

## Surgical Technology, AAS Degree - 60 credits

Program Area: Allied Health (Fall 2025)

**\*\*\*REMEMBER TO REGISTER EARLY\*\*\***

### Program Description

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals who are an integral part of the team of medical practitioners providing surgical care to patients. They work under the supervision and delegatory authority of a surgeon to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of surgical procedures, ensuring a safe operating room environment.

Surgical technologists may function in either the first or second scrub role. The first scrub surgical technologist gathers, opens, and handles the instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary during the surgical procedure. They must anticipate the needs of the surgeon and are constantly on vigil for maintenance of the sterile field. The second scrub surgical technologist assists the surgeon during the operative procedure by carrying out tasks including holding retractors, cutting sutures, sponging, and suctioning.

Surgical technologists are experts in the theory and application of the principles of asepsis and sterile technique to combine the knowledge of human anatomy, surgical procedures, and implementation, tools and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance of invasive therapeutic and diagnostic procedures.

Successful surgical technologists must work with speed, accuracy, and skill. In addition, they must possess excellent communication and critical thinking skills. Surgical technologists must be able to respond effectively and efficiently to emergency situations and work well under pressure.

### Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate acceptable knowledge-based competencies in accordance with national standards for surgical technology.
- Demonstrate professional behaviors consistent with national standards and employer expectations.
- Demonstrate safe patient care practices consistent with national standards and employer expectations.
- Demonstrate compassion for the patient and maintain confidentiality.
- Exhibit a strong sense of ethical behavior and surgical conscience.
- Exhibit self-direction and responsibility for actions.
- Work under difficult and sometimes stressful situations and maintain composure.

### Pre-Program Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term
ALTH 1410	Medical Terminology	1	
BIOL 1005	Introduction to Cell Biology	1	
BIOL 1140	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4	

### Required Courses

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term
BIOL 1141	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4	
PSYC 1120 or PSYC 1135	General Psychology or Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3	
BIOL 1170	Microbiology	3	
SURG 1210	Introduction to Surgical Technology	3	
SURG 1212	Surgical Lab I	2	
BIOL 2170	Pathophysiology	3	
COMM 1105	Interpersonal Communication	3	
SURG 1310	Surgical Techniques I	3	
SURG 1312	Surgical Lab II	4	
SURG 2210	Surgical Techniques II	3	
SURG 2212	Surgical Clinical I	4	
SURG 2214	Surgical Procedures	6	
SURG 2312	Surgical Clinical II	12	
SURG 2320	Professional Preparation and Review	1	

**Total credits**

**60**

**Courses may require a prerequisite. Refer to the course outline or check with an advisor.**

- Join the Association of Surgical Technologists for continuing education opportunities.
- Successfully scrub 120 surgical procedures as outlined by the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST).
- Participate in the national certification exam conducted by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

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You may be required to complete additional coursework dependent upon the results of your Computerized Placement Test (CPT) and/or previous coursework completed, or certifications awarded. Pre-program courses must be completed prior to entry into the Surgical Technology Program with a grade of “C” or higher. Students are highly encouraged to take BIOL 1140 & 1141 in person, not online. All SURG courses must be taken in sequence and completed with a grade of “C” or higher.

Qualified applicants should be aware that program class size is limited, which may delay acceptance into the program.

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### Pre-program Requirements

Successful entry into this program requires a specific level of skill in the areas of English, Mathematics, and Reading. Program entry will depend, in part, on meeting the prerequisites listed below:

#### English/Reading:

- Eligible for ENGL 1106 - College Composition I, or
- Completion of ENGL/READ 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). ENGL/READ 0950/0955 may not be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

#### Mathematics:

- Eligible for MATH 0950/0955 - Essentials of Mathematics: Intermediate/Advanced.

There are other ways to qualify. Visit [Course Placement](https://lsc.edu/course-placement) (lsc.edu/course-placement) to find out more.

NOTE: All of the following are required for the clinical rotation portion of the program:

- Current immunizations and current negative Tuberculosis (TB) screening
- Current certification in American Heart Association BLS Healthcare Provider or American Red Cross BLS/CPR for Healthcare Providers. ALTH 1430 will satisfy this requirement.
- Background Study approval is required from the State of Minnesota and/or Wisconsin. A national criminal background study is also required.

### Program Accreditation

The Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) based on recommendations from the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC-STSA).

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For more information about the Surgical Technology AAS degree including course descriptions, course prerequisites, and potential career opportunities see the [program website](https://www.lsc.edu/degrees/surgical-technology-aas/) (https://www.lsc.edu/degrees/surgical-technology-aas/), contact the [professional advising team](mailto:advising@lsc.edu) (advising@lsc.edu) at 218-733-7601, or the Director of Surgical Technology [Kathleen Terwey](mailto:kathleen.terwey@lsc.edu) (kathleen.terwey@lsc.edu) at 218-733-6806.

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MINNESOTA STATE

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