



Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus  
Surgical Technology Program  
Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree



Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Surgical Technology (SURG) program. We offer the Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Surgical Technology. Enclosed is some information that we think will be helpful in answering your questions about this profession and the application process to our program. I encourage you to go to the website [www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech) to access information about upcoming information sessions, the curriculum, the admissions process, etc. The Health Science Application also outlines the prerequisites to the program and the steps needed to complete in order to be an eligible candidate.

Once you have had a chance to review the enclosed materials, please choose one of the information sessions to attend where more specific information about the program is presented. A list of information session dates is posted on the surgical technology website [www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech).

March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year is the deadline for applying for the SURG Program. The program begins once a year, at the beginning of the Summer I Semester.

You may take any of the general education courses required for this program without being accepted into the program on any of the three MC campuses. If you need help with planning academic courses, please contact Maureen Mirowski, our Health Science counselor at 240-567-5810 or the counseling department at Montgomery College, at 240-567-1480. For general information about the Surgical Technology program, Sherry Randolph at 240-567-5520.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you at an upcoming Information Session. You can access the Health Science application at <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions-registration/health-sciences/index.html>.

Good luck in your endeavors.

With best regards,  
Jerome Upchurch, CST, CSFA, SA-C  
Program Coordinator  
Surgical Technology Program  
240-567-5541  
[jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu)

**Surgical Technologist  
Montgomery College  
AAS Degree**

**Already have a degree?**

You may be able to complete the degree in Surgical Technology in less than two years. You may be able to complete the program in as little as one year if you have completed all courses except the SURG professional courses prior to applying for admission to the program. The final year consists of all the SURG professional courses scheduled over the last 12 months.

**What is a Surgical Technologist?**

The surgical technologist is an integral member of the surgical team who works closely with the surgeon, anesthesiologists, registered nurses and other surgical personnel in the care of patients before, during, and after surgery. The Surgical Technologist's primary responsibilities are scrubbing in the first scrub solo role and anticipating the needs of the surgeon. This includes preparing the operating room for the surgical procedure with the appropriate surgical instruments, supplies, equipment, medications, and solutions for use. Throughout the procedure the surgical technologist vigilantly monitors the sterile field and care for specimen(s) taken for laboratory analysis.

**How does this program prepare me for a career?**

Graduates with the associate of applied science degree are eligible to apply to take the National Certification Exam, from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). Montgomery College students will take the CST exam in the final semester of the curriculum on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. This certification provides them with the credentials for entering many careers associated with surgical technology.

**What professions can I expect to enter after completing this program?**

**What about starting salary?**

Upon graduation students can expect to enter the field as a Surgical Technologists. An entry-level position in the hospital setting for a graduate with no prior work experience begins at approximately \$58,000 to \$64,000 per year in the DC Metro area.

**What is the employment outlook for the next decade?**

Surgical Technologist are in demand. Employment opportunities are excellent in this career field. Employment opportunities are expected to remain lucrative well into the mid 2020's. Technological advances such as fiber optics, laser technology, a rise in ambulatory surgery centers, and robotics add to the demand.

The professional core curriculum for the Surgical Technology courses is designed to be completed in 12 months: Summer Session I, Fall and Spring semesters. Therefore, it is recommended that all of the general education, and other courses, be completed before beginning the professional courses in the last 12 months of the program due to the scheduling of all of these professional courses in the last year.

**Minimum Requirements prior to applying:**

- Minimum GPA of 2.5 based on the priority courses
- ENGL 101
- MATH 110 or higher
- BIOL 212
- Priority consideration for admission are BIOL 213 and ENGL 102 (if older than 5 years BIOL 228 can supplement)

**Information Sessions**

It is strongly recommended that students attend an information session. Dates and time are noted on the Surgical Technology Web page at [www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech). Financial aid and scholarships are available to qualified candidates.

**Is this program accredited?**

The Surgical Technology program is fully accredited by The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and the Accreditation Review Committee for Surgical Technologist and Surgical Assistants (ARCSTSA).

Whom do I call for more information?

Call Professor Jerome Upchurch, Program Coordinator, at 240-567-5541

[jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu), Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

**ADMISSIONS STEPS**

Follow these steps to become a student of the Montgomery College Surgical Technology Program.

1. Attend an Information Session
2. Submit a Montgomery College Admission Application (unless currently enrolled)
3. Submit to Office of Records and Registration the following:
  - Health Science Application for admission into the Surgical Technology Program by March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Official transcripts from each and every college attended.

The completion of all program admission requirements does not guarantee placement into the program. The Office of Records and Registration will process applications to the program. Students are accepted based on meeting admission criteria and clinical placement availability.

