The Surgical Technology Program is an 11-month, 44 vocational credit, 1330 clock-hour program leading to a certificate in Surgical Technology. This program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs, CAAHEP.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
U.S. Hwy. 19, Suite 158  
Clearwater, FL 33769  
Telephone: 727-210-2350; Fax: 727-210-2354  
www.caahep.org

All graduates of the Surgical Technology Program are eligible to take the National Certification Examination at the end of the program and earn the title of Certified Surgical Technologist. This is a limited access program.

The Certified Surgical Technologist, CST, is a key member of the surgical team who anticipates the needs of surgeons and passes instruments, sutures, and sponges during surgery in an efficient manner. Under the supervision of the surgeon, a CST may be involved in holding retractors or instruments, sponging or suctioning the operative site, or cutting suture material. A CST must be able to perform under pressure in stressful and emergency situations, have a strong sense of responsibility, considerable patience, manual dexterity and physical stamina, and a desire to help people return to good health. A CST ensures that the operating room environment is safe, that equipment functions properly, and that the operative procedure is conducted under sterile conditions that maximize patient safety.

Although CST’s primarily work in hospital operating rooms as a sterile member of the surgical team, other job opportunities include work in cardiac catheterization labs, labor and delivery units, endoscopy departments, and ambulatory care centers. Employment opportunities exist in management roles in surgical services and sterile processing departments. In addition to working in a hospital setting, CSTs are employed directly by surgeons as “private scrubs” and/or surgical first assistants. Combining a broad educational background with a specialized focus, CSTs may work in medical sales, product development, research, and traveling medical agencies.

This program consists of a fall semester, spring semester and a nine-week summer session. It begins every August and ends in July. The program curriculum is a balance of theoretical and technical courses with supervised clinical practicum at area hospitals as well as some hospitals out of town. The program goal is “to prepare competent entry-level surgical technologists in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and effective (behavior) learning domains.” Students will complete a minimum of 120 surgical cases. Students will complete 30 cases in general surgery, with 20 of those cases in the first scrub role. Students will also complete 90 cases in various surgical specialties, with 60 of those in the first scrub role, and evenly, but not necessarily equally, distributed between a minimum of four surgical specialties.

The United States Department of Labor states that Surgical Technology is a growing profession nationwide. Salaries range from $31,000 to $64,000.

Uvonda Wilkerson, CST  
Program Director
CF VISION

To be the first choice for quality higher education in our community.

CF MISSION

College of Central Florida provides access to high quality, high value baccalaureate degrees, associate degrees, certificates and diplomas, and promotes the economic, social and cultural development of our community.

Information and procedures contained in this packet may be subject to change without notice. The information in this document is informational only and not intended to be contractual in nature.

HEALTH SCIENCES IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

College of Central Florida
3001 S.W. College Road, Ocala, FL  34474-4415
352-854-2322

Surgical Technology Program Manager – Uvonda Wilkerson, CST, ext. 1271
Health Sciences Building 19, Room 108A, wilkersu@cf.edu

Surgical Technology Program Staff Assistant – Chelsea Siver, ext. 1274
Health Sciences Building 35, Room 104, siverc@cf.edu

Health Sciences Academic Advisor – Jesse del Prado, ext. 1479
Bryant Student Union (Building 5), Room 201T, delpradj@cf.edu

Bryant Student Union, Building 5:
CF Admissions Office, ext. 1307
CF Testing Center, ext. 1564
CF Financial Aid Office, ext. 1335

Data provided is informational only and not intended to be contractual in nature. Information is subject to change without notice.

Limited Access Program
This is a limited access program. While any student meeting the minimum criteria is encouraged to apply, not all applicants may be accepted.
**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**Term I:** STS 0003 INTRODUCTION TO SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance to CF and the Surgical Technology program and have met all program requirements for admittance

This course presents concepts that serve as an introduction to the operating room and its environment including all hazards preparation. Operating room fundamentals taught and practiced include principles of aseptic technique, sterilization and disinfection; correct procedure for scrubbing, gowning and gloving; draping; identifying and classifying instruments; handling of specimens; care and counting the sponges, sharps and instruments; positioning and prepping of patients. The student will also practice handling drains, dressings, sutures, needles and staplers. The duties of scrub, circulator and second assistant are taught and practiced. Students must pass an instrument test to successfully complete the course. Upon passing the instrument test and completion of 240 hours successfully, the student will have demonstrated an occupational completion point (OCP) of Central Supply Assistant. Students must also pass a skills performance test to successfully complete this course. Introduction to the structure of the body, anatomical positions and planes of the body, systems of the body and their interrelationships are studied. Principles of pathology, basic concepts of microbiology and reaction of injury and pathogenesis of disease are discussed. Maintenance of health and prevention of disease are emphasized. Laboratory and clinical supervised practice are an integral part of this course.

