

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Surgical Technology Program

### Spartanburg Community College

#### How do I apply for the Spartanburg Community College Surgical Technology Program?

General information about the Surgical Technology application process:

- All Surgical Technology program announcements are advertised on the Spartanburg Community College – Surgical Technology webpage (<http://www.sccsc.edu/SurgTech/>). Mark this as a Favorite!
- Applications are available on-line in January for Fall Admission. NO packets will be distributed in hard copy format. NO packets are mailed out. Packets are available online for download and printing only for a designated timeframe. This designated timeframe will be posted on our website beginning in January.
- All information documented must be completed in ink, legibly, and carefully.
- All packets must have unofficial college transcripts included within the packet with all posted actual grades for transfer credits highlighted to be considered for application review. Packets without “course grades” are considered incomplete packets. You can get a copy of your unofficial college transcript from the Records office here on campus. If you have credit from another college you will need to make sure you allow enough time for an official transcript, to be requested by yourself, to be sent to Spartanburg Community College. Sometimes this is a lengthy process so please allow at least a month. Once Records receives that information within their system they can then print out a “Transfer Equivalency Report” for you. That “Transfer Equivalency Report” will need to be included in your packet so we can see a letter grade from your previous college and not just a “TR”. Once packets are returned, no additional information may be added.
- High school transcripts are not required. High school information will be obtained by program faculty through Admissions.
- Only course grades of C or higher are accepted – this is for both college and high school courses, listed on the score sheet. If you have completed any of your courses with an “E” for exempt you will receive 1 point for that class on your score sheet.
- Packets are returned at a designated time, date and location. NO packets are accepted via postal mail.

- Faculty will verify total submitted points and assign a ranking to each student based on the calculated scores from completed applications.

### **How many students are accepted each year to start the program?**

The Surgical Technology Program accepts 20 students each year. This number is decided by the Program's accrediting agency, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. It is based on the number of clinical sites affiliated with the Program.

### **I heard Spartanburg Community College has a waiting list to enter the Surgical Technology program. Is this true and how long is the waiting list?**

Spartanburg Community College's Surgical Technology Program DOES NOT have a waiting list for admission into the program. The application packets for non-accepted students are kept on file until the first day of the Fall Term in the event that one of the originally accepted students declines his or her slot. Once the first day of Fall Term arrives, all packets are destroyed. Interested students are encouraged to re-apply the following year.

### **What GPA score is required for admission into the Surgical Technology program?**

The student must have a 2.50 GPA or higher on the five required courses found on the GPA calculator located in this website.

### **When can I apply for the Surgical Technology program?**

- The application process for the Surgical Technology Program occurs once per year, in January.
- These pre-requisites must be completed prior to applying for the Surgical Technology program:
  - 1) a student must have completed at least one unit of High School Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and one unit of High School Algebra.
  - 2) a student must have completed AHS 102 and AHS 104
  - 3) a student must have a 2.50 GPA or higher on course work that applies to the Surgical Technology curriculum.

### **How many points do I need to be accepted into the program?**

There is no "magic" number of points for acceptance into the program. The applicant pool changes yearly, and therefore the high and low points change also. The student should work toward having as many points allowed for his or her situation.

### **How long is the Surgical Technology Program?**

The Surgical Technology Program is twelve consecutive months. Students begin in August of one year, and complete the program one year later at the end of July. Students will attend Fall, Spring and Summer terms.

**Do all students have to go to all clinical sites during the Program?**

Yes, all students spend equal time at all clinical sites beginning mid Spring Term. Each clinical site offers a unique learning atmosphere.

**Will it be possible to work fulltime and attend school?**

Many of our students have families, work and attend school. The students are apprised in orientation of the number of hours required for the curriculum and they adjust work hours each semester to accommodate their school schedules. Neither class nor clinical schedules will be adjusted for a work schedule.

Many students can “multi-task” and experience no problems balancing school, family and work. We advise students to remain disciplined and practice good time management skills during the 3 semesters of school.

**Is it expensive to take the Surgical Technology courses?**

Spartanburg Community College’s tuition fees are very affordable. Our Financial Aid office will be glad to counsel with any student who needs advise to apply for grants, lottery or scholarships.

There are additional fees associated with the Surgical Technology program such as uniforms, lab jackets, testing fees, etc. An estimate of expenses for the program can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.sccsc.edu/SurgTech>

**Will I be required to submit a background check and a drug test?**

Yes, all students entering the Health field are required by our clinical facilities to submit a background check and a drug screen. You will receive further information about when, where and how once you have been accepted into the program.

**Are there any standards that I have to be able to perform once I am accepted into the program?**

Please see the list of Community Standards (located in this website) that is required to progress in the Surgical Technology program.