



Department of Health Sciences

Surgical Technology Program

(Associate of Applied Science Degree)

General Information About the Surgical Technology Program:

The Surgical Technology (ST) Program is designed to cover both the academic and clinical skills necessary to perform as a surgical technologist. The program begins fall semester of each year. Certain prerequisite courses must be completed prior to admission to the professional portion, the 2nd year, of this program. Students will complete this Associate Degree program in sequence with prerequisites and Essential Learning courses the first year. The application process will occur in the spring semester (deadline April 15). Once accepted to the program, the second year will prepare students to work as operating room technologists and assist in surgical operations.

Surgical technologists work as members of a healthcare team alongside surgeons, registered nurses, and other health care workers. They prepare operating rooms, arrange equipment, and help the surgeons during surgeries. Students will be prepared to work in many areas of the surgical setting including preparing patients for surgery by washing and disinfecting incision sites, positioning patients on the operating table, covering patients with sterile drapes. Surgical technologists prepare sterile solutions and medications used in surgery and check that all surgical equipment is working properly. They help the surgical team put on sterile gowns and gloves. During an operation, surgical technologists pass instruments and supplies to surgeons and assistants. They also hold retractors and may hold internal organs in place during the procedure. Technologists also may handle specimens taken for laboratory analysis. Surgical technologists who take and pass the certifying examination offered by the NBSTSA (National Board for Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting) are certified and authorized to use the initials CST to designate their status as a Certified Surgical Technologist. Certification can be a means of upward mobility, a condition of employment, a route to higher salary, or a source of national recognition.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Department of Health Sciences

Phone (970) 248-1398

Fax (970) 248-1133

Surgical Technology Program Structure:

Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

- 67 semester hours total (A minimum of 15 of the final 30 semester hours of credit at CMU)
- 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- A student must follow the CMU graduation requirements either from 1) the program sheet for the major in effect at the time the student officially declares a major; or 2) a program sheet for the major approved for a year subsequent to the year during which the student officially declares the major and is approved for the student by the department head. Because a program may have requirements specific to the degree, the student should check with the faculty advisor for additional criteria. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of, and follow, all requirements for the degree being pursued. Any exceptions or substitutions must be approved by the student's faculty advisor and Department Head.
- When filling out the program sheet a course can be used only once.
- See the "Undergraduate Graduation Requirements" in the catalog for additional graduation information.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

(Minimum 15 semester hours) See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is on the Essential Learning list of options and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection within the Essential Learning requirement. The Essential Learning capstone course and co-requisite Essential Speech course (required for bachelor's degrees) cannot be used as options for the below requirements.

Course No	Title	Sem. hrs	Grade	Term
Communication (6 semester hours)				
ENGL 111	English Composition	3	_____	_____
*ENGL 112	English Composition	3	_____	_____
Mathematics (Minimum 3 semester hours)				
*MATH 113	College Algebra or Higher	3	_____	_____
Social Sciences, Natural Science, Fine Arts, or Humanities (Minimum 6 semester hours)				
_____	_____	3	_____	_____
_____	_____	3	_____	_____
WELLNESS REQUIREMENT (2 semester hours)				
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1	_____	_____
KINA 1	_____	1	_____	_____

*Required by this program
+MATH 113 is a 4 credit course. 3 credits count toward the Essential Learning requirement and 1 credit counts as Elective credit

Course No	Title	Sem.hrs	Grade	Term
<u>FOUNDATIONS PREREQUISITE COURSES</u> (12 semester hours)				
*BIOL 209	Anatomy & Physiology	3	_____	_____
*BIOL 209L	Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1	_____	_____
*BIOL 210	Anatomy & Physiology II	3	_____	_____
*BIOL 210L	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1	_____	_____
*BIOL 241	Pathophysiology	4	_____	_____

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE: **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

(39 semester hours) These courses must be completed in sequence and may only be taken after acceptance into the Program.

<u>Core Courses</u> (36 semester hours)				
SUTE 200	Medical Term in Surg Tech	2	_____	_____
SUTE 202	Fundamentals in Surg Tech	4	_____	_____
SUTE 202L	Fundamentals Surg Tech Lab	3	_____	_____
SUTE 206	Pharmacology for Surg Tech	3	_____	_____
SUTE 210	Safety in Surgical Technology	3	_____	_____
SUTE 212	Surgical Procedures I	4	_____	_____
SUTE 212L	Surgical Procedures Lab	3	_____	_____
SUTE 218	Specialty Surgical Procedures	4	_____	_____
SUTE 220	Surgical Clinical I	2	_____	_____
SUTE 230	Surgical Clinical II	3	_____	_____
SUTE 240	Surgical Clinical III	4	_____	_____

<u>Elective Credit</u> (1 semester hour)				
MATH 113	College Algebra+	1	_____	_____

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING FOR A MAJOR IN SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

This is a recommended sequence of course work. Certain courses may have prerequisites or are only offered during the Fall or Spring semesters. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the assigned advisor and check the 2 year course matrix on the Colorado Mesa website for course availability.

All BIOL and CHEM courses listed must be successfully completed within a ten year period prior to acceptance in the Surgical Technology Program. (Successful completion is defined as achieving a grade of "C" or higher.) All Surgical Technology applied courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (76.5) or higher.

