

Program Information

The Anoka Technical College Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree is a 60-credit program designed to develop skills in all phases of operating room procedures and techniques, including clinical experience in the operating room.

In addition to operating room techniques, surgical procedures, surgical instruments and equipment, students study surgical microbiology, surgical pharmacology, medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, asepsis (sterile technique), preparation of the patient for surgery, and the physical conditions that make it necessary for a person to have surgery.

Program Learning Outcomes

By completing this program, students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

- 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.
- Understand his/her role and function as a member of the surgical team.
- Display professional behavior.
- Demonstrate the principles of aseptic technique consistently.
- Adhere to program/hospital policies and procedures according to industry standards.

Accreditation/Certification

The Anoka Technical College Surgical Technology program is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Graduates will take the National Certification Examination for Surgical Technologists: CAAHEP, 9355 135th St N, #7709, Seminole, FL 33775; 727-210-2350; www.caahep.org.

Admission Requirements

Evidence of immunization or a positive Rubella Titer. Students are strongly encouraged to take the Hepatitis B vaccine.

Steps for the application process for Surgical Technology AAS:

1. Successful completion of the Sterile Processing certificate
2. TEAS for Allied Health programs with a minimum score of 60%
3. CPR for the Healthcare Provider

Second year courses are restricted to students admitted to the Surgical Technology program. A medical exam is REQUIRED.

Course Prerequisites

A background in general math, anatomy/physiology, biology, health and life sciences, medical terminology and nursing assistant skills can be helpful.

Clinical

Clinical hospitals are located in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Students must provide their own transportation to and from these assigned clinical sites and pay for any parking fees.

Background Study

Minnesota law requires any person with direct patient and resident contact at a health care facility licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to have a background study conducted by the state. An individual disqualified from 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 Minnesota licensed health care facility. The student is then responsible for requesting the commissioner to reconsider the disqualification.

Graduation Requirements

1. Successful completion of the Sterile Processing certification with a grade of B or higher in all required Biology courses and a grade of C or higher in the remaining required courses.
2. Successful completion of the second year Surgical Technology courses with a grade of C or higher.

Transfer Opportunities

To see how credits from this program may transfer into other Anoka Technical College programs or into a program at another college, visit:

- [Minnesota Transfer](#)
- [Anoka Technical College transfer student](#)

Industry Information

Surgical technologists 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, and hands instruments, sutures and supplies to the surgeon throughout the operative procedure.

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.

Wages/Outlook/Advancement Opportunities

Surgical Technology program graduates are 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.

With additional training, some technologists advance to first assistants, who help retract, sponge, and suture during surgery. They also help close and treat wounds.

Surgical Technology

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree

Some technologists manage supply departments in hospitals. Others take jobs with insurance companies, supply services, or medical equipment companies.

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

Start Dates

Fall Semester.....August
Spring SemesterJanuary

General Education/MnTC Requirements: 19 Credits

Nineteen (19) general education credits of Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) are required. **This requirement is met upon completion of the Sterile Processing certificate.**

Program Sequence

- Completion of the Sterile Processing Technical Credits 19
- Third Semester 12**
- *SURG 1010 Surgical Pharmacology 2
- *SURG 1026 Operating Room Theory 2
- *SURG 1027 Operating Room Techniques 4
- *SURG 1035 Operating Room Procedures I 4
- Fourth Semester 20**
- **SURG 1037 Operating Room Procedures II 4
- **SURG 2000 Operating Room Clinical 16

* These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in SURG 2000.
**SURG 1037 and SURG 2000 must be taken concurrently

Faculty Contact

[Rita Schutz](#).....763-576-4123

For information on how to apply, to schedule a tour, or for service during summer hours, contact Enrollment Services at 763-576-7710 or EnrollmentServices@anokatech.edu

Also see: Sterile Processing certificate