

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

The Missoula College University of Montana is proud to partner with City College at Montana State University Billings to offer the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Surgical Technology on the Outreach campus in Billings.

Students will take classes on the City College at Montana State University Billings (City College at MSUB) and Montana State University Billings (MSU Billings) campuses, and online through The Missoula College University of Montana (MCUM).

The lab and clinical components of the curriculum are offered at St. Vincent Healthcare and Billings Clinic. All coursework can be completed in Billings. However, Outreach students are required to come to Missoula for commencement and to take the national Certification exam.

Students in the program are educated to be Surgical Technologists (ST), part of the surgical team, to ensure the operative procedure is conducted under optimal conditions. The ST is responsible for three phases (preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative) of patient care with minimal direction. All surgical team members must adhere to the principles of asepsis and the practice of sterile technique. The ST normally functions in a sterile capacity by passing instruments, equipment and supplies to the surgeon during the surgical procedure but may also perform many non-sterile duties throughout the workday.

Students admitted to City College at MSU Billings enter as General Studies majors and should indicate Surgical Technology as their desired program. After meeting with an advisor, specific prerequisite courses are selected. Program applications are accepted each November 1. Students applying to the MCUM Surgical Technology program must successfully complete (or be in the process of completing) the prerequisite courses. Acceptance to the program is determined after fall semester grades are finalized and applications have been evaluated. The courses BIOH 201 and BIOH 202 must be passed with a grade of B (3.0) for program acceptance. All other prerequisite courses must be passed with a grade of C (2.0). Course grading scales may vary. If, after program admission, a student fails a required course, he/she will not be able to continue in the program and will need to apply for readmission. If a student is readmitted, he/she will be required to complete skills labs, and AHST 115, AHST 215 to ensure sterile technique skills are acceptable for the delivery of safe patient care. **A student may take any required course a maximum of two (2) times.**

The Surgical Technology-specific courses begin each spring semester. The classroom portion of the program is delivered online in a web-based format from Missoula. Lab and clinical courses are conducted face-to-face in Billings. **It is expected that students applying to the Outreach program will have considerable computer expertise in order to be successful at the delivered online format.** Students are required to rotate sites during the clinical portion of their education. During the last semester of the program, internships may be outside their respective area. Transportation and housing are the student's responsibility.

As an allied health professional, a Surgical Technologist (ST) works closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, registered nurses, and other surgical personnel delivering patient care and assuming appropriate responsibilities before, during and after surgery. As part of the surgical team, the ST must be able to work quickly and accurately with a commitment to detail. A number of activities must be integrated according to priority when under pressure in stressful and emergency situations. Therefore, a stable temperament and a strong sense of responsibility are qualities essential to the Surgical Technologist. Considerable patience and concern for order are required. Manual dexterity, good vision and hearing and physical stamina are vital. Sensitivity to the needs of the patient as well as other members of the surgical

team must be demonstrated. Individuals who practice this profession have a strong desire to help others and make a valuable contribution to society. Honesty and moral integrity are essential in upholding standards and providing safe patient care.

Technical skills will be important, as advances in medical technology will be central to the profession, and students will need to learn to incorporate computers, lasers, fiber optics, electronics and robotics for patient care.

Upon admission to the program, students must provide proof of the following:

- Tuberculosis testing using the PPD (Purified Protein Derivative) or chest x-ray (positive results will require a physician's letter before a student can continue in clinical settings)
- Hepatitis B vaccine (HBV); A three-injection series and a post-injection titer is required
- Measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR; those born before 1956 must provide a titer)
- Tetanus vaccine
- CPR training for Healthcare Providers
- A baseline eye examination (includes a retinal exam prior to exposure to surgical lasers)
- Proof of health insurance

Many healthcare institutions have increasingly stringent access requirements.

Background checks and drug testing may be conditions for student clinical experiences or employment. Surgical Technology students should be prepared for such requirements and are responsible for the costs.

The Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
phone 727-210-2350
www.caahep.org (<http://www.caahep.org>)

Prospective students may contact MCUM Outreach Office at 406-243-7871 for more information regarding the Surgical Technology program or Program Director, Debbie Fillmore, at 406-243-7860 or debbie.fillmore@mso.umt.edu

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Prerequisites		
These courses are to be successfully completed, or in the process of completion, at the time of application to the program.		
<i>Pre-Surgical Technology</i>		
CAPP 120	Introduction to Computers (Taken at City College at MSUB)	3
BIOH 201 & BIOH 202	Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Human Anatomy & Phys I Lab (Taken at City College at MSUB) ¹	4
WRIT 101	College Writing I (Taken at City College at MSUB)	3
M 105	Contemporary Mathematics (Taken at City College at MSUB)	3
AHMS 144	Medical Terminology (Taken at City College at MSUB)	3
Subtotal		16
Surgical Technology Program Curriculum		
<i>First Year – Spring</i>		
BIOH 211 & BIOH 212	Human Anatomy & Physiology II and Human Anatomy & Phys II Lab (Taken at City College at MSUB) ²	4
PSYX 100	Intro to Psychology (Taken at City College at MSUB) ²	3
AHST 100	Introduction to Surgical Technology (Taken through MCUM Online)	3

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AHST 115	Surgical Lab I (Taken at Hospital Lab)	2
AHST 154	Surgical Pharmacology (Taken through MCUM Online)	3
Select one of the following:		3
AHST 164	Microbiology for the Surg Tech (Taken through MCUM Online)	
BIOM 250	Microbiology for Hlth Sciences (Taken at City College at MSUB)	
Subtotal		18
<i>Second Year – Fall</i>		
AHST 200	Operating Room Techniques (Taken through MCUM Online)	5
AHST 201	Surgical Procedures I (Taken through MCUM Online)	4
AHST 215	Surgical Lab II (Taken at Hospital Lab)	2
AHST 250	Surgical Clinical I (Taken at Hospital)	4
AHMS 175E	Medical Law & Ethics (Taken through MCUM Online) ²	3
Subtotal		18
<i>Second Year – Spring</i>		
AHST 202	Surgical Procedures II (Taken through MCUM Online)	5
AHST 251	Surgical Clinical II (Taken at Hospital)	5
AHST 298	Surgical Internship (Taken at Hospital)	5
Subtotal		15
Total Minimum Credits		67

¹ Grade of "B" required for BIOH 201/ BIOH 202

² Can be taken earlier.