



Admissions Information and Application
Fall 2023-Fall 2024

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Application Requirements are on page 4. ALL items (1-5) must be completed before the Surgical Technology Application can be submitted. Applicants needing to take additional TSI remedial courses in the Summer I can apply the Second week of June with verification of course enrollment.

The South Plains College Surgical Technology Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendations of the Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology (ARC/STSA).

Surgical Technology is a rapidly growing field with a high demand for professionals who can provide optimal patient care, and utilize clinical knowledge in this vital role within the surgical team. It is a challenging and demanding field but is also rewarding and exciting. The Surgical Technologist scrubs in and participates in surgical procedures to assist the surgeons and other members of the surgical team. They will also prepare instrumentation and maintain the sterile surgical field. A successful Technologist possesses not only academic knowledge but critical thinking skills, clinical experience, integrity, and stamina. Some employment opportunities include hospital operating rooms, labor and delivery departments, central processing and sterile supply departments, private surgical technologist, emergency departments, county morgues, ambulatory surgical centers, and more.

The Surgical Technology program provides the student with the knowledge and skills required to sit for the national board certification exam, and in turn qualify the student for an entry-level position in the field of Surgical Technology, in accordance with the American Medical Association and the Accreditation Review Committee for Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Program's Core Curriculum.

During the first and second semester of the program, students will have classroom and laboratory instruction in preparation for participation in the second and third semesters of clinical rotations through local affiliated hospitals. Classroom instruction conducted at the South Plains College, Reese Campus includes anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, microbiology, patient care in surgery, sterile technique, surgical techniques, instrumentation and surgical procedures.

Clinical experience is gained through rotations at University Medical Center in Lubbock, Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock/Levelland/Plainview, Covenant Women's and Children's Hospital

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in Lubbock, Lubbock Heart Hospital in Lubbock, North Star Surgical Center in Lubbock, and Covenant Surgicenter in Lubbock. The student functions as a member of the surgical team in the operating room under the supervision of the instructor, staff Surgical Technologists, or Registered Nurses. The clinical phase includes further scheduled classroom instruction, but the emphasis is placed on extensive clinical experience in actual surgical procedures. Students will participate in clinical rotations from 6:45 am until 3:00 pm Monday through Wednesday in the summer, and Monday through Thursday in the fall.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROFESSION

Surgical Technologists are integral members of the surgical team who work closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and other surgical personnel in delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during, and after surgery. Scrub, circulating, and second assisting surgical technologists have shared responsibility for maintaining the sterile field, being constantly vigilant that all members of the team adhere to the aseptic technique.

1. First Scrub Surgical Technologist

The scrub surgical technologist handles the instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary during surgical procedures. He or she has the necessary knowledge and ability to ensure quality patient care during the operative procedure and is constantly vigilant about maintaining the sterile field. Duties are as follows:

- a. Check supplies and equipment needed for surgical procedure
- b. Scrubs, gowns, and gloves
- c. Set up sterile table with instruments, supplies, equipment, and medications/solutions needed
- d. Perform appropriate counts with circulator prior to the operation and before incision is closed
- e. Gown and glove surgeon and assistants
- f. Help with draping the sterile field
- g. Pass instruments/supplies/equipment to the surgeon and assistants during the procedure
- h. Maintain the highest standard of sterile technique during procedure
- i. Prepare sterile dressings
- j. Clean and prepares instruments for terminal sterilization
- k. Assist other team members with terminal cleaning of the room
- l. Assist in preparing room for the next patient

2. Circulating Surgical Technologist

The circulating surgical technologist obtains additional instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary while the surgical procedure is in progress. He or she monitors conditions in the operating room and constantly assesses the needs of the patient and the surgical team. Duties are as follows:

