

STERILE PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION TECHNOLOGY, CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY



The Sterile Processing and Distribution Technician decontaminates, inspects, assembles, and sterilizes instruments and surgical trays. The technician also manages inventory control, orders supplies, inspects, maintains, delivers and retrieves equipment and instruments for the surgery suite, emergency room and intensive care units. A hands-on clinical practicum experience in an area hospital is included in the course of study. This program prepares graduates for eligibility for the Sterile Processing and Distribution Technician Certification by the CBSPD, Certification Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution.

Program contact: Learn more

This certificate will be automatically awarded when the certificate requirements are completed. If you do not want to receive the certificate, please notify the Office of the Registrar at RegistrarOffice@tri-c.edu.

Learn more about how certificate credits apply to the related degree.

Related Degrees and Certificates

- Surgical Technology, Associate of Applied Science

Program Admission Requirements

Applications may be submitted while meeting requirements listed below. Deadline for application is June 30th.

- High School Diploma/GED
- ENG-1010 College Composition I with "C" or higher.
- Complete MATH-0955 Beginning Algebra with "C" or higher or appropriate score on Math Placement Test.
- Complete MA-1020 Medical Terminology I with "C" or higher.
- Time limit on admissions requirements prior to application is seven years.
- GPA required: 2.0 admission requirements; 2.0 overall.

Other Information

- 16 students accepted per year.
- MA-1020 Medical Terminology I must have been completed within the past seven years and may only be repeated once to improve a grade.
- Criminal background check required.
- Non-native English speaking applicants are required to take and pass TOEFL with minimum scores: Reading 21, Listening 22, Writing, 23, and Speaking 24.

- Students wishing to apply coursework to the Surgical Technology Degree – to be eligible to enroll in BIO-2331 Anatomy and Physiology I students must either achieve the appropriate placement score on the Biology placement test or complete BIO-1100 Introduction to Biological Chemistry with "C" or higher or complete CHEM-1010 Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry and CHEM-1020 Introduction to Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry with "C" or higher.
- Students wishing to apply coursework to the degree program should take MATH-1240 Contemporary Mathematics

Program Learning Outcomes

This program is designed to prepare students to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Apply principles and techniques of decontamination to render medical devices safe to handle without protective attire.
2. Inspect, assemble, pack, and wrap medical devices in preparation for appropriate sterilization process and/or distribution.
3. Safely selects and performs proper sterilization techniques, validates sterility assurance level monitoring, and maintains sterilization integrity during storage.
4. Inventory, stock, and/or distribute medical/surgical supplies to meet patient care areas needs in a cost efficient manner.
5. Communicate verbally and in writing to co-workers, customers, and suppliers to ensure that pertinent departmental information is shared in a timely manner to meet organizational needs.
6. Demonstrate professional conduct and work practices according to appropriate federal regulations, industry standards, and facility policies.
7. Prepared to sit for Sterile Processing & Distribution Technician Certification given by the Certification Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD).

Suggested Semester Sequence

Program Admissions Requirements	Semester	Credit Hours
MA-1020	Medical Terminology I	3
Select one of the following:		3
ENG-1010	College Composition I	
ENG-101H	Honors College Composition I	
Credit Hours		6
First Semester		
MATH-1100	Mathematical Explorations (or higher) ²	3
SURT-1700	Sterile Processing Tech I	4
SURT-1720	Introduction to Hospital Administration	1
Select one of the following:		3
BIO-1050	Human Biology ¹	
BIO-1100	Introduction to Biological Chemistry	
Credit Hours		11
Second Semester		
IT-1090	Computer Applications	3
SURT-1710	Sterile Processing Tech II	4
SURT-1861	Clinical Experience: Sterile Processing	2
Select one of the following:		1-3
HTEC-1110	Ethics for Health Care Professionals	
PHIL-2050	Bioethics	

Select one of the following: 3

COMM-1000	Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication	
COMM-1010	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	
COMM-101H	Honors Speech Communication	
	Credit Hours	13-15
	Total Credit Hours	30-32

¹ BIO-1050 Human Biology is a lecture course only, and may be selected in place of BIO-1100 Introduction to Biological Chemistry if working for the Certificate only. Students wishing to apply coursework to the Surgical Technology degree program must take BIO-1100 Introduction to Biological Chemistry.

² Students wishing to apply coursework to the degree program should take MATH-1240 Contemporary Mathematics.