**Term II:** STS 0810 SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY I  
**Prerequisite:** STS 0003 with a grade of C or higher and satisfactory clinical evaluation, program requirements are current

This course focuses on expanding the basic principles from STS 0003 to include specific patient preparation. Information is obtained on operative procedures, pathology that indicates surgical intervention, methods or anesthesia, the different types of incisions, special equipment, instruments and supplies. Also covered are diagnostic procedures and complications of each surgical procedure, and information associated with emergency situations and radiation. Information is obtained on employability skills. This course is designed to provide the student with standard level of competency in the clinical areas. Clinical practice is coordinated with didactic content. The student will demonstrate learned skills and practice safety in the operating room while scrubbing, assist circulating and second assisting in the following specialty areas; general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, gastrointestinal otolaryngology, ophthalmology, plastic, oral, dental, maxillofacial, thoracic, peripheral vascular, cardiovascular, neurosurgery, pediatric, endoscopic, laser and transplant. The student will begin the process of first scrubbing a minimum of 120 surgical cases in designated areas. Students will be able to demonstrate competent, entry level clinical skills for employment. After successful completion of the program, the student will demonstrate an occupational completion point of Surgical Technologist.

**Term III:** STS 0820 SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY II  
**Prerequisite:** STS 0810 with a grade of C or higher and satisfactory clinical evaluation, program requirements are current

This course focuses on continuance of surgical theory of Endoscopic procedures (MIS or MAS). Basic concepts of robotic surgery and physics are introduced. It provides study of special problems which coordinate with the individual needs of students during clinical practice, trauma, death and dying, transplant and procurement, case studies and preparation for the National Certification Examination. Clinical supervised practice is an integral part of this course. Students will complete the process of having scrubbed a minimum of 120 surgical cases in designated categories. Students will be able to demonstrate competent, entry level clinical skills for employment. After successful completion of the program, the student will demonstrate an occupational completion point of Surgical Technologist.
GENERAL POINTS OF INFORMATION

A. All Surgical Technology students are required to have liability and accident insurance. The cost of this insurance will be included with the first semester tuition and coverage will be in effect for the entire program. See program requirements for student health insurance.

B. CF and all clinical affiliates are drug free environments. Students may be required at any time to prove that they are drug free by submitting to a drug test anytime there is reasonable cause. Illegal use, possession and/or misuse of drugs are reasons for immediate dismissal from the program. See program requirements for student substance screening.

C. It is necessary that you have reliable transportation to the assigned hospitals and clinical facilities. Clinical experiences will be offered at the following:

- Munroe Regional Medical Center (Ocala)
- Ocala Regional Medical Center (Ocala)
- West Marion Community Hospital (Ocala)
- Ocala Surgery Center (Ocala)
- Shands at University of Florida Hospital (Gainesville)
- Leesburg Regional Medical Center (Leesburg)
- The Villages Regional Hospital (Villages)
- Citrus Memorial Hospital (Inverness)
- Seven Rivers Regional Hospital (Crystal River)

D. This program consists of a fall semester, spring semester and a nine-week summer session. It begins in August and ends by the second week of July. Schedule for classes and/or clinicals are Monday-Friday:

- (Fall) August: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- (Fall) September-October: 3 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
- (Winter) November-December: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- (Spring) January-April: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- (Summer) May-June: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Clinical Hours (throughout program): 6:45 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

The program calendar follows the CF calendar. Please refer to the CF Academic Calendar.

E. This is a full-time program. CF does not recommend that students work during this program.

F. Applications for scholarships and financial aid are available in Enrollment Services, Bryant Student Union, or you can complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This should be done at least six months before entering the program, or by March of each year. Applicants to the Surgical Technology program should not apply for Student Employment/Federal Work Study when they fill out the FAFSA.

