



SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

ADMISSION CRITERIA

The Surgical Technology Program application can only be submitted to the Program Director for review if the required prerequisite courses have been completed, or will be completed during the academic term that precedes the program start in the spring. It should be understood by all applicants that **applying for admission into the Surgical Technology Program at Western Nebraska Community College does not guarantee admission to the Program.** Meeting minimal requirements, does not guarantee acceptance. An objective assessment process is used to identify the most highly qualified candidates for admission. No more than 10 students can be accepted into each cohort. The students with highest GPA will be accepted, other requirements are as follows:

Requirements for applicants include:

I. Successful completion of the following requisite courses with an average GPA of 2.33 (C+) or higher. Additionally, the following two courses must be passed with a grade of a C+ or higher, prior to program application, to be considered for admission: Medical Terminology and Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology.

1. Comprehensive Medical Terminology
2. Introduction to Human Anatomy & Physiology
3. English Composition I
4. Human Communications or Public Speaking
5. Intermediate Algebra, Business Math, Technical Math or higher
6. Achieving College Success

II. Criminal History Background Check & 10-Panel Drug Screen

Candidates receiving provisional acceptance to the program must successfully complete a criminal history review before receiving full acceptance. Specific information related to the background check will be provided to the students once they are provisionally accepted into the program. Students with a history of misdemeanor(s) and/or felony(s) may not be eligible to participate in clinical experiences necessary to successfully complete the surgical technology program. Clinical facilities may have different policies/procedures related to background check results. Acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program does not guarantee that clinical sites will accept a student's criminal background. If a student is not permitted at clinical sites due to their background check results, they will be unable to complete the clinical course requirements resulting in clinical course failure. The background check and drug screen will require a fee paid by the student applicant and must be completed prior to starting the program. Basic Life Support (BLS) from the American Heart Association is also required.

III. Grade Analysis of college pre-requisite courses and transfer credits -Letter grades earned in each course will be converted to a grade point using WNCC's standard point system (Table 1).

Table 1 – WNCC Grade Point System

GRADE	GPA
A+	4.0
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0

Applicants meeting these minimum requirements will be rank-ordered for provisional acceptance. Rankings will be determined by the total (sum) of GPA points earned.

IV. Documents to be turned in for the application process to begin:

1. Letter of Intent
2. Application form
3. Release of Information and Authorization to Obtain Background Reports
4. Official Transcripts for all previously attended colleges/universities (not necessary for WNCC classes).

Other Important Information:

Upon your official acceptance into the Surgical Technology Program, the candidate will be required to meet the program immunization/screening requirements and obtain personal liability insurance.

Also, upon acceptance into the Program, a C+ is required in all courses to progress in the Surgical Tech Program.

Please understand that students may be **required** to travel during their clinical rotations. Some clinical sites have orientation requirements with a fee. **The student will be responsible for these fees and for travel and lodging expenses.**

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications will be reviewed during the WNCC fall semester and contingency acceptance letters will be sent. Official acceptance will be granted once fall grades have been posted and the student has successfully completed the requisite courses, and the background check and drug screen have been reviewed and evaluated.

Candidate rankings are performed by the Surgical Technology Program Director and Health Sciences Division Chair.

All applicants will receive notification of acceptance or non-acceptance to the program by either U.S. mail or via email.