SECTION III:
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSION POLICIES

Surgical Technology Faculty

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HISTORY

The Surgical Technologist Program at Piedmont Technical College began in 1972. One class has graduated every year since May 1973. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (formally, Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation), 25400 US Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater, FL,33763, phone: (727)-210-2350, emailed at mail@caahep.org.

Many graduates are employed within the college's seven county service area. They are employed by various hospitals, outpatient surgery centers, physician's offices. They are employed as travel technologists and as private scrubs for surgeons (first assistants).

Discrimination Prohibited

Piedmont Technical College is an equal opportunity educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, Age Discrimination Act, and Title II of the ADA. The college has designated the Director of Human Resources as its Affirmative Action Officer with the responsibility to coordinate its civil rights compliance activities and grievance procedures.

ADA Statement

Students in this program, due to a disability, have a need for non-standard note-taking, test taking, or other course modifications should notify the instructor, in private, as soon as possible.

Program Introduction

The Surgical Technology Program is a Diploma completion program. Successful completion of the course of studies meets the qualifying standards required to take the National Certification Examination for Surgical Technologists.

The primary goal of surgical technology education is the student's acquisition of knowledge, psychomotor, and cognitive skills and abilities commensurate with entry-level professional practice as a surgical technologist.

Surgical Technology:
- Is a dynamic, cognitive, behavioral, technical process with distinct functions and desired outcomes so that national standards of practice are maintained.

- Is dedicated to the improvement of the profession.

- Promotes enhancement of the safety and protection of personnel and patients;

- Promotes, restores, and maintains health for patients.

- Requires observation of a code of ethics;

- Supports the dignity and rights of the patient.

- Assesses and meets the needs of the patient.

- Promotes life-long learning.

The motto of the Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) is "*Aeger Primo* – The Patient First". This is facilitated through caring, critical thinking, and effective communication. The educational goal of AST is "Enhancing the Profession to Ensure Quality Patient Care." The Surgical Technology Program is a reflection of both of the statements.

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals who are an integral part of the surgical team, providing surgical care to patients in a variety of settings, integrating sciences with specialized knowledge, skills and technology.

Mission

The mission of the Surgical Technology Program is to provide students with the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to gain employment as a surgical technologist and become contributing members of the health care team.

This will be accomplished by (1) preparing competent graduates in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains, and (2) meeting or exceeding the criteria set forth in the current Standards and Guidelines for the Accredited Educational Program in Surgical Technology.

Program Goals

The goals of the Surgical Technology Program are to:
  A. Graduate entry-level surgical technologists who are academically and technically competent.
  B. Promote a collaborative learning environment for students that stimulate personal and professional growth.
  C. Assist the student in the development of the technical competencies necessary for employment in the field.
  D. Provide meaningful clinical experiences for skill refinement.
  E. Graduate students who are academically and technically competent.
  F. Apply life-long learning processes by attending continuing educational programs.
  G. Development professional attitudes and responsibilities.
  H. Meet the needs of the community.
  I. Assess the curriculum and resources on an annual basis.

Terminal Program Outcomes

The graduate will:

1. Utilize the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to practice as a Certified Surgical Technologist.
2. Obtain an entry level job at a level deemed acceptable by the sponsoring institution, community, and other accrediting bodies.
3. Apply a basic understanding of human physiology and surgical anatomy in the perioperative role of a surgical technologist.
4. Identify and assume appropriate responsibility for patient care based on professional criteria and standards of the surgical technology procedures.
5. Demonstrate the ability to prioritize and organize the surgical field.
6. Determine theoretical and practical proficiency in surgical aseptic technique, surgical procedures, and patient care.
7. Communicate (verbally, nonverbally, and in writing) clearly and effectively with the patient and other health care team members.

Statement of Philosophy

The Surgical Technology Faculty Believe:

That all people have dignity and worth.

That the program should serve people regardless of race, creed, sex, disadvantage, or handicap.

That the cognitive base, psychomotor skills, and affective domain are of equal importance in the training of Surgical Technologists.

That the graduates of this program should possess competence in the technical phases of Surgical Technology and a sound understanding of the scientific principles of Surgical Technology.

That graduates should develop the ability to make independent clinical judgments within the limits of the Surgical Technologist's responsibilities.

That graduates should exhibit strong ethical behaviors and attitudes.

That competent Surgical Technologists are significant participants on the health care team.

Association of Surgical Technologists
Code of Ethics

1.   To maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and patient care.

2.   To hold in confidence, with respect to the patient's beliefs, all personal matters.

3.   To respect and protect the patient's legal and moral rights to quality patient care.

4.   To not knowingly cause injury or injustice to those entrusted to our care.

5.   To work with fellow technologists and other professional health groups to promote harmony and unity for better patient care.

