Admission Procedure

The application process for the Surgical Technology Program at NSCC is as follows and must be completed prior to the deadlines below. **THERE IS NO WAITING LIST.**

1. Submit a complete NSCC application to the Admissions Department and turn in everything required to be admitted as a student at NSCC. Please be sure you provide everything Admissions needs from you or you will not be eligible for an interview for the Surgical Technology Program.

2. If you take a placement test and place into any of the following classes: ENGL 0810, READ 0810, MATH 0810 or any required ESOL classes, these courses must be completed before beginning the program.

3. Contact the NSCC Records office (353-3218) to make sure required transcripts, placement scores, immunizations, etc. have been processed and are on file.

4. Submit a complete Surgical Technology Program Application to the Department Secretary in office D-27 or fax to 353-3608. Surgical Technology applications may be found on the Program Website at [www.nscc.edu](http://www.nscc.edu) (click on ‘Academics’). Unofficial transcripts MUST be attached to the Program Application.

What does a Surgical Technologist do?

Before an operation, Surgical Technologists help prepare the operating room by setting up surgical instruments and equipment, sterile drapes, and sterile solutions. They assemble both sterile and nonsterile equipment, as well as checking and adjusting it to ensure it is working properly.

During surgery, Surgical Technologists pass instruments and other sterile supplies to surgeons and surgical assistants. They may hold retractors, cut sutures, and help count sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments. Surgical Technologists help prepare, care for, and dispose of specimens taken for laboratory analysis and help apply dressings. Some operate sterilizers, lights, or suction machines and help operate diagnostic equipment.

After an operation, Surgical Technologists may help transfer patients to the recovery room and clean and restock the operating room.

Certified Surgical Technologists with additional specialized education or training also may act in the role of the surgical first assistant or circulator.

Surgical Technologists work in clean, well-lighted, cool environments. They must stand for long periods and remain alert during operations. At times, they may be exposed to communicable diseases and unpleasant sights, odors, and materials.

Career possibilities:

- Most Surgical Technologists work in hospital-based operating rooms.
- Surgical Technologists may also work in dental and veterinary surgical settings.
- Some Surgical Technologists work for surgeons in a private capacity.
- Medical device manufacturers also employ Surgical Technologists for technical support and sales.

The Surgical Technology Program is a 33 credit hour Technical Certificate. Students planning to pursue more advanced education in healthcare may elect to count most of these credits toward an Associate of Applied Sciences (A.A.S.) degree in General Technology with an emphasis in Health Sciences.

Seeing your advisor early in your academic path will help you take the courses that you need to complete your course of study in a timely manner.
### Surgical Technology Technical Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptance into the Program will be based on:</th>
<th>BIOL 1000 Medical Terminology*</th>
<th>3 Cr</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Previous grade point average</td>
<td>SURG 1304 Basic Anatomy and Physiology*</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Interview score</td>
<td>SURG 2310 Surgical Microbiology and Asepsis*</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Successful completion of courses counting toward Surgical Technology Program (see courses marked with * in column to right) with a C or higher</td>
<td>SURG 1305 Surgical Pharmacology*</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Previous work in the medical field</td>
<td>SURG 1410 Surgical Technology and Patient Care I</td>
<td>4 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td>- College Placement Testing Scores</td>
<td>SURG 2420 Surgical Patient Care II</td>
<td>4 Cr</td>
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<td>- Tennessee residency is not a requirement for the program.</td>
<td>SURG 1102 Orientation to Surgical Technology</td>
<td>1 Cr</td>
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<td>SURG 2321 Surgical Procedures I</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SURG 2330 Surgical Procedures II</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SURG 2103 Clinical Practicum I</td>
<td>1 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SURG 2201 Clinical Practicum II</td>
<td>2 Cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SURG 2302 Clinical Practicum III</td>
<td>3 Cr</td>
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*These courses count toward the Surgical Technology certificate and may be taken prior to acceptance into the Program. TAKING THESE COURSES DOES NOT GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM.

### Course Descriptions:

**BIOL 1000 Medical Terminology**
Medical terms, abbreviations combining forms and definitions with associated anatomy. Topics include roots, prefixes, and suffixes commonly used in the medical field and terminology related to all eleven body systems and disorders of those systems.

**SURG 1304 Basic Anatomy and Physiology**
An introduction to human anatomy and physiology. Topics include the cell, and organ systems including integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive as well as disorders of these systems.

**SURG 2310 Surgical Microbiology and Asepsis**
A presentation of microbial techniques and concepts. Emphasis is placed on applying these concepts in the operating room environment. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation.

**SURG 1305 Surgical Pharmacology**
An introduction to basic pharmacology with emphasis on terminology, drugs and techniques used in the operating room, medication measurement and delivery, types and actions of medications, routes of administration, drug calculations and scenarios, and medications used in surgery. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): SURG 1102, BIOL 1000.

**SURG 1410 Surgical Technology and Patient Care I**
An introduction to human anatomy and physiology. Topics include the cell, and organ systems including integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive as well as disorders of these systems. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program. Co-requisite(s): SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, and BIOL 1000.

**SURG 2420 Surgical Patient Care II**
A continuation of SURG 1410. Students continue the study of surgical team practice, patient-care concepts and practices. Topics include continued studies in surgical procedures, incisions, wound healing, operating, pathology, and common applications. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program. Co-requisite(s): SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, and BIOL 1000.

**SURG 1102 Orientation to Surgical Technology**
An introduction to the operating room environment. Topics include professional management and healthcare facility information. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program and SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, and BIOL 1000. Co-requisite(s): SURG 2103, SURG 2201, SURG 2302, SURG 2330.

**SURG 2321 Surgical Procedures I**
An overview of the relevant anatomy, pathophysiology (including tumors, inflammation, infection, and fluid and hemodynamic disorders), surgically treatable diseases and disorders, preparations, diagnostic interventions, instrumentation, purpose, intervention, postoperative patient care considerations and expected outcome for surgical procedures covered in the course. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program and SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, and BIOL 1000. Co-requisite(s): SURG 1102, SURG 2103, SURG 2201, SURG 2302, SURG 2330.

**SURG 2330 Surgical Procedures II**
A continuation of Surgical Procedures I. Students complete their study of the relevant anatomy, pathophysiology (including tumors, inflammation, infection, and fluid and hemodynamic disorders), surgically treatable diseases and disorders, preparations, diagnostic interventions, instrumentation, purpose, intervention, postoperative patient care considerations and expected outcome for surgical procedures covered in the course. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program; SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 1410, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, and BIOL 1000. Co-requisite(s): SURG 1102, SURG 2103, SURG 2201, SURG 2302, SURG 2321.

**SURG 2103 Clinical Practicum I; SURG 2201 Clinical Practicum II; SURG 2302 Clinical Practicum III**
Clinical experience allows a student to affiliate with healthcare facilities under the joint supervision of the school and professional staff of affiliated clinical sites to provide practical clinical work experience in an operating room setting. A grade of "C" or above in all Surgical Technology curriculum courses must be earned prior to graduation. Pre-requisite(s): Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program; SURG 1304, SURG 1305, SURG 1410, SURG 2310, SURG 2420, BIOL 1000. Co-requisite(s): SURG 1102, SURG 2103, SURG 2302, SURG 2321, SURG 2330.