



# SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

## THE CAREER

Surgical Technologists are integral members of the surgical team who work closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, registered nurses, and other surgical personnel in delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during and after surgery. Scrub, circulating, first assisting, and second assisting surgical technologists have primary responsibilities for maintaining the sterile field, being constantly vigilant that all members of the team adhere to aseptic technique. Upon completion of the program requirements, the student may be qualified to take the national certification examination administered through the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

## CAREER OPTIONS

Surgical Technologists are in constant demand, both immediately and through attrition/turnover and new positions. The rapid growth of the population in the service area has increased the demand for services with the development of new settings and the expansion of existing ones. The South Carolina Employment Security Commission ([www.sces.org](http://www.sces.org)) reported the number of Surgical Technologists employed in 1996 was 1007 with the need for 1223 projected for 2006. The salary range nationwide is \$13 - \$30 per hour; in the Southeast the starting salary range is \$13 - \$15 per hour.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. The Surgical Technology diploma program prepares graduates to practice as a surgical technologist.
2. The program consists of courses in general education, science, and surgical technology courses taught in the college classroom, in campus laboratories, and multiple clinical education sites throughout the four county area served by the college.
3. The Surgical Technology program takes three semesters to complete.

## ADMISSIONS

Student applicants interested in the Surgical Technology program must first complete the college admission application process. The student will then make an appointment with a Health Science advisor. Acceptance into the college does not guarantee admission in the Surgical Technology program. Applications specific to the Surgical Technology program may only be obtained from the Health Science department at TCL. For more information on the Surgical Technology program at Technical College of the Lowcountry, please attend a free Information Session. Visit our website at [www.tcl.edu/health](http://www.tcl.edu/health) or contact a Health Science advisor at 843.525.8267.

## ENROLL • REGISTER • ATTEND

1. Apply to the College and for Financial Aid.
2. Complete the COMPASS placement assessment test.
3. Complete the TEAS test.
4. Call your academic advisor to make an appointment for advisement and to register.
5. Pay your tuition and fees. (*Verify financial aid.*)
6. Obtain all needed College IDs: Student ID, Vehicle Registration, and Blackboard ID. (*Get your books and course supplies.*)
7. Mark your calendar for the first day of class and plan to be there!

**NOTE: SEE REQUIRED COURSES IN CATALOG.**

Surgical Technology Program Accredited By  
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)  
6 West Dry Creek Circle, Suite 210, Littleton, Colorado 80120-8031

- > The Technical College of the Lowcountry is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all qualified applicants for admissions or employment without regard to race, gender, national origin, age, religion, marital status, veteran status, disability, or political affiliation or belief.