



**School of Nursing and Allied Health
Surgical Technology Program**

**MISSION OF THE
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

The mission of the Surgical Technology program is to provide a learning environment and experiences in both didactic and clinical training that reflects occupational trends and meets the needs of the region. The profession of surgical technology is service oriented and requires trained, disciplined personnel. The high quality, selective admission, affordable training is designed to allow students to acquire competent knowledge of the skills to render them competitive in the area healthcare job market. The curriculum encourages the student to be self-directed in learning both during training and after completion.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM GOAL STATEMENT

The faculty of SOWELA Technical Community College, Surgical Technology Program, believes that a Surgical Technologist works efficiently in the role of an allied health professional in the operating room and other related areas. The surgical technologist works closely with multi-disciplinary team members delivering patient care in all phases of the peri-operative experience. Clinical activities in accredited hospitals are part of this competency- based program.

It is also our belief that the synergistic approach to surgical patient care is vital to the patient's safety, human dignity, individual uniqueness, physical, emotional, and spiritual well- being. The surgical technologist's commitment to excellence, as well as expertise, knowledge, and clinical judgment must be of the utmost consideration in the performance of related duties. The surgical technologist must be flexible, alert, and prepared to meet the needs of the profession. Personal continuing education will keep the surgical technologist abreast of the changes and technological advancements of their profession as well as to develop new skills.

Surgical Technologists have an obligation to practice their profession safely and to protect their patients from harm. We will assist surgical technology students to acquire a solid foundation of basic information on which further depth and breadth of knowledge can be added. Our goal is to prepare competent, entry level surgical technologist in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains.

We believe, as with all areas of health care, that the surgical environment is very dynamic with ever emerging trends, and the surgical technologist must be willing to make a lifelong commitment to the learning process. Changes will be made in the program/ curriculum to reflect these advancements and will be consistent with the core values and objectives of SOWELA Technical Community College and the School of Nursing and Allied Health.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students who successfully complete the Surgical Technology Program will be able to:

1. Assist in Surgical Procedures safely by utilizing appropriate knowledge of anatomy, pathophysiology, pharmacology, medical terminology, and the application of surgical aseptic technique. (*cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains*)
2. Practice within the legal, ethical, and professional scope of the Surgical Technologist by performing all preoperative skills and duties safely. (*cognitive and affective domains*)
3. Meet the educational requirements necessary for the national certifying exam administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). (*cognitive and psychomotor domains*)
4. Develop the entry level employment skills for the various roles of the Surgical Technologist in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavioral) learning domains.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAM COMPLETION

Students will be evaluated throughout the program by the Surgical Technology faculty, preceptors, clinical affiliation management, and peers. Students are encouraged to perform self-evaluations as well, based on criteria indicated in course syllabi and on clinical evaluations. For a student to be recommended to be eligible for graduation with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Surgical Technology and be eligible to sit for the National Certification Exam administered by NBSTSA, the student must have:

1. have met all college and programmatic entrance requirements
2. completed the pre-requisite courses required in the curriculum
3. have completed all courses with a grade of 70% (C) or greater
4. satisfactorily complete all clinical and didactic make up work
5. have a total of a minimum of 60 credit hours (more is possible)
6. have earned at least 25% of the required hours in the program at SOWELA and at least 2/3 of the Core courses (STEC) earned at SOWELA.
7. have participated in and properly logged the program's required number of case (120 total) in the proper delineated classifications as well as the required correct role classification as described in the *Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology*, 6th Edition by AST. Details concerning the clinical case requirements can be found in the Appendix of this handbook.
8. have the correct major (Surgical Technology) declared on file with the Office of the Registrar https://stcc.formstack.com/forms/change_of_major_request
9. have no outstanding financial responsibilities or debts to the college
10. have completed an application for graduation and paid the associated fees prior to the deadline to participate in the May ceremony.
11. ****has sat for the National Certification Exam administered by the NBSTSA (pending accreditation results- student must sit for the NBSTSA administered practice exam)

VERIFICATION OF PERFORMANCE DUTIES AND STANDARDS FOR THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROFESSION

PERFORMANCE DUTIES: SOWELA Technical Community College Surgical Technology students are expected to perform duties associated with those of the profession, which means able to perform their clinical care responsibilities in a safe, appropriate, and effective manner free from the adverse effects of physical, mental, emotional, and personal problems.

