

FAQs about the LPC Surgical Technology Certificate/AS Degree

What is a Surgical Technician?

Surgical technologists, also called scrubs and surgical or operating room technicians, assist in surgical operations under the supervision of surgeons, registered nurses, or other surgical personnel. Surgical technologists are members of operating room teams, which most commonly include surgeons, anesthesiologists, and circulating nurses.

When does the next Surgical Technology Program begin?

The next application process will begin October 2011 with coursework commencing January 2012.

What is the job outlook for a Surgical Technician?

Employment of surgical technologists is expected to grow 25 percent between 2008 and 2018, much faster than the average for all occupations, as the volume of surgeries increases. The number of surgical procedures is expected to continue to rise as the population grows and ages.

How much does a Surgical Technician make?

Median annual wages in the industries employing the largest numbers of surgical technologists are as follows: specialty (except psychiatric and substance abuse) hospitals \$40,880; outpatient care centers \$39,660; general medical and surgical hospitals \$38,640; offices of physicians \$38,520; and offices of dentists \$36,380.

Along with the salary, does this field typically offer health benefits?

Yes, benefits provided by most employers include paid vacation and sick leave; health, medical, vision, dental, and life insurance; and a retirement program. A few employers also provide tuition reimbursement and child care benefits.

What are the specific classes offered and how many units total?

Click on the link for the specific classes and units needed to complete the Surgical Technology Program:

http://www.laspositascollege.edu/SURG/documents/SurgTechCertificateRoadmapHSCI_10_11_000.pdf

Is there an internship/externship required to get the certificate; if so will I have help finding one?

Yes, an internship is required through completion of Surg 53. You will be enrolled in Surg 53 when an internship site has been confirmed and you are accepted to begin your clinical experience.

Will I get college credits or units on my transcripts?

Yes, you will receive college credits and college units for classes completed at Las Positas College and mostly are transferrable to many institutions.

Are there any prerequisites for the program?

Yes, there are prerequisites for the classes in the SURG 50 Program. Go to this link and it explains the core program entrance courses needed for the Surgical Technology Program.

http://www.laspositascollege.edu/SURG/documents/SurgTechCertificateRoadmapHSCI_10_11.pdf

How much does this program cost?

The current costs estimates may be found in the Gainful Employment website:

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/healthSciences/employment.php>

What if I cannot afford the program?

You can apply for Financial Aid and Student Loans are available for those who qualify.

Who should I contact for more information or to obtain an application?

You can e-mail the office of Health Sciences at lpchealthsciences@laspositascollege.edu