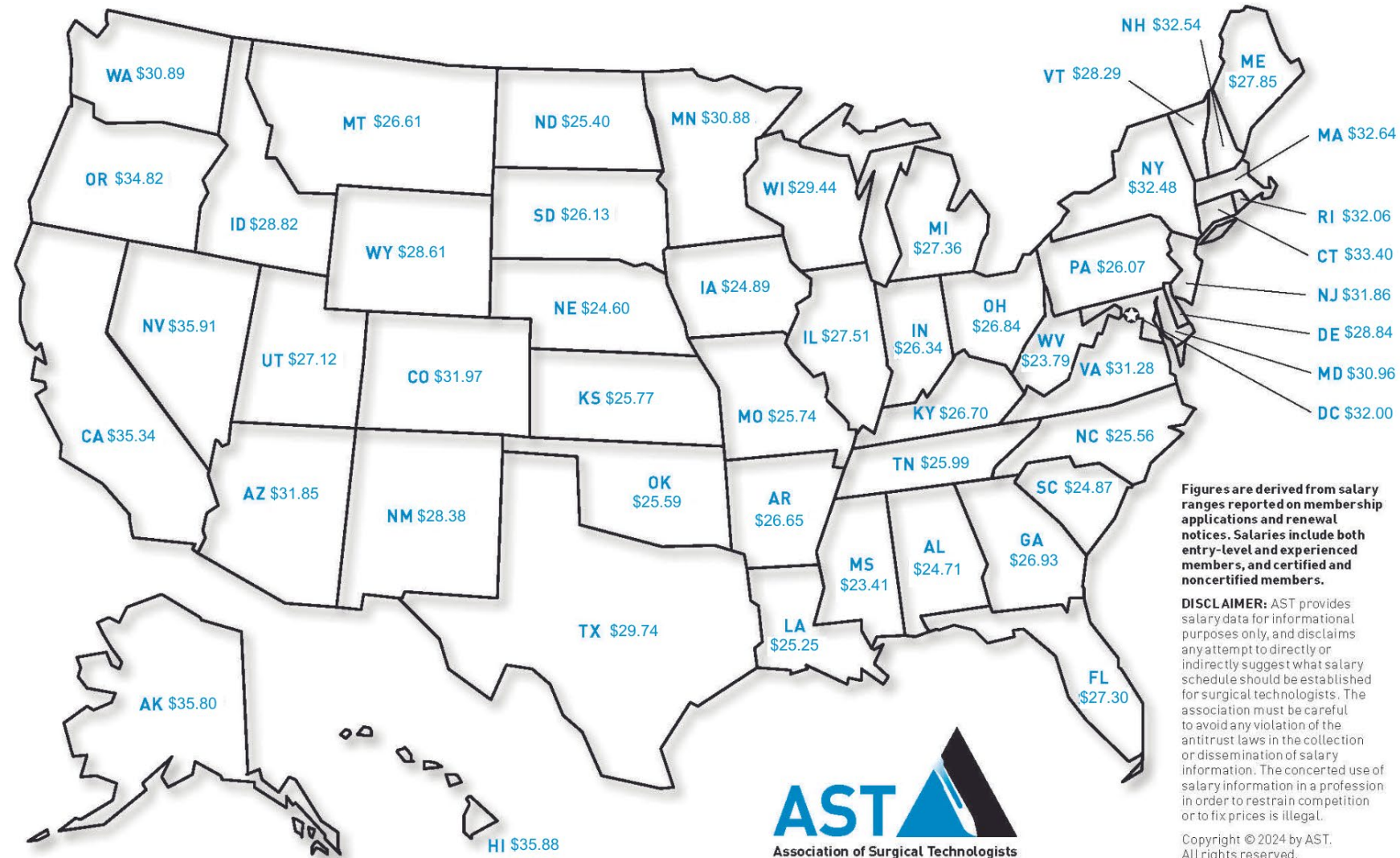
- What does certification mean?
 - Can states just hire someone off the street? YES and NO.
 - Most hospitals require the CST or TS-C designation OR be a graduate of a college/institutional program OR trained in the military OR has worked as a scrub for X number of years in an operating room.
 - Surgeon is Licensed
 - Nurse is Licensed
 - Anesthesiologist is Certified
 - Shouldn't the surgical technologist?

Certification

- **Example: Robotic Surgery, being used more and more in surgery and surgical specialties**
 - The surgeon is not scrubbed in
 - He/she is at a remote terminal controlling the arms of the robot
 - This can leave the CST alone at the sterile field
 - The nurse and anesthesiologist must stay away from the sterile field
 - **EMERGENCY: CSTs are the only ones at the sterile field that can react RIGHT AWAY!**
 - It is crucial that surgical technologists be properly and extensively trained and can demonstrate their integrity and surgical conscious.

2024 AVERAGE HOURLY PAY RATE OF AST MEMBERS BY STATE

What Do CST's Earn?



Surgical Technology

- There are 3 main objectives to being a surgical technologist:

1. Understanding and applying concepts

- Professionalism
- Integrity and honesty
- Communication (Verbal and Non-Verbal)
- Ethical and legal issues specific to the perioperative setting
- Concept of sterility and maintaining sterile field
- Anticipatory skills

Surgical Technology

2. Physicality and Movement

- Standing for long periods of time
- Manual dexterity
- Spatial awareness
- Use one or two hands to grasp, move, or assemble objects
- Bend, stretch, twist, or reach out
- Use muscles to lift, push, pull, or carry heavy objects
- Adjust body movements or equipment controls to keep pace with speed changes of moving objects

Surgical Technology

3. Memorization

- Medical terminology
- Identification of instrumentation and equipment
- Anatomy and physiology of the human body with and without the presence of pathology

Contact Information

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