- a. Obtain appropriate sterile and unsterile items needed for the procedure
- b. Open sterile supplies
- c. Check patient's chart, identify patient, verify surgery to be performed with consent forms, and bring the patient to the assigned operating room
- d. Transfer patient to operating room table
- e. Assess comfort and safety measures and provide verbal and tactile reassurance to the patient
- f. Assist anesthesiologist
- g. Position patient using appropriate equipment
- h. Apply electrosurgical grounding pads, tourniquets, monitors, etc. before the procedure begins
- i. Prepare the patient's skin prior to draping by the surgical team
- j. Perform appropriate counts with the scrub person prior to the operation and before closure
- k. Anticipate additional supplies needed during the procedure

- l. Keep accurate records throughout the procedure
- m. Properly care for specimens
- n. Secures dressings after incision closure
- o. Help transport patient to the recovery room
- p. Assist in cleaning of the room and preparing for next patient

3. Second Scrub Assisting Technologist

The second assisting surgical technologist assists the surgeon and/or the first assistant during the operative procedure by carrying out technical tasks other than cutting, clamping, and suturing tissue. This role is distinct from that of the first assistant and may, in some circumstances, be performed simultaneously with the first scrub role. Duties are as follows:

- a. Hold retractors or instruments as directed by the surgeon
- b. Sponge or the suction operative site
- c. Apply electro-cautery to clamps on bleeding vessels
- d. Cut suture material as directed by the surgeon
- e. Connect drains to suction apparatus
- f. Apply dressings to the closed wound

THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST MUST BE ABLE TO:

- a. Stand, bend, stoop, and/or sit for long periods of time in one location with minimal breaks
- b. Lift a minimum of 20 lbs
- c. Demonstrate sufficient visual ability to load a fine suture (diameter of a human hair) onto needle holders while wearing safety glasses
- d. Demonstrate sufficient peripheral vision to anticipate and function while in the sterile surgical environment
- e. Hear and understand muffled communication without seeing the commander's mouth/lips, within 20 ft. distance
- f. Refrain from nourishment or restroom breaks for periods of up to 6 hours
- g. Hear activation/warning signals on equipment
- h. Detect odors sufficient to maintain environmental safety and patient needs
- i. Manipulate instruments, supplies, and equipment with speed, dexterity, and good hand/eye coordination
- j. Communicate and understand fluent English, both verbally and in writing
- k. Assist with and/or lift, move, position, and manipulate, with or without assistive devices, the unconscious patient
- l. Display short and long-term memory sufficient to perform tasks such as, but not limited to, mentally tracking surgical supplies and performing anticipation skills intraoperatively
- m. Make appropriate judgment decisions in high-stress situations
- n. Remain calm and respond effectively in emergency situations
- o. Exhibit positive interpersonal skills in patient, staff, and faculty interactions

- *Descriptions and requirements provided by the Association of Surgical Technologists*

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Admission to South Plains College is a separate admissions process that must be completed before applying to the Surgical Technology Program.
 - **Admission to the College does not guarantee admission to the Surgical Technology Program.**
- Applicants will be notified by mail of their acceptance status by the middle of July prior to the intended year of program enrollment. **Program maximum enrollment capacity = 35**
- **Applications will be accepted January 30, 2023, 8:00 am through July 1, 2023, 4:00 pm only**

Readmission to the Surgical Technology Program:

- All readmission candidates must complete and resubmit their application by the stated deadline.
- A student may request one (1) readmission into the Surgical Technology Program.
- Accepted students that fail to meet the requirement during the surgical program and resubmit into the program may do so only once.
- A student **may be denied** readmission.

	1. High school diploma or GED is required.	
	2. Applicant must be accepted to South Plains College.	*Applicant must be accepted to South Plains College <u>prior to</u> the Surgical Technology application deadline of <u>July 1st</u>.
	3. Official high school transcripts, or prior college transcripts if applicable, are required to be on file with the SPC Admissions and Records office.	*Official transcripts must be on file with the College prior to the Surgical Technology application deadline of <u>July 1st</u>. *NO HOLDS on SPC account by <u>July 1st</u>
	4. Unofficial Transcript	*All unofficial transcripts must be turned in with application.
	5. TSI compliance in all areas is required for Associate Degree	A student may complete this by: *Passing all areas of the TSI through testing *Successfully passing the a remedial courses needed
	6. Entrance Exam: ATI – TEAS 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam may be taken at the SPC Testing and Learning Center. • Applicants DO NOT have to meet with Program Director to sign up and take the exam 	HOAE: \$75.00 *Regardless of TSI compliance status, all applicants <u>MUST</u> have an entrance exam score on file with the College prior to the Surgical Technology application deadline <u>July 1st</u>.
	7. A current Surgical Technology Program application on file. Once an applicant has completed all additional items (1-6). Student taking TSI remedial courses in Summer I, may submit application the second week of June with course enrollment verification.	Director: Kristie Cole South Plains College 819 Gilbert Drive, Building 5 Lubbock, TX 79416 Office (806)716-4643, kcole@southplainscollege.edu