**Once you are accepted into the program you will need to:**

1. Attend the orientation as directed on the acceptance letter
2. Register for classes
3. Pay tuition/fees

**Start of classes: The Surgical Technology program begins in May (Summer Session I).  
Courses are held during the day.**

**Application deadline: March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year**

#### Program Information

- A. Students are admitted to the program once a year in Summer Session I.
- B. Eighteen (18) students will be accepted to the program
- C. Surgical Technology professional courses are offered in the day. Clinical rotations will occur during the fall and spring semesters for three (3) days a week, 7:00 am-3:30 pm, for the 15-week semester.
- D. Sixty-three (63) credits are required for the AAS Degree. This includes credits of General Education courses.
- E. Students who wish to do this program part-time should take all General Education courses first and then apply to the Surgical Technology program for the professional courses scheduled over the last 12 months.
- F. Surgical Technology courses must be taken in sequence Summer Session I, Fall, and Spring semesters.
- G. A student must earn a "C" (78% in the SURG program) in each Surgical Technology course in order to continue in the program.
- H. Students who have completed all other courses, including the general education courses, required for the AAS Degree may be able complete the program in less than two years.
- I. This program is offered only at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

#### **Health Policies/Contractual Requirements for Clinical Placements**

Due to the special nature of this Program and the requirements specified in the contractual agreements between the College and its clinical affiliates, students must comply with special assignments and/or policies.

**All health science students must have health insurance prior to placement in clinical sites.**

#### **Background Check/Drug Testing**

All students will be required to complete a criminal background check as well as drug testing process through the vendor required by the college and in conjunction with the Maryland Hospital Association. Upon acceptance and at the orientation for new students, information and directions will be given regarding both of these processes. The student is responsible for the cost of these two processes.

#### **Important Student Information Links**

In addition to course requirements and objectives that are in this syllabus, Montgomery College has information, and resources, on its web site ([see links below](#)) to assist you in having a successful experience both inside and outside of the classroom. It is important that you read and understand this information. The links below provides access to college information and other resources provided by the Division of Student Affairs. Information that pertains to the following: student behavior (Student Code of Conduct); Academic

Calendar; Student Important Dates and Deadlines; Disability Support Services (DSS); Veteran Services (Combat2College); Emergency Closings & Delayed Openings; Montgomery College Alert; and, MC Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management. If you have any questions, please bring them to your professor. As rules and regulations change, they will be updated and you will be able to access them through the link. If any student would like a written copy of these policies and procedures, the professor would be happy to provide them. By registering for this class and staying in this class, you are indicating that you acknowledge and accept these policies.

For Student Code of Conduct, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/documents/policies-and-procedures/42001-student-code-of-conduct.pdf>

For Academic Calendar, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/academic-calendar.html>

For Important Student Dates and Deadlines, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.eduhttps://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/academic-calendar.html/admissions-registration/dates-and-deadlines.html>

For Disability Support Services, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/counseling-and-advising/disability-support-services/index.html>

For Combat2College, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/veterans-and-military/combat-to-college.html>

For MC Alert, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/public-safety/mc-alert.html>

For the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/public-safety/>

For Veteran's and Military Services, refer to this link:

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/veterans-and-military/index.html>

### **Surgical Technology Curricula**

Associate of Applied Science Degree (A.A.S.) 63 credits

**\*\*Students should check the prerequisites for all courses\*\***

For the professional courses of the curriculum, students are required to be on campus all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays, for lectures and labs. Clinical rotations are in the operating rooms in local hospitals Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:00 am-3:30 pm.

### **General Education and other Requirements (27 credit hours)**

BIOL 150 Principles of Biology	4
BIOL 212 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4

BIOL 213 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
COMM 108 Intro to Human Communication	3
ENGL 101 Introduction to College Writing	3
ENGF English Foundation	3
MATF Mathematics Foundation	3
PSYC 102 General Psychology	3

**Surgical Technology Requirements (36 credit hours)**

**Summer Semester I**

SURG 100 Introduction to Surgical Technology	4
SURG 103 Pharmacology and Anesthesia	2

**Fall Semester**

SURG 101 Surgical Technology I	6
SURG 201 Surgical Technology III	6
SURG 205 Clinical Practicum I	3

**Spring Semester**

SURG 102 Surgical Technology II	6
SURG 211 Surgical Technology IV	6
SURG 215 Clinical Practicum II	3

**Department of Surgical Technology**

**Physical Address:** Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, Health Science Center  
7977 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Department Phone: 240-567-5520

**Mailing Address:** 7600 Takoma Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

**Counseling Department:** 240-567-1480

**Surgical Technology website:** [www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/surgtech)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/MCSurgicalTechnology/>

**Program Coordinator:** [jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:jerome.upchurch@montgomerycollege.edu)

To see if this curriculum or program is listed by the Maryland Higher Education Commission as a profession with a workforce shortage or if this program is designated as a Statewide Program with implications for out of Montgomery County student tuition costs, please see below:

Health Workforce Shortage

[https://catalog.montgomerycollege.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=13&poid=3084#Health Workforce Shortage Programs](https://catalog.montgomerycollege.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=13&poid=3084#Health_Workforce_Shortage_Programs)

Statewide Programs

[https://catalog.montgomerycollege.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=13&poid=3084#Statewide Programs](https://catalog.montgomerycollege.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=13&poid=3084#Statewide_Programs)