



## Surgical Technology Program Description

### Industry Description

Working as a surgical technologist, you will function mainly as a scrub person in a hospital operating room. The Technologist sets up the instruments, drapes, sutures, and supplies for surgical procedures, assists the surgeon and other operating team members with gowning and gloving for surgery, hands instruments, sutures, and supplies to the surgeon throughout the operative procedure. As a student, you will study surgical procedures, asepsis (sterile technique), preparation of the patient for surgery, surgical instruments and equipment, and the physical conditions that make it necessary for a person to have surgery. Surgical Technologists work closely with surgeons and registered nurses, are able to anticipate the needs of the physician during surgery, and assist in the care of the patient during surgical procedures.

The ability to perform under pressure in stressful and emergency situations is a quality essential to surgical technologists. A stable temperament, a strong sense of responsibility, considerable patience, and concern for order are required. Manual dexterity and physical stamina are vital. They must be able to work quickly, but accurately, and must be oriented to detail, yet able to integrate a number of activities according to priority. They must be keenly sensitive to the needs of the patient, as well as to the needs of other members of the surgical team. Individuals who practice this profession have a strong desire to help others and make a valuable contribution to society.

Minnesota Law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care facility licensed by the [Minnesota Department of Health](#) have a background study conducted by the state. An individual who is disqualified from having direct patient contact as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a Minnesota licensed health care facility. The College will withdraw any student from the program who is disqualified by the Minnesota Department of Health. The student is responsible for requesting the Commissioner to reconsider the disqualification.

This information is available in alternative formats by calling (763) 576-4700. TTY users can call Minnesota Relay at (800) 627-3529. Anoka Technical College • (763) 576-4700 • 1355 West Highway 10, Anoka, MN 55303 • A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System • Anoka Technical College is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and educator.

## **Careers**

The graduate of this program is qualified to work in hospital operating rooms, day surgery units, OB labor and delivery, cardiovascular labs, and research labs. Overtime and call time will vary with position and place of employment.

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

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Education and the [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development](#)

With additional training, some technologists advance to first assistants. These workers help retract, sponge, and suture during surgery. They also help close and treat wounds. Some technologists manage supply departments in hospitals. Others take jobs with insurance companies, supply services, or medical equipment companies.

## **Program Description**

The Surgical Technology program is designed to develop skills in all phases of operating room procedures and techniques, including clinical experience in the operating room. The general education requirements contribute to the academic success of the surgical technologist, with composition, general psychology, interpersonal communication, and computers.

In addition to operating room techniques and surgical procedures, the student will study surgical microbiology, surgical pharmacology, medical terminology, and anatomy and physiology. Clinical hospitals are located in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, and students must provide their own transportation to and from these assigned clinical sites and pay for any parking fees.

A background in general math, anatomy/physiology, biology, health and life sciences, medical terminology, and nursing assistant skills can be helpful. 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 to verify good physical and emotional health with positive Rubella Titer or evidence of immunization is mandatory. 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](#). Graduates are eligible to take the National Certification Examination for Surgical Technologists.

## **Restriction**

Courses with the SURG prefix are restricted to students admitted to the Surgical Technology program.

**IMPORTANT ACCUPLACER Test Requirement:** ACCUPLACER testing in math, reading and writing. Any needed developmental courses must be completed before receiving a diploma or an A.A.S. award.

## Program Essentials

Medical Exam is REQUIRED.

## Length of Program

Diploma	53 credits
Associate of Applied Science	60 credits

## Start Dates

Fall Semester	August
Spring Semester	January

## Program Contact

Rita Schutz  
Phone (763) 576-4974  
E-mail [rschutz@anokatech.edu](mailto:rschutz@anokatech.edu)

For information on how to apply or to schedule a campus tour please contact the [Admissions Office](#) by Phone (763) 576-4700 or by E-mail at [info@anokatech.edu](mailto:info@anokatech.edu)

## Surgical Technology

### Associate of Applied Science

**60 Credits**

Accuplacer math raw score of 81 or higher or MATH0801 "Basic Math" (earning a "C" or better) required before enrolling in SURG1010 "Surgical Pharmacology."

### General Education **18 Credits**

ENGL1105	Composition I	4
PSYC1505	General Psychology	4
SPCH1200	Interpersonal Communications	3
<b>OR</b>		
SPCH1120	Public Speaking	3

The balance of general education credits must be MN Transfer Curriculum courses.

[http://www.anokatech.edu/current\\_students/transfer/](http://www.anokatech.edu/current_students/transfer/)

### Technical Education **42 Credits**

COMP1002	Computer Technologies for Communication	2
HLTH1005	Anatomy and Physiology*	4
HLTH1040	Medical Terminology*	2
SURG1005	Surgical Microbiology*	2
SURG1010	Surgical Pharmacology* ***	2
SURG1026	Operating Room Theory*	2
SURG1027	Operating Room Techniques*	4
SURG1035	Operating Room Procedures I*	4

SURG1037	Operating Room Procedures II**	4
SURG2000	OR Clinical**	16

\* Must be completed prior to enrolling in SURG2000.

\*\* SURG 1037 and SURG 2000 must be taken concurrently.

\*\*\* An Accuplacer math raw score of 81 or higher or MATH0801 “Basic Math” (earning a “C” or better) required before enrolling in SURG1010 “Surgical Pharmacology”, and must be completed prior to enrolling in SURG 2000.

***This program is nationally accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs \(CAAHEP\)](#).***

## **Surgical Technology**

### **Diploma**

**53 Credits**

Accuplacer math raw score of 81 or higher or MATH0801” Basic Math” (earning a “C” or better) required before enrolling in SURG1010 “Surgical Pharmacology.”

### **General Education 11 Credits**

ENGL1105	Composition I	4
PSYC1505	General Psychology	4
SPCH1200	Interpersonal Communications	3
<b>OR</b>		
SPCH1120	Public Speaking	3

### **Technical Education 42 Credits**

COMP1002	Computer Technologies for Communication	2
HLTH1005	Anatomy and Physiology*	4
HLTH1040	Medical Terminology*	2
SURG1005	Surgical Microbiology*	2
SURG1010	Surgical Pharmacology* ***	2
SURG1026	Operating Room Theory*	2
SURG1027	Operating Room Techniques*	4
SURG1035	Operating Room Procedures I*	4
SURG1037	Operating Room Procedures II**	4
SURG2000	OR Clinical**	16

\* Must be completed prior to enrolling in SURG2000.

\*\* SURG 1037 and SURG 2000 must be taken concurrently.

\*\*\* An Accuplacer math raw score of 81 or higher or MATH0801 “Basic Math” (earning a “C” or better) required before enrolling in SURG1010 “Surgical Pharmacology.”