

# Surgical Technology

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*(907) 786-6936*

The AAS in Surgical Technology degree is designed to prepare competent entry-level surgical technologists in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Surgical technologists are operating room specialists who perform specific duties for pre-, intra-, and postoperative case management. Surgical technologists must be knowledgeable in asepsis and sterile technique, and must be able to properly care for instrumentation, equipment and supplies. Surgical case management, wound care and closure, and surgical patient care and safety all fall within the realm of the surgical technologist's responsibilities.

Prior to a scheduled surgical procedure, the surgical technologist's duties include preparation of the operating room, gathering of supplies and equipment, case set-up, and preparation of the operative site with sterile drapes. During surgery, surgical technologists anticipate the needs of the surgeon, maintain the sterile field, pass instruments and medications to the surgeon and assistant, and apply wound dressings. Postoperative case management duties include care and maintenance of equipment and instruments after use, and preparation of the operating room for the next procedure.

Surgical technologists may be employed in hospital operating rooms, central sterile processing departments, outpatient surgical units, medical companies as sales representatives or in private physicians' practices.