

Surgical Technology Program  
STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2024/2025

Sterile Processing Certificate/Surgical Technology AAS  
PROGRAM PLAN

## Sterile Processing Certificate

Semester 1	Credits
BIOL1106 Principles of Biology (Prerequisite course for BIOL2100 A&P Grade of B or higher is required.)	4
COMP1002 Computer Technologies	2
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>6</b>
Semester 2	Credits
PSYCH1506 General/1406 LifeSpan/1606 Abnormal	4
BIOL2100 A&P I (Grade of B or higher is required)	4
HLTH1040 Medical Terminology	2
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10</b>
Semester 3	Credits
SPCH1200 Interpersonal/1120 Public Speaking/1500 Multicultural	3
BIOL2200 A&P II (Grade of B or higher is required)	4
SURG1003 Sterile Processing	3
SURG1005 Surgical Microbiology	2
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total credits for the Sterile Processing certificate (including prerequisite)</b>	<b>28</b>

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**Note:** Completed **Accuplacer**, **Program Application**, **TEAS test results of 60% or higher**, and **CPR for the Healthcare Provider**. Applicants must pass a MN Background Study. Application dates will be posted on the program website. If Admissions receives more than 30 (first time applicants) applications, candidates will be selected using a lottery system. Accepted applicants must confirm their acceptance with Admissions and are only accepted to the term they apply for.

### Please note regarding graduating with Sterile Processing Certificate

As stated in Policy 2.4: Graduation

"To receive a certificate, diploma, or degree from Anoka Technical College, students must earn one third of the credits required for graduation through enrollment in Anoka Technical College courses."

*This can be a factor to be aware of when transferring in pre-requisite courses.*

## Surgical Technology Program Description

The Surgical Technology program is designed to develop skills in all phases of operating room procedures and technique, including clinical experience in the operating room. The general education requirements contribute to the academic

success of the surgical technologist, with general psychology, interpersonal communication, and computers.

In addition to anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, surgical pharmacology and microbiology, the student will study sterile processing, operating room techniques and surgical procedures. Clinical sites are in and around the Twin Cities area. The clinical rotation assignments are determined by the program faculty. A student will not be assigned to a clinical site where they are employed. Students must provide their own transportation to and from these assigned clinical sites and pay for any parking fees.

Prospective students should have the ability to work under stress, the stamina to stand for many hours without relief, and the ability to lift and move heavy operating room equipment and anesthetized patients. A medical doctor's physical examination is required to verify good physical and emotional health. Documentation of immunity is required. Students are strongly encouraged to take the Hepatitis B vaccine. The Surgical Technology Program is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

## **Wages/Outlook/Advancement Opportunities**

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

<https://mn.gov/deed/>

## **Careers**

Graduates of the surgical technology program are qualified to work in hospital operating rooms, day surgery units, OB labor and delivery units, cardiovascular labs, research labs and sterile processing departments.

## **Industry Description**

As a surgical technologist, you will function mainly as a scrub person in a hospital operating room. The surgical technologist sets up the instruments, drapes, sutures, and prepares supplies for surgical procedures. They assist the surgeon and other operating team members with gowning and gloving for surgery and draping the patient. The surgical technologist is expected to anticipate the needs of the surgeon throughout the procedure and pass instruments, sutures, and supplies the operative procedure and team requires to assist in the care of the patient.

As a student, you will study surgical procedures, asepsis (sterile technique), preparation of the patient for surgery, surgical instruments and equipment, and the



Dear Surgical Technology Student,

Welcome to the surgical technology program at Anoka Technical College. We hope that the experience and knowledge you gain as a Surgical Technology student will help you become a dedicated, skilled, professional surgical team member, and a life-long learner. We have a sincere interest and investment in your success.

This Surgical Technology Student Handbook outlines policies and procedures that will guide your education and are intended to supplement MN State (Colleges and Universities)/Anoka Technical College's policies and procedures. Policies are subject to change and the student is responsible to adhere to these policies and any changes. Students may request an appointment with their advisor at any time for clarification or concerns relating to the information in this handbook. Program Instructors will work diligently to provide a rich learning environment that will prepare you for employment as a Surgical Technologist.

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## **Program Faculty**

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**Mission:** The program mission is to provide didactic, lab, and clinical experiences that will enable individuals to enter the work force as competent, entry-level, surgical technologists.

## **Program Goals**

Students who complete the program will:

- ❖ Demonstrate the principles of aseptic technique consistently.
- ❖ Accept constructive criticism and demonstrate the appropriate behavior change.
- ❖ Communicate effectively in medical language.
- ❖ Ability to transfer theoretical knowledge to clinical situations.
- ❖ Adjust to changes in technology.

- ❖ Adhere to program/hospital policies and procedures according to industry standards.
- ❖ Understand his/her role and function as a member of the surgical team.
- ❖ Display professional behavior.
- ❖ Take the Surgical Technology National Certification examination.

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## Attire Policy

### Jewelry:

No jewelry will be worn including:

Rings, watches, bracelets, necklaces, Earrings\*, facial piercings, nose rings, multiple ear piercings

\*One set of "post" earrings may be worn and contained under your scrub hat. Small gauge earrings may be worn as long as they don't have anything that dangles/hangs down from them.

LEAVE YOUR EXPENSIVE JEWELRY AT HOME

### Shoes:

Shoes are a very important part of your uniform. Make sure you have a comfortable pair of shoes that fit our uniform guidelines:

Shoes should NOT be: Canvas/Open-toe/Open-heel/Crocs/Mesh/Fabric

Shoes SHOULD be: Wipeable/comfortable/secure on your feet/water resistant/Protective (leather)

As well as providing comfort for you as you will be on your feet all day, your shoes provide protection for your feet incase anything is dropped or splashed on you in the OR.

### Miscellaneous:

No perfume

No cell phone use in the classroom unless directed by faculty. Cell phones should remain in the locker area with the ringer in the off position.





fashion. If you find that your educational goals should change, or that you are not a "right fit" for your initial educational choice, contact your advisor or meet with a success coach.

#### READMISSION REQUEST FORM

It is the student's responsibility to make an appointment with the Program Director (before the last day of the semester) to discuss possible re-application. The student interested in re-admission will complete the **Exit Interview Questionnaire** and the **Re-Admission Reques**

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