

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your recent inquiry into Daytona State College's Surgical Technology Program. We offer a 10 ½ month vocational certificate program in the field.

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals and are an integral part of the surgical team. The surgical technologist functions under the supervision of a surgeon to ensure a safe operating room environment, that equipment functions properly and that the operative procedure is conducted under conditions that maximize patient safety. A surgical technologist possesses expertise in the theory and application of aseptic technique, combines the knowledge of human anatomy, surgical procedures, implementation of tools and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance of invasive therapeutic and diagnostic procedures. Duties of the surgical technologist may be performed in operating rooms, ambulatory surgery centers, central supply, labor and delivery areas, cardiac catheterization laboratories, private physician offices and other areas where invasive procedures are performed.

Additional education combined with this specialized focus, affords the surgical technologist the ability to function well in a number of diverse areas. The multicompetency is demonstrated by their use in cardiac catheterization laboratories, medical sales, product development and research. Laser technology, biomedical engineering, technical writing, photography, illustration, and medical-legal auditing are the areas in which their education has an available application.

**Applications are accepted anytime during the year.** I have enclosed an application; a list of most frequently asked questions and a program guide, which will provide course information. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (386) 506-3747, or Melissa Brown, Academic Advisor, at 506-3052 or [brownm@daytonastate.edu](mailto:brownm@daytonastate.edu) . I wish you success in your career search!

Sincerely,

Dana Earnest, CST  
Assistant Chair/Program Manager  
Surgical Technology

## **Frequently Asked Questions About the Surgical Technology Program**

### **1. What is the employment outlook?**

Excellent! There is an increasing demand for qualified technologist in all areas.

### **2. What salary can I expect to earn?**

The average starting salary in Volusia County is around \$23, 000, with higher salaries offered outside this area. There are also many opportunities for earning additional income through shift differential and call back pay.

### **3. What are typical working hours in this profession?**

Shift work hours are available around the clock.

### **4. What are the program hours?**

The program requires 30 contact hours per week, with classes Monday through Friday.

### **5. How much does the program cost? What about books, lab fees?**

Cost for in-state students is \$72.21 per credit hour (the rate for out-of-state students is \$288.80 per credit hour). Since this is a 39.93 vocational credit hour course, the tuition would be \$2,883.00 (\$11,531.00 for out-of-state). In addition, approximately \$700 would be needed for books, lab fees, and uniforms, etc.

### **6. Must I take a board exam upon completion of this program?**

There is a certification exam that receives national recognition in surgical technology. Every state recognizes certification for employment. The certification exam is administered electronically and available upon request after completion of the program.

**7. Is a license required to work in this occupation?**

Although no license is required, you will be eligible to apply for national certification. All employers in this area require this as a condition of your employment.

**8. What courses must be completed before starting the program courses?**

Basic Anatomy & Physiology for Health Careers (BSC 0070 or BSC1080), Human Relations in the Workplace (INP 1390), and Medical Terminology (HSC 1531) are required before you can submit an application to this program. *Applicants may also take BSC 1085 & Lab and BSC 1086 & Lab (Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II) and PSY1012 (General Psychology), if you plan to further your education in the future. These courses can be substituted for the Basic Anatomy & Physiology for Health Careers and the Human Relations in the Workplace.*

**9. Is clinical or externship training required in the program?**

Yes. Over 700 hours of clinical training are part of this program.

**10. I have previous college courses. Will they count in this program?**

Courses in Human Anatomy & Physiology, Medical Terminology and Human Relations in the Workplace or General Psychology will be considered for transfer credit by the program manager.

**11. When may I start the program?**

The program begins once per year in August. **Applications are accepted anytime during the year.** Applicants must have completed **all** of the prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or better **prior to** submitting the application to the program. Selection is based on Cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 or better, and the date the application is submitted/received by Melissa Brown or the Health Careers Department.

Applications are reviewed for acceptance during the month of May and throughout the summer until the class has been filled.

**12. Are their other admission criteria?**

All applicants are required to attend the mandatory program information session. Dates and times of the session will be announced during the Spring Semester. Applicants must also have a consultation with the Assistant Chair of the Surgical Technology Program prior to being considered for program admission.

Once accepted to the program, applicants will be required to completed a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) background screening (\$24.00). Applicants Must not have been found guilty of any Felony offense regardless of adjudication.