FIRST YEAR					
<u>Fall Semester</u>		<u>Hours</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Hours</u>	
ENGL 111	English Composition	3	ENGL 112	English Composition	3
MATH 113	College Algebra or Higher	4	BIOL 210	Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BIOL 209	Anatomy and Physiology	3	BIOL 210L	Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1
BIOL 209L	Anatomy and Physiology Lab	1	BIOL 241	Pathophysiology	4
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1	PSYC 150	General Psychology	3
Essential Learning (Natural Sci, Fine Arts, or Humanities)		<u>3</u>	KINA ____	Activity	<u>1</u>
		15			15

SECOND YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>		<u>Hours</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Hours</u>	
SUTE 200	Medical Term in Surgical Tech	2	SUTE 212	Surgical Procedures I	4
SUTE 202	Fundamentals in Surgical Tech	4	SUTE 212L	Surgical Procedures I Lab	3
SUTE 202L	Fundamentals Surgical Tech Lab	3	SUTE 218	Specialty Surgical Procedures	4
SUTE 206	Pharmacology for Surgical Tech	3	SUTE 220	Surgical Clinical I	<u>2</u>
SUTE 210	Safety and Equipment	<u>3</u>			13
		15			

<u>Summer Semester (summer following 2nd Year)</u>		<u>Hours</u>
SUTE 230	Surgical Clinical II	3
SUTE 240	Surgical Clinical III	<u>4</u>
		7

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about the Surgical Technology Program:

Do I have to be accepted at CMU before I can apply for the Surgical Technology program?

Yes.

Does the Surgical Technology Program have an admission fee?

No, but the Admissions Department for the University does.

Should I apply before I ask for prior college transcripts to be sent?

You may turn in the application form before you ask other schools to send transcripts. As long as your file is complete before the deadline, we do not care in what order your information arrives. (It is your responsibility to make sure we receive everything needed for your file before the deadline.) Contact the Registrar's Office at 248-1555 to have transfer credits evaluated for possible acceptance at Colorado Mesa University.

Do all application materials have to be in to the Department of Health Sciences office before the application deadline?

Yes, copies of all college transcripts, a transcript evaluation (if you have taken courses from other colleges), and a program application must be received prior to the deadline (April 15). A copy of the TEAS V test results must be received the Department of Health Sciences by the application deadline (April 15).

What classes can I take to fulfill Essential Learning requirements?

You should refer to the Graduation Requirements for the AAS degree section in the Colorado Mesa University Catalog.

Should I speak with an advisor before I register for Essential Learning courses?

You do not have to speak to an advisor. However, you are strongly encouraged to speak with an advisor prior to registering for Essential Learning courses. Surgical Technology courses may only be taken after you are accepted into the Surgical Technology Program.

When does the Surgical Technology program start?

Surgical Technology courses begin in the Fall semester. The courses are offered in sequence and must be taken in order.

Can I be enrolled part time in the Surgical Technology Program?

No, coursework is completed only on a full-time basis.

Can I take some of the Surgical Technology courses each semester?

No, all courses offered each semester need to be taken concurrently.

Do the pre-requisite courses have to be completed prior to *applying* to the program?

No, you may take essential learning courses in the summer semester immediately following the application due date of April 15. Courses must be successfully completed prior to entering the program. Most students have completed or are enrolled in courses prior to applying to the program. If you are accepted into the program and do not successfully complete the pre-requisite courses at the end of the summer semester in which you apply to the program, you will be denied entry into the program.

How do you choose candidates?

We conduct student interviews in addition to looking at your grade point average and TEAS V scores. Two (2) professional letters of recommendation are required. Once accepted into the program, passing a background check and drug screen will also be required, along with completing all immunizations and physical assessment.

Do you use a waiting list?

Yes, we pick alternates that may be chosen in the event a student is not able to start the program in the fall. If an applicant is not accepted one year and wishes to be considered for the next year, they must reapply.

How many students are accepted into the program each year?

We accept approximately 10-12 students once a year. This number may vary.

Can I work while taking the Surgical Technology courses?

Although a student can work during the program, it is not recommended for most students due to the rigorous design of the program. Students may work as long as it does not interfere with didactic or clinical progress. Students may not be substituted for staff while in the clinical component of the program.

Are the courses in eight week modules or semester long courses in the program?

The courses are semester based, with summer being run over a 12 week session. Some content may be presented in a hybrid format at times.

Do I have labs every weekend?

Lab courses will be scheduled Tuesday through Friday. Spring/Summer clinical will be Tuesday through Friday (6:30 am - 3 pm) to complete cases needed for graduation.

Do I need my own computer and printer?

Having your own computer allows you the freedom to complete assignments on your schedule. Computer labs are available on campus for student use. Some documents will be posted in Desire to Learn (D2L) for you to print and bring to class; students can print documents at any computer lab if they do not own their own printer. Tests and exams are taken on-line, in the classroom, so having a laptop is recommended but not required.

How much are tuition and fees for the Surgical Technology program at CMU?

Please go to www.coloradomesa.edu for the most current tuition and fees.

Are there other requirements and costs associated with the Surgical Technology program after I've been accepted?

All of the following have or may have costs associated with the Surgical Technology program: a criminal background investigation, professional liability insurance, personal health insurance, physical and immunizations, drug screen, and any other requirements set forth by the clinical affiliate site which could include additional drug screening, finger printing, name badges, in service education and orientation. You will also need to purchase 2 pairs of white scrubs, a name tag, and 2 surgical technology badges to place on your scrub tops (the name tags and badges will be available at the CMU bookstore).