Surgical Technology

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St. George, UT 84790
435-879-4850

https://health.dixie.edu/surgical-technology/

To find faculty and staff phone numbers and email addresses, please consult the University Directory (http://www.dixie.edu/directory/directory.php).

Program Director
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Department Chair
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Administrative Assistant
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Program Description

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals who are an integral part of the surgical team. Their primary role is to work with surgeons, anesthesiologists, registered nurses and other surgical technologists in delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during and after surgery.

Specifically, surgical technologists apply and maintain the principles of sterile technique and safety in the operating room; prepare, handle, and care for surgical instruments, supplies, equipment and medications; set up instrumentation, equipment and supplies for various surgical procedures; apply critical thinking skills to anticipate procedural steps and corresponding instrumentation; and pass surgical instrumentation, supplies, and medications to the surgeon during an operation.

The intensive 9-month surgery core portion of the program combines classroom lectures and discussions, laboratory demonstrations with hands-on practice, and supervised clinical experiences in actual patient care settings to provide students with a variety of learning opportunities.

Certification

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the National Board Certifying Examination offered by the National Board for Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) to become a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST).

Accreditation

The Dixie State University Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon recommendation by the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA). These organizations may be contacted at:

CAAHEP
25400 US Highway 19 North, Suite 158
Clearwater, FL 33763
Phone: 727-210-2350
www.caahep.org (http://www.caahep.org)

ARC/STSA
6 West Dry Creek Circle, Suite 110
Littleton, CO 80120
Phone: 303-694-9262
www.arcstsa.org (http://www.arcstsa.org)

Course Prefixes

- SURG
Degrees

- Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/surgicaltechnology/associate_of_applied_science_in_surgical_technology)

Program Admission

To be considered for admission to the Surgical Technology program, an applicant must first be accepted as a Dixie State University student. The applicant must complete a separate application to the Surgical Technology program.

Surgical Technology is a limited-enrollment program and admits one class each fall. Surgical Technology program admission selection decisions are based on the cumulative scores achieved by applicants and are applied without regard to race, color, ethnic background, national origin, religion, creed, age, citizenship, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, and/or gender. Applicants must verify that they are able to perform the essential functions of a surgical technologist. Some of our clinical sites require that students be at least 18 years of age to be eligible for clinical rotation placement.

The Surgical Technology program admission selection process utilizes a points system designed to predict potential for student success in the program. In the event that qualifying applications receive identical scores, the date of receipt of the completed applications will be used to assign admission priority. Final selection will be made and students will be notified by email message to the student’s University email address. Admission to the program is considered conditional until candidate completes the remaining requirements as indicated in the conditional acceptance letter. An alternate list will be used to accommodate cancellations. Admissions will remain open until the class is filled.

Additional program application information can be found at: https://health.dixie.edu/surgical-technology/program-admissions/.

Required Prerequisite Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2320 &amp; BIOL 2325</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Lab</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2420 &amp; BIOL 2425</td>
<td>Human Physiology and Human Physiology Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1010 or ENGL 1010D</td>
<td>Introduction to Writing (EN)</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 2010</td>
<td>Intermediate Writing Selected Topics: (EN)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLOC 1000</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1040 or MATH 1030 or MATH 1050</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics (MA) (preferred) Quantitative Reasoning (MA) College Algebra / Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1010 or PSY 1100 or FSHD 1500</td>
<td>General Psychology (SS, GC) Human Development Through Lifespan (SS) (GC) Human Development Lifespan (SS, GC)</td>
<td>3</td>
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1 Grade of C or higher in prerequisite courses required.

Surgical Technology Program Learning Outcomes (to support DSU Institutional Learning Outcomes)

Dixie State University Surgical Technology Program Graduates will be able to:

- **PLO 1.1 Skills:** Perform surgical technology roles and duties competently and safely at entry-level for employment.
- **PLO 2.1 Knowledge:** Apply fundamental theoretical knowledge effectively in the practice of surgical technology.
- **PLO 2.2 Knowledge:** Acquire and evaluate emerging surgical knowledge to support innovations in surgical practice.
- **PLO 4.1 Responsibility:** Exhibit professional behaviors consistently to obtain and maintain employment.
- **PLO 5.1 Grit:** Demonstrate competence and safe practice under pressure in demanding surgical situations.
- **PLO 5.2 Grit:** Adapt to unexpected circumstances in surgery efficiently to facilitate safe patient care.

Career Information

Surgical technologists work as members of a healthcare team alongside physicians and surgeons, registered nurses, and other healthcare workers. Before an operation, surgical technologists prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment. During an operation, surgical technologists pass instruments and supplies to surgeons and first assistants. They also hold retractors, hold internal organs in place during the procedure, or set up robotic surgical equipment. Over 70%
of surgical technologists are employed in hospitals and may work or be on call during nights, weekends, and holidays. They may also be required to work shifts lasting longer than 8 hours.

Job Outlook*

Employment of surgical technologists is projected to grow 12 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations. Advances in medical technology have made surgery safer, and more operations are being done to treat a variety of illnesses and injuries.

Salary Range*

The median annual wage for surgical technologists was $45,160 in May 2016. The lowest 10 percent earned less than $31,720, and the highest 10 percent earned more than $64,800.