The student must have the aptitude and abilities in six areas: mobility, sensory, health, cognitive, psychomotor, and professionalism and employability. The student must be able to meet the following requirements or perform the following skills in order to participate in all clinical portions of the Surgical Technology program:

AREA	BEHAVIOR	ASSOCIATED PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOME
Mobility	<p>Perform a full-range of body motion including handling and lifting patients; bend, reach, pull, push, stoop, and walk during shift; stand for long period of time in one location with minimum/no breaks; lift and carry a minimum of twenty (20) but up to sixty (60) pounds (considerable physical strength and effort may be required perform daily job requirements);</p> <p>immediately respond in situations involving agitated patients or those emerging from anesthesia who may be physically or verbally combative</p>	<p>Outcome 1</p> <p>Outcome 3</p> <p>Outcome 4</p>
Sensory	<p>Demonstrate visual acuity (with correction if needed) within normal range (minimum of 6 feet) including peripheral vision and reading of fine print.; have the ability to judge distance as well as spatial relationships and distinguish and identify different colors; work in dim to minimal lighting environments with accuracy; auditory acuity (with correction if needed) that includes hearing voices and speech which may be impeded by PPEs and extraneous environmental background noise; withstand unusual sights/ odors and while remaining professional and performing job duties; wear full surgical attire for extended periods of time including all mandatory personal protective equipment.</p>	<p>Outcome 1</p> <p>Outcome 3</p> <p>Outcome 4</p>

Health	<p>Be free from any blood borne infections that may limit the participation in invasive procedures without the risk of transmission to the patient, OR staff or peers. (Please refer to the policies stated by the CDC and Louisiana DHH websites for further information.); recognize that work environment will include exposure to blood borne pathogens, diseases and toxic or caustic substances (sterility agents, radiation in the forms of x-ray, fumes, development of latex allergy, and so forth- this list is not to be considered all inclusive); show evidence of skin integrity, without open weeping lesions of the skin; display emotional stability with the ability to handle stress, tolerate inconsistencies, and maintain a positive and professional attitude.</p>	<p>Outcome 1 Outcome 3 Outcome 4</p>
Cognitive	<p>Adapt effectively, displaying flexibility in environments with high tension to ensure patient safety; concentrate and pay attention to detail; possess the ability to learn quickly without repetition of instructions; adapt to irregular working hours while maintaining alertness; respond quickly and in an emotionally controlled manner in emergency situations; problem solve using conceptual, integrative, and quantitative reasoning skills; recall previously learned material from prerequisite or concurrent courses and apply it to the daily practice; develop and improve skills in organization, prioritization, and time management methods; exhibit accountability and responsibility in all actions and subsequent consequences or accolades;</p>	<p>Outcome 1 Outcome 2 Outcome 3 Outcome 4</p>
Psychomotor	<p>Perform fine motor skills; manipulate equipment and instruments; eye-hand coordination; distinguish left from right; employ manual hand and finger dexterity while working, for example, with microscopic pieces of equipment and sutures (finer than a human hair), or while holding retractors; perform manual activities free from tremors and/or jerking motions to safely load/unload and pass instruments or sharps without causing injury to themselves, team members, or the patient.</p>	<p>Outcome 1 Outcome 3 Outcome 4</p>

Affective, Professionalism and Employability	Use English language proficiently to communicate with individuals of all professions and social levels; communicate in a rational and coherent manner both orally and in writing; develop a professional character including appearance and mature behavior to become an employable individual to provide the community with viable members of a work force; exhibit an increase awareness of civic values by putting others first and acknowledging individual differences while striving for equality and fairness with concern for those most in need.	Outcome 1 Outcome 2 Outcome 3 Outcome 4
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It is essential for student to perform these activities in the clinical portion of the program with or without reasonable accommodations. Students who have chronic illness or conditions must be managed and maintained on a current treatment plan and be able to function during a clinical day without impairment. Students are not required to disclose any chronic or recurrent illness and/or disability. Students who identify potential difficulties or may not have the ability to meet these standards or perform these skills, should contact the Surgical Technology program director and communicate their concerns.

If the concern is related to a documented disability, students are responsible to contact the College ADA Service officer in order to complete the necessary paperwork required. Determination of reasonable and appropriate accommodations will be made on an individual basis in the Surgical Technology department in consultation with the ADA officer.

SOWELA Technical Community College ADA Officer:

Christine Collins
3850 Sen. J. Bennett Johnston Ave.,
Lake Charles, LA 70615
(337) 421-6969 or (800) 256-0483
christine.collins@sowela.edu

All students are admitted to the surgical technology program using the same admission process and minimum requirements. Admittance into the college does not guarantee admission into the surgical technology program. Clinical space availability is limited and admission into the program is competitive. Students must complete the department application and submit all required documentation prior to the deadline to be considered. Application should be turned in to the Program Director or the front office at the Morgan Site Instructional Site during normal business hours. Applications submitted by mail will not be accepted.

SOWELA Technical Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Compliance Officer</i>
<i>Address</i>	<i>3820 Sen J Bennett Johnston Ave Lake Charles, LA 70615</i>
<i>Telephone No.</i>	<i>337-421-6565 or 800-256-0483</i>
<i>Email</i>	<i>complianceofficer@sowela.edu</i>