G. This is a limited access program. If you are not accepted into the August 2019 class, and wish to apply in the future, you must complete another in-person information session and re-apply to the program.
# PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Critical thinking sufficient for clinical judgment.</td>
<td>Handle multiple priorities and apply reasoning and evaluation skills. Concentrate for prolonged periods of time in a sterile environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal</td>
<td>Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.</td>
<td>Display patience, empathy and concern for others. Deal with fear and hostility in a calm manner. Work with others in stressful situations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.</td>
<td>Communicate needs in a prompt, clear and concise manner. In the sterile role, communicate the identity of items such as drugs, implants, and special instrumentation. Accurately document pertinent information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.</td>
<td>Respond promptly to the surgeon’s/patient’s needs, manipulate equipment, lift a minimum of 30 pounds, exert a sustained force of 20 pounds, push/pull mobile equipment weighing up to 300 pounds, stand in sterile scrub attire for prolonged periods (sometimes wearing a 12-20 pound lead apron underneath the gown), walk an equivalent of five miles per day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Skills</td>
<td>Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to safely and effectively perform surgical technology skills.</td>
<td>Ability to grasp, hold, grip, seize, turn or otherwise work with hands. Accurately and safely pass sharps and instruments. Examples include working with fingers to thread or load delicate suture needles, assembling air powered drills and mixing bone cement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td>Auditory ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in surgical technology.</td>
<td>Detect and evaluate the sounds of advanced surgical equipment such as gas, video and cardiac monitors, power-driven tools, fire alarms, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tactile</td>
<td>Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and handling of tissues.</td>
<td>Perceive attributes of an object via touch. Palpate and handle tissue/organs with gentle accuracy as instructed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Pregnancy Advisory: If you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy (while enrolled in the program) please advise the Surgical Technology Program Faculty for further pregnancy information and/or requirements.*
### ESTIMATED COST OF THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM*

#### TUITION:
- **$85.92** per vocational credit (in state)
- **$343.68** per vocational credit (out of state)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Cost (in state)</th>
<th>Cost (out of state)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>$1,460.64</td>
<td>$5,842.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$15,465.66</td>
<td>$6,186.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$3,780.48</td>
<td>$15,121.92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Surgical Tech Program:**

#### SEMESTER I (FALL)
- College application fee: **$30.00**
- TABE: **$15.00**
- Clinical Compliance: **$30.00**
- Dosimeter Badge: **$39.90**
- Lab Coat, goggles and cord, scrub pants and shirt, shoes (varies): **$150.00**
- Books, manual and handbook (varies): **$400.00**
- Physical examination: **$50.00**
- Immunizations (varies): **$400.00**
- Flu vaccine: **$30.00**
- Substance screening: **$29.00**
- CPR: **$60.00**
- Eye examination: **$50.00**
- Miscellaneous Supplies: **$10.00**
- Lab fees: **$30.00**
- Federal background check: **$89.25**

**Total:** **$1,413.15 + tuition**

#### SEMESTER II (SPRING)
- Miscellaneous Supplies: **$10.00**
- Lab Fees: **$20.00**

**Total:** **$30.00 + tuition**

#### SEMESTER III (9-WEEK SUMMER SESSION)
- Miscellaneous Supplies: **$10.00**
- Lab Fees: **$260.00**

**Total:** **$270.00 + tuition**

**Estimated Expenses:** **$1,713.15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-State Tuition</th>
<th>$3,780.48</th>
<th>Out of State Tuition</th>
<th>$15,121.92</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td><strong>$1,713.15</strong></td>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td><strong>$1,713.15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td><strong>$5,493.63</strong></td>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td><strong>$16,835.07</strong></td>
</tr>
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* All the above are estimated costs for 2018-2019 academic year and are subject to change. Liability ($12.50) and accident ($9.95) insurance will be included in the total fee bill for semester I. The summer session lab fees include the cost of the National Certification Exam and a one-year membership with the Association of Surgical Technologist (AST).
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The required process for applying to the surgical technology program is as follows:

1. **Mandatory On-campus Information Session**
   All applicants must complete a mandatory on-campus information session within 12 months of application to the program. This session is devoted to giving in-depth information about the Surgical Technology program. The date of completion of the information session must be documented on the program application.

2. **Application to College of Central Florida**
   All applicants must have applied and been admitted to the college. The online application and fee ($30) are submitted to the Admissions Office. Please note: This is a limited access program and acceptance to the college does not assure acceptance to the Surgical Technology program.

3. **TABE (Level A) Examination Required**
   (or) *completion of A.A. degree or higher
   (or) *completion of college English and Math courses with a grade of C or higher
   Applicants are required to take the TABE, Level A. You will need to schedule the test by calling the Testing Department at 352-854-2322, ext. 1564 ($15 fee). Specify it is for the Surgical Technology program. Attach test scores to the Surgical Technology program application. Scores are good for two years from the program start date. The minimum basic skills grade level required:
   - 657 in Mathematics,
   - 631 in Language, and
   - 617 in Reading.
   * You are exempt from taking the TABE if you have an A.A. degree or higher.
   * English and math college credit courses may apply. Contact Health Sciences advisor to verify.

