

Surgical Technology

PAY

As of May 2023, the median annual wage for surgical technologists was \$60,610.

Industry-Specific Wages:

- Earnings vary depending on the employment setting, with hospitals typically paying the median wage and outpatient care centers often offering higher wages.

JOB OUTLOOK

The job market for surgical technologists is projected to grow by 6% from 2023 to 2035, with about 8,600 job openings expected annually.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Surgical Assistants and Technologists, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/surgical-technologists.htm> (visited June 2024).

The Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science degree is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science degree curriculum is designed to enable the student to perform a variety of duties, as well as provide technical support to the surgical team in the operating room before, during, and after surgery. The surgical technologist is trained to maintain a sterile and safe surgical environment.

WHAT DO SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS DO?

Surgical technologists, also called operating room technicians, assist in surgical operations. They prepare operating rooms, arrange equipment, and help doctors and nurses during surgeries.

Duties may include, but are not limited to, preparing sterile supplies, equipment, instruments, and drapes for surgical procedures, assisting the surgical team with gowning and gloving, positioning patients for surgery, passing instruments, sponges, sutures and other supplies to the surgeon or the assistant, preparing specimens for laboratory analysis, and sterilizing equipment.



WHERE DO THEY WORK?

Most surgical technologists work in hospitals. Some work in outpatient surgery centers.



Recommended Sequence of Courses

Surgical Technology:

Associate of Applied Science Degree (A.A.S.)

PREREQUISITE COURSES

ENG 119	English I	.3
ENG 120	English II	.3
BIO 155	Introductory Biology	.4
BIO 240	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	.4
BIO 250	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	.4
BIO 295	Microbiology	.4
PSY 101	Introductory Psychology	.3
ALH 110	Medical Terminology	.3
SUR 100	Orientation to Surgical Technology – Lecture	.3
PREREQUISITE TOTAL		.31

SEMESTER 3

ALH 115	Medical Computer Systems	.3
SUR 155	Surgical Technology Clinical III	.6
SUR 160	Surgical Seminar/Certification Preparation – Lecture	.4

SEMESTER TOTAL13

A.A.S. PROGRAM TOTAL76

*Note: Program total hours may not include prerequisites.
Program totals do not include remedial courses.*

CR. No.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
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SEMESTER 1

PS 101	American Government	.3
ALH 230	Medical Ethics	.3
SUR 110	Surgical Technology Principles – Lecture	.3
SUR 120	Surgical Specialties and Techniques I – Lecture	.4
SUR 125	Surgical Technology Clinical I – Lab	.4
SEMESTER TOTAL		.17

SEMESTER 2

BIO 252	Pathophysiology	.4
SUR 130	Surgical Specialties and Techniques II – Lecture	.4
SUR 140	Surgical Pharmacology – Lecture	.3
SUR 145	Surgical Technology Clinical II	.4
SEMESTER TOTAL		.15

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