Application Check List

- Applied to South Plains College
 - <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/apply.php>
 - Send in ALL OFFICIAL transcripts to SPC – Digital is quicker.
- Complete ALL TSI requirements
 - Sitting and passing the TSI exam
 - Pass TSI exam remedial courses
 - Exempt from the TSI exam, OR take
- Complete Pre-Requisite requirements
 - Anatomy and Physiology (complete one of the following bullets)
 - VNSG1420 – Anatomy and Physiology for Allied Health
 - BIOL2401 and BIOL 2401 – Anatomy and Physiology I and II
 - Medical Terminology (complete one of the following bullets)
 - HPRS1106 – Essentials of Medical Terminology
 - HITT1305 – Medical Terminology
- Take ATI- TEAS7 Entrance Exam
 - Sign up to take the TEAS -7 exam at the Reese Testing Center
 - HOAE packet will have the testing dates
 - Take Exam up to three (3) times during the current application year
- Complete Application (January 30-July 1st)
 - **Please DOWNLOAD the application**
 - Fill out the application
 - Submit email – if the email link does not work SAVE AS PDF
(**YOURLASTNAME application, example: Cole_application**) and send to
kcole@southplainscolleg.edu
 - GET ALL unofficial transcripts together and send them to the Program Director (even if from SPC)
 - Schedule an appointment with Director if you have any additional questions or if you would like to discuss your application in person: <https://calendly.com/kcole-5/srgt-appt>

REQUIREMENTS OF ACCEPTED APPLICANTS ONLY

- A **criminal background check** will be performed by the applicant upon admission to the program, **AND** by healthcare facilities before hiring graduates.
 - By signing and turning in this application, you are acknowledging a background check upon acceptance into the Surgical Technology program at your cost of \$48.00
 - *Students previously employed by University Medical Center whose status is “non-rehire” are not eligible to attend clinical rotations at this facility.
- The physical examination report (included with the acceptance letter) is to be completed by the student’s physician and submitted to the Program Director at Program Orientation in the Fall by the first week of December.
- The student must complete a CPR for Healthcare Providers course (BLS only) from the **American Heart Association**. There will be a sign-up sheet at orientation
- According to Texas State Law, and the policies of clinical affiliates, all students enrolled in health career programs must have the following immunizations:

TDAP	*within the past ten years
Measles	*if born after 1/1/1957: must have 2 doses
Mumps	*if born after 1/1/1957: must have at least 1 dose
Rubella	*vaccine must be repeated if initially received before 1980
Annual tuberculin skin test	Yearly- please complete in November
Hepatitis B series	*must have proof of at least doses #1 and #2
Annual flu vaccination	
Varicella	*proof of vaccine or a notarized letter from a parent stating student has had the chickenpox

Physical forms and shot records must be submitted by the first week of December. Failure to submit documents on time will result in dismissal from the program.