4. **Official Transcripts**
   Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED. It is the applicants’ responsibility to have official transcripts submitted to the Admissions Office at CF:
   - Graduation from high school or GED
   - College and/or vocational transcripts and testing must be on file with CF
   - Military or other schooling (if applicable)
   - 2.0 grade point average

5. **Application to the 2019-2020 Surgical Technology Program**
   Applications will be accepted from March 25, 2019, through May 30, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. All applications must be complete with all requested documentation attached.
   If an applicant is not admitted to the upcoming August class, he/she will need to re-apply and complete an in-person Information Session for the year of application. The application must be submitted in person or mailed to CF, Surgical Technology program, 3001 S.W. College Road, Building 19, Ocala, FL 34474-4415. Download program application at http://pr.cf.edu/files/AA-HS-ST2_Surgical_Technology_Program_Application.pdf

6. **Admission Calculation Sheet**
   A point system is used to select students for admission to the Surgical Technology program. Those students with the highest total number of points will be selected to fill the class. Specific information on related areas that qualify for points is found on the Admission Calculation Sheet. There must be a minimum of 35 points to qualify for admission to the program. In the event there is a tie in points, applications with the earliest submission date will be used as the deciding factor. Download program Admission Calculation Sheet at http://pr.cf.edu/files/AA-HS-ST3_Surgical_Technology_Program_Admission_Calculation.pdf

Health Sciences programs are restricted to applicants who have met specific requirements. Data provided is informational only and not intended to be contractual in nature. Information is subject to change without notice. This is a limited access program. Acceptance to the college does not assure acceptance to the Surgical Technology program.
THE SELECTION PROCESS

No applications will be accepted after the deadline of May 30, 2019. The following selection criteria are used by the Surgical Technology Admissions Committee to decide which applicants will receive an invitation to the program.

Applications will be dated as they are received provided the application is complete with all necessary documentation attached. Applicants will be ranked according to the points earned. The applicants with the highest accumulated points will be selected to fill the seats in the Surgical Technology program. In the event of more than one applicant with the same number of points, the date of the application will be used as a deciding factor.

All applicants will be notified of status by U.S. mail on or before June 15. Any applicant having not received notification of pending status may contact the Surgical Technology program after June 15.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

All applicants receiving notification of having been selected to fill a seat in the Surgical Technology program must complete the following and all forms required will be enclosed with an acceptance letter.

1. Acknowledgment of Acceptance Form – All selected applicants must return their acceptance form to the Surgical Technology office by the required date indicating accepting/declining your seat in the program.

2. Mandatory Orientation – All accepted applicants are required to attend a Surgical Technology Orientation Session prior to the start of the program. The orientation consists of a seven-hour session devoted to providing more in-depth information about the Surgical Technology program, the schedule, uniform requirements, ID badges, and expectations. This will be held the second week of August 2019, approximately two weeks prior to the start of classes. Time, date and exact location of the session will be enclosed in the acceptance letter.

3. Health Forms – All accepted applicants must submit the Health Sciences Health forms and Eye Exam form by the date indicated in the acceptance letter. No student will be admitted without the forms completed. The physical exam and immunization record must remain current during the program. (Estimated costs: Eye Exam $50, Physical Exam $50, Immunizations $400 dependent on students’ record of immunizations)

4. Background Check – All Health Sciences students must have a federal criminal background check. Individuals with a felony history may not be eligible for admission to Health Sciences programs. Instructions will be included with the acceptance letter. (Estimated cost: $89.25.)

5. Substance Screening – Students must be substance screened. Information on substance screening will be included in the acceptance letter. (Estimated cost: $29.)

6. Health Insurance – Surgical Technology students must attach proof of having health insurance, or sign an Acknowledgement of Student Financial Responsibility form. More information will be included in the orientation packet.
It is the responsibility of the applicant to be sure that all necessary documentation is included with your application. Before submitting your application to the Surgical Technology program, be sure the following steps have all been completed:

- Application to CF has been submitted to the Admission Office, Bryant Student Union, Building 5 ($30 fee)
- Official transcripts from High School or GED, and college/vocational/military have been sent to the Admissions Department at CF.
- Complete Surgical Technology Application.
- Copy of TABE scores or proof of exemption attached to the Surgical Technology Application.
- Admission Calculation Sheet completed and attached to the Surgical Technology Application.
- Copy of any certification/license is attached to the calculation sheet if being claimed as point(s).
- Copy of documented work experience on agency letterhead with supervisor’s signature attached to the calculation sheet if being claimed as point(s). Work experience must involve direct patient care. Veterinary tech or assistant does qualify as work experience.
- Credit given for Health Related College Education courses is limited to having been completed in the past seven years.
- Submit completed Surgical Technology Application with all necessary documentation to:
  College of Central Florida, Surgical Technology Program, 3001 S.W. College Road, Building 19, Ocala, FL 34474-4415.
- All applicants must attend at least one on-campus Surgical Technology information session within one year of applying to the program.

Important Note:
All applicants must attend at least one on-campus information session.