6.   To always follow the principles of asepsis.

7.   To maintain a high degree of efficiency through continuing education.

8.   To maintain and practice surgical technology willingly, with pride and dignity.

9.   To report any unethical conduct or practice to the proper authority.

10.   To adhere to the Code of Ethics at all times in relationship to all members of the heath care team.

The Pledge of the Surgical Technologist

I solemnly pledge to myself and those present to have a:

Strong surgical conscience, to

Understand the patient's rights, to

Respect myself and team members, to be

Goal oriented, an

Inspiration to peers and those around me, to be

Compassionate, and ever watchful of

Aseptic technique, to be

Loyal to myself and my profession, exhibit

Trust in co-workers, maintain

Efficiency through continuing education, to have the

Courage to face any situation placed before me, to be

Honest,

Nonjudgmental,

Optimistic, and

Logical in my decisions, to be

Objective in self-discipline, to provide

Guidance to those who follow in my footsteps, to have

Integrity,

Stamina of body and mind, and to

Treasure life.

CAAHEP Program Accreditation

The Surgical Technology program of Piedmont Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs (CAAHEP). A copy of the Standards and Guidelines for Accredited Educational Programs in Surgical Technology is available in the program coordinator's office. The program received initial accreditation in 1998.

Students who graduate from a CAAHEP accredited surgical technology program are eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination. The examination is administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

This is a computer based examination and uses 200 multiple choice questions in three major areas:

- ° Fundamental Knowledge
- ° Preoperative Preparation
- ° Intra-operative and Postoperative Procedures

Surgical technologists who successfully complete this examination are awarded the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) credential.

About the Program . . .

This is a 12 month program which provides the participant with the knowledge and skills required to enter the field of Surgical Technology in accordance with the American Medical Association and the Association of Surgical Technologist guidelines.

During the pre-clinical phase of the program, emphasis is placed on classroom and laboratory instruction as preparation for participation in the clinical phase. Classroom instruction conducted at the Greenwood campus includes anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, microbiology, patient care in surgery, sterile technique, surgical techniques, instrumentation and surgical procedures.

The clinical experience is received at various clinical sites. The student functions under the supervision of the instructor, staff Surgical Technologists, or registered nurses in performing as a member of the operating room team. The clinical phase includes further classroom instruction that will be scheduled, but emphasis is placed on extensive clinical experience in actual surgical procedures.

The following information will provide information about each course in the program and what is expected of you as a student in the program.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS TO PROGRESS IN THE PROGRAM

The medical assisting program requires successful completion of all biophysical science, general education, and major (SUR) courses. A minimum grade of "C" (75) is required in all of these courses.

BIO 210, ENG 101, PSY 201, AHS 102 and MAT 155 or (Algebra exemption) must be taken prior to entering the program.

BIO 211 may be taken during the first semester upon entering the program.

The courses of the program are to be taken in a prescribed semester sequence. A grade below a "C" on any SUR course or BIO 211 will not allow the student to continue or progress. This is necessary to provide minimally safe surgical technologist. The student will be dropped from the program if the following occurs:

- Two attempts in the surgical technology program.

- Failure to achieve a minimal GPA of 2.0 is required each semester.

- Lack of the documentation of acceptable health status as outlined in the PTC Health Science Health Assessment Form is not available.

- Student does not have a current Healthcare Provider CPR card.

- Student cannot provide documentation of a yearly OSHA Blood borne Pathogens and TB educational workshop.

CRITERIA FOR PROGRESSION IN THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM:

1. For the student to progress in the Surgical Technology program, a grade of "C"

    (75) or higher must be achieved in all courses with the prefix SUR. Students earning less than a "C" (75) in such course will be automatically withdrawn from the Surgical Technology program.

2. Surgical Technology students must obtain a passing score of 100% satisfaction on 100% of all psychomotor and affective domain objectives (competencies) in all surgical technology program courses to progress. Students will be allowed three attempts to successfully pass a psychomotor or affective competency. A grade of pass or fail is only given. Failure to pass a psychomotor or affective competency in three attempts will result in the student failing the course resulting in dismissal from the program.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY DIPLOMA CURRICULUM

Program Ready and General Education Courses and Credit Hours

ENG 101 English Composition 1	3.0
MAT 155 or exemption (algebra)	3.0
BIO 210 Anatomy and Physiology I	4.0
AHS 102 Medical Terminology	3.0
BIO 211 Anatomy and Physiology II	<u>4.0</u>
	17.0

Program-3 semesters

Fall semester-

SUR 101-Introduction to Surgical Technology	5.0
SUR 102-Applied Surgical Technology	5.0
SUR 116-Basic Surgical Procedures	<u>3.0</u>
	13.0

Spring semester-

SUR 103-Surgical Procedures I	4.0
SUR 104-Surgical Procedures II	4.0
SUR 110-Introduction to Surgical Practicum	<u>5.0</u>
	13.0

Summer Semester-

SUR 114-Surgical Specialty Practicum	7.0
SUR 120-Surgical Seminar	<u>2.0</u>
	9.0

Total Credit hours	**52.0**

SURGICAL TECHNONOLOGY ACADEMICS REQUIREMENTS

The Surgical Technology program requires successful completion of all general education and major (core SUR) courses. Courses are offered in a prescribed sequence and must be taken in that sequence. BIO 210, ENG 101, AHS 102 and MAT 155 or (Algebra exemption) must be taken prior to entering the program. BIO 211 may be taken during the first semester after entering the program.
A minimum grade of "C" is required on all general education and major (core) courses.
A grade below a "C" on any SUR course will not allow a student to
continue and progress through the Surgical Technology Program. The student will be withdrawn from the program. If the student seeks readmission to the program, the Health Science Readmission and Audit Policy is followed.

