ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Program Description
ST Program Description

Program Vision, Mission, Goals
Provide students with the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to gain employment as surgical technologists and become contributing members of the health care team. This will be accomplished by (1) preparing competent graduates in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains, and (2) meeting or exceeding the criteria set forth in the current Standards and Guidelines for an Accredited Educational Program in Surgical Technology.

Program Officials
Amy Rademacher-Neel, Program Director
Caroline Geissler, Clinical Coordinator

Program Faculty
Amy Rademacher-Neel, Program Director/FT Faculty
Caroline Geissler, Clinical Coordinator/FT Faculty
Holly Erickson, PT Faculty
Claudia Cafferky, PT Faculty

Accreditation

ARC/STSA
6 W. Dry Creek Circle, Suite #110
Littleton, CO 80120
Phone: 303-694-9262
Fax: 303-741-3655
info@arcstsa.org

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: 727-210-2350
Fax: 727-210-2354
CAAHEP

Advisory Board
Membership meets twice a year and includes:
Employers
Practicing Physician
CST
Current Student
Former Student
Exit Competencies
Upon Completion of this Program, students will be able to:

1. **Comprehend and apply sterile and aseptic technique in the perioperative environment.** These skills include:
   - establish and maintain a sterile operative field to provide for safe patient care
   - promote a surgical conscience: report any break in aseptic technique and correct all violations whether observed or unobserved
   - anticipate surgeon’s needs by utilizing aseptic technique and knowledge of instrumentation and suture
   - demonstrate a basic knowledge of surgical procedures

2. **Perform a variety of supportive clinical skills.** These skills include the ability to follow and verbalize established hospital/surgical environment’s safety policies and procedures for:
   - OR attire and proper PPE’s
   - counting sponges, sharps, and instruments
   - sharps safety
   - positioning safety
   - labeling and announcing medications and fluids
   - Universal Protocol
   - electrosurgical safety

3. **Exhibit behaviors consistent with professional and employer expectations.** These behaviors will help the student to be successful in securing and maintain a career in the profession of surgical technology. They will include:
   - punctuality
   - teamwork
   - appropriate interaction with patients of all ages and backgrounds
   - respect to personal beliefs without discrimination of patient care
   - communicate effectively and work cooperatively with supervisor, co-workers and surgical team in preoperative, intraoperative and postoperative care of the surgical patient
   - provide for patient privacy, and maintain patient confidentiality.

4. **Perform disinfection, sterilization, and processing of surgical instruments.** These skills will include:
   - cleaning of instruments during the surgical procedure
   - containment and transportation to the decontamination room
   - using proper cleaning agents and methods to effectively clean instruments
   - visually inspecting instruments prior to sterilization;
   - assembling, packaging, sterilization, and distribution of instrumentation

5. **Profession participation and development:** Students should be committed to the perioperative profession by participation in professional organizations and educational workshops while enrolled in the program. Obtaining certification as a professional by taking the national Surgical Technology Certification (CST) exam upon the completion of the program.

**Code of Ethics for Discipline**
Students are expected to adhere to the Association of Surgical Technologists Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics includes the following:
1. To maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and patient care.
2. To hold in confidence, with respect to the patient’s beliefs, all personal matters.
3. To respect and protect the patient’s legal and moral rights to quality patient care.
4. To not knowingly cause injury or any injustice to those entrusted to our care.
5. To work with fellow technologists and other professional health groups to promote harmony and unity for better patient care.
6. To always follow the principles of asepsis.
7. To maintain a high degree of efficiency through continuing education.
8. To maintain and practice surgical technology willingly, with pride and dignity.
9. To report any unethical conduct or practice to the proper authority.
10. To adhere to the Code of Ethics at all times in relationship to all members of the health care team.

**Student Work Policy**
All student activities associated with the curriculum, especially while students are completing clinical rotations, will be educational in nature. Students will not be substituted for hired staff personnel within the clinical institution, in the capacity of a surgical technologist.

**Uniforms**
Students must wear Caribbean Blue scrubs (no cargo pants) with CNM ST patch to theory, lab, and clinical courses. Shoes must be closed toe and worn with socks.

**Functional Abilities for Program Students**

O*NET

**Program completion**
Students must sit for the CST exam in order to graduate from the program.

**Program Communication**
Faculty hold regularly scheduled office hours that are published in the syllabus.
Program Director:  505-224-4000 ext. 50187
Clinical Coordinator:  505-224-4000 ext. 50556

**CLINICAL POLICIES**

**Clinical Affiliates, Locations, and Addresses**
UNM Hospital-MOR 2211 Lomas Blvd Albuquerque, NM 87106
UNM Hospital-BBRP 2211 Lomas Blvd Albuquerque, NM 87106
UNM Hospital-OSIS 1215 University Blvd Albuquerque, NM 87106
UNM Hospital L & D 2211 Lomas Blvd Albuquerque, NM 87106
Lovelace Medical Center 601 Dr. MLK Blvd, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102
Lovelace Women’s Hospital 4701 Montgomery Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87109
Lovelace Westside Hospital 10510 Golf Course Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114
Presbyterian Hospital-MOR 1100 Central Ave SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
Rust Medical Center 2400 Unser Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
VA Hospital (NMVAHCS) 1501 San Pedro Ave SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108
Socorro General Hospital 1202 Highway 60 West, Socorro, NM 87801
Sandoval Regional Medical Center 3100 Broadmoor Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144
Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical Center 455 St Michaels Dr, Santa Fe, NM 87505
Clinical scheduling
Students must complete 24 hours of clinical per week. Shifts may vary to include day, evening, swing and weekend. Clinical assignment is based on student skill level and not on convenience of location. Students may be assigned to a clinical site located outside of the Albuquerque area. Refusal of a clinical assignment may result in the inability to complete the course. Students must provide their own transportation to clinical sites.

Clinical Evaluation
Student performance is evaluated by faculty and hospital staff. Failure to attain and demonstrate essential skills appropriate to the site may result in the removal of a student from a site and, possibly, the course. Being removed from a site does not guarantee placement at a different site.

Clinical Attendance/Absences/Call off policy
Excessive absences in a course is missing more than two (2) days of lab, or clinical per term. Students missing more than two days are unable to meet course objectives and must participate in a success plan in order to continue the program.