Required supplies include:

- Scrub uniforms
- shoes for clinical rotations (2 pairs)

Associate of Applied Science Degree Plan

2023-2024

<u>Pre-Requisite:</u>		Lec Hrs	Lab Hrs	Ext Hrs	Cont Hrs	Cred Hrs
VNSG1420	Anatomy and Physiology for Allied Health* (TR)	4	0	0	64	4
HPRS1106	Essentials of Medical Terminology (online)	1	0	0	16	1
TOTAL HOURS:		5	0	0	80	5
<u>Semester 1: (Fall 2023)</u>						
ENGL1301	Composition I	3	0	0	48	3
MATH1314	College Algebra (or MATH1332)	3	0	0	48	3
SCIT1313	Workplace Microbiology (Monday)	3	1	0	48	3
HPRS2200	Pharmacology for Health Professions (TR)	2	0	0	32	2
SRGT1405	Introduction to Surgical Technology (Wednesday)	4	5	0	128	5
TOTAL HOURS:		15	5	0	304	16
<u>Semester 2: Spring Semester (2024) Tuesday-Thursday, Friday Open Lab</u>						
SRGT1442	Surgical Procedures II	4	4	0	112	4
SRGT1541	Surgical Procedures I	5	4	0	112	4
HPRS1205	Medical Law & Ethics for Health Professions	2	0	0	32	2
SRGT1409	Fundamentals of Perioperative Concepts and Techniques	3	4	0	112	4
TOTAL HOURS:		14	12	0	368	14
<u>Semester 3: Summer Semester (2024) Clinicals M-R 0630-1500</u>						
ENGL 1302	Composition II	3	0	0	48	3
SRGT2130	Professional Readiness	1	0	0	16	1
SRGT1244	Technological Science for the Surgical Technologist	2	0	0	32	2
SRGT1560	Clinical- Surgical/Operating Room Technician	0	0	24	384	5
TOTAL HOURS:		6	0	24	480	11
<u>Semester 4: Fall Semester (2024) Clinicals M-R, Friday In-Class</u>						
SRGT2661	Clinical- Surgical/Operating Room Technician	0	0	20	320	6
SRGT1291	Special Topics in Surgical/Operating Room Technician	2	0	0	32	2
PSYC2301	General Psychology	3	0	0	48	3
Humanities		3	0	0	48	3
TOTAL HOURS:		8	0	20	448	14
A.A.S Grand Total		45	16	44	1680	60

***If BIOL2401 AND BIOL2402 are not complete upon acceptance to the program, the student will be enrolled in VNSG1420 to fulfill Anatomy and Physiology requirements of the program.**

***HITT1305 is not complete upon acceptance to the program; the student will be enrolled in HPRS1106 to fulfill Medical Terminology.**

****please see advisor for approved courses for humanities elective**

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SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS

Attached to this information packet is the Surgical Technology Program Application. Application guidelines are as follows:

- Applications will be accepted from January 30th through July 1st for each class to begin the Fall of that year. **No early or late applications will be accepted.**
- Applications will need to be sent to the Program Director no later than July 1st
 - **Faxed (806) 716-4643**
 - **Emailed: Kcole@southplainscollege.edu**
 - **Mailed:**
 - **Attn: Kristie Cole, SRTG Program Director**
819 Gilbert Drive Building 5, office 529
Lubbock, Texas 79416
 - **Hand-delivered**
 - Reese Campus Building 5, office 528
 - Class selection will occur at the **beginning of July**; all applicants will be notified by phone call, and email of their acceptance status.
 - **IN PROGRESS FOR APPROVAL (by Surgical Technology Program Advisory Committee)**
 - **Students will now be accepted on a Point system (155 points):**
 - **29 pts-** Completed Program General Study Courses
 - **100 pts-** Entrance Exam
 - **26 pts –** Degrees and Medical Field Experience
 - **Emails will be sent to the SPC email**
- **If re-applying to the program, it is the applicant's responsibility to meet with the Program Director before applying as admissions requirements are subject to change.**

Please Note:

- It is the applicant's responsibility to keep the Admissions and Records Office, and the office of the Program Director informed of **any changes to application** information such as test scores, contact information, name changes, etc.
- **Applicants who do not have ALL college transcripts on file and/or HOLDS with the Admissions and Records Office and an entrance exam score on file with the College by July 1st, will NOT be considered for admission.**
- Students that had been **accepted** and failed to complete requirements during the academic calendar year may re-apply.
 - *Note: only a total of two (2) admission (initial admission and the readmission)

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