

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

ASSOCIATES DEGREE / BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAM

Surgical technologists assist in surgical operations. They prepare operating rooms, arrange equipment, and help doctors during surgeries. The surgical technology field requires physical stamina, manual dexterity, the ability to maintain good working relationships with patients and medical staff, and the ability to work well in high-stress situations. Program applications are available beginning in January every year. **Visit SimiInstitute.org for more information.**



OUR PROGRAM

The Surgical Technology Program at Simi Institute is conducted in consortium with Excelsior College and is an associate's degree program that starts in June of every year. There is also an option to earn a bachelor's degree. The ST Program prepares graduates to take the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) Exam through Association of Surgical Technologist (AST) and become a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST).

PROGRAM ADMISSION

Selection for the ST program is based on:

- an application essay
- a written entrance test of adult basic skills comprised of two parts:
 1. English - reading comprehension and language skills
 2. Math skills - equations, fractions, percentages, scientific notation, pre-algebra
- an interview with SICE ST program staff
- academic preparation (from transcripts)
- relevant work or volunteer experience

NEW COHORTS BEGIN ONCE A YEAR, STARTING IN JUNE

Must be 18 years or older with a U.S. high school diploma, GED (English version) or U.S. college degree. Must speak, read, and write English at a college level. Foreign transcripts must be translated by a third party. Depending on the requirements of our clinical site partners, Surgical Technology students may be required to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination(s) prior to beginning any externship.

LICENSURE

While licensure is not required for surgical technologists in California, the majority of local employers require it. Licensure as a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) can be obtained by completing an accredited program like ours and then passing the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting Certified Surgical Technologist Exam. This multiple choice comprehensive certification exam, taken on a computer, covers the medical knowledge and skills required of competent entry-level technologists, including specific techniques in perioperative care, intra-operative care, post-operative care and basic science.

JOB DUTIES

Surgical technologists work as members of a healthcare team alongside physicians, surgeons, registered nurses, and other healthcare workers.

Their duties include:

- Preparing operating rooms for surgery
- Sterilizing equipment and make sure that there are adequate supplies for surgery
- Ready patients for surgery by washing and disinfecting incision sites
- Helping surgeons during surgery by passing them instruments and other sterile supplies
- Counting supplies, such as sponges and instruments
- Maintaining a sterile environment