94 – 100	=	A
85 – 93	=	B
75 – 85	=	C
70 – 74	=	D
0 – 69	=	F

Remember, a "C" is the lowest passing grade for all of the program courses.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

	COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT	DESCRIPTION
F A L L	SUR 101	Introduction to Surgical Technology	5.0	This course includes a study of the surgical environment, team concepts, aseptic technique, hospital organization, basic instrumentation and supplies, sterilization, principles of infection control and wound healing. (3/6)
	SUR 102	Applied Surgical Technology	5.0	This course covers the principles and application of aseptic technique, the perioperative role, and medical/legal aspects. (3/6)
	SUR 103	Surgical Procedures I	4.0	This course is a study of a system-to-system approach to surgical procedures and related regional anatomy, pathology, specialty equipment, and team responsibility. Patient safety, medical/legal aspects and drugs used in surgery are emphasized. (4/0)
S P R I N G	SUR 104	Surgical Procedures II	4.0	This course is a study of the various specialties of surgical procedures. (4/0)
	SUR 110 Clinical Course	Introduction to Surgical Practicum	5.0	This course is an introduction into the application of surgical technique by assisting in the perioperative roles in various clinical affiliations. (0/15)
	SUR 116	Basic Surgical Procedures	3.0	This course is a study of basic surgical procedures to include intraoperative routines, sutures, medication, and anesthesia. (3/0)
S U M M E R	SUR 114 Clinical Course	Surgical Specialty Practicum	7.0	This course includes the correlation of the principles and theories of specialized surgical procedures with clinical performance in affiliated hospitals. (2/15)
	SUR 120	Surgical Seminar	2.0	This course includes the comprehensive correlation of theory and practice in the perioperative role. (2/0)

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PRACTICUM UNIFORMS/DRESS CODE

Uniform: (2) Navy uniform top (scrub top). Long sleeves are not acceptable. Navy blue slacks. White long sleeve lab coat. Shirt, pants, and lab coat must be clean, ironed and pressed.

Emblem*:* Navy uniform top and white lab coat must be embroidered:

Piedmont Technical College
Health Care Division
Student

Shoes: White, clean, leather shoes and clean shoelaces worn with socks or stockings. No opened toe clogs or ankle boots allowed.

Identification*:* Piedmont Technical College ID card with clip attached. Obtain from PTC Library. Wear on outside of uniform in view at all times.

Hair: Hair must be up off collar and not hanging down over eyes

Make-Up: Very little makeup should be worn

Jewelry: wedding band and/or diamond (or one small ring) can be worn. No necklaces or bracelets or extra decorative pins should be worn. One pair of small earrings can be worn. You must wear a watch with a second hand.

Chewing gum: Not allowed

Cell Phones: No cellphones in clinical area whatsoever. They may not be answered, checked, or used while inside the office. You may leave the office number with family members to use for EMERGENCIES ONLY.

Tattoos and Piercings: Visible tattoos must be covered at all

times. Any visible body piercings must be removed during practicum.

Surgical Technology Program
Cost Approximation

Tuition: based on county of residence and credit hours

Uniforms: (2) $125-$150

Shoes: $50-$75

Surgical Technology pin: $20 (included in fall tuition)

Clinical Requirements: (Physical exam, immunizations, lab

tests, drug test, background check) $250-$300

Books: (3 Semesters) $600-$700

Liability Insurance: $20 (charged in every clinical semester)

National Certification Exam/ Membership Fee:

$247(included in fall tuition)

Self Assessment exam fee: $50 (included in spring tuition)

Dosimeter Badge: $50

*You must provide your own transportation to and from your externship, which could be in any of the seven counties served by Piedmont Technical College.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Advisory Committee Representative

The class will have the opportunity to elect one of their peers to represent the concerns of the group while serving as a student member of the Surgical Technology Program Advisory Committee.

STAT Club Officers

The first few weeks of class the students will elect the following officers:

President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Secretary
Community Services

A student may not hold more than one leadership position.

STUDENT WORK POLICY

Students will not be eligible to receive any monetary remuneration during any clinical education experience. Also, the surgical technology student will not be substituted for hired staff or personnel within the clinical institution in the capacity of a surgical technologist.

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