

STERILE PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION TECHNOLOGY, CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY



A 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 (CSPDT) by the Certification Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD).

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 May 31st.

- High School Diploma/GED
- ENG-1010 College Composition I with "C" or higher.
- Complete MA-1020 Medical Terminology I with "C" or higher.
- GPA required: 2.0 admission requirements; 2.0 overall.

Other Information

- Criminal background check required.
- 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 BIO-1500 Principles of Biology I 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.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

- Apply principles and techniques of decontamination to render medical devices safe to handle without protective attire.
- Inspect, assemble, pack and wrap medical devices in preparation for appropriate sterilization process and/or distribution.
- Safely selects and performs proper sterilization techniques, validates sterility assurance level monitoring and maintains sterilization integrity during storage.
- Inventory, stock, and/or distribute medical/surgical supplies to meet patient care areas needs in a cost-efficient manner.
- 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.
- Demonstrate professional conduct and work practices according to appropriate federal regulations, industry standards and facility policies.
- Prepared to sit for Sterile Processing & Distribution Technician Certification (CSPDT) 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		
SURT-1700 Sterile Processing Techniques 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		
BIO-1500 Principles of Biology I		
BIO-2331 Anatomy and Physiology I		
BIO-2500 Microbiology		
IT-1090 Computer Applications		3
Credit Hours		11
Second Semester		
SURT-1710 Sterile Processing Techniques 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		
PHIL-205H Honors Bioethics		
DEGR-XXXX Any 1000-level general education/Ohio Transfer 36 approved course.		3
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 or BIO-1500 Principles of Biology I.

MATH-1140, MATH-1141, MATH-1200, MATH-1270, and MATH-1280 can no longer count towards fulfilling the college-level mathematics requirement. These courses were re-classified as developmental mathematics by the state of Ohio in 2016. Tri-C established a 5-year transitioning window for students who had completed these courses prior to 2016 to apply them towards meeting graduation requirements, which expired in Summer 2021. It is highly recommended to see a counselor to determine the appropriate math required for your current major.