

## 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](mailto: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

[mail@caahep.org](mailto:mail@caahep.org)

### **Advisory Board**

Membership meets twice a year and includes:

Employers

Practicing Physician

CST

Current Student

Former Student

Public Representative

Faculty and administration from HWPS

Job Connection Center

## Program Curriculum and course descriptions

### Term by Term

#### 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.