FAQs about the LPC Surgical Technology Program

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.

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.

When does the next Surgical Technology Program begin? And, how long does it last?
The next application process will begin in Spring 2013. The program is intended to be a one-year full-time educational program depending on clinical rotations.

Will I be eligible to sit for the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting? Yes, upon completion of the entire program, you will be eligible to sit for the NBSTSA examination.

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 Clinical Practice for Surgical Technology. Current affiliation agreements with regional hospitals include: ValleyCare Health System, John Muir Medical Group, Kaiser Permanente, Eden Medical Center, St. Francis Hospital, Highland Hospital, Children’s Hospital, and Sutter Tracy Hospital.

Will I get college credits or units on my transcripts?
No. The Surgical Technology program at Las Positas College is a Community Services Offering. The program is a fee-supported, not-for-credit community service set of classes authorized pursuant to Education Code section 78300 and approved pursuant to subdivision (d) of title 5, section 55002, for which state apportionment is not claimed and credit is not awarded (title 5, section 55000).

Are there any prerequisites for the program?
There are recommended course for the classes in the Surgery Technology Program. Visit the website for the program entrance courses recommended for the Surgical Technology Program.

How much does this program cost? The cost for the training program for 2014 is $15,148*. The fee covers associated costs for the program including: instruction, textbooks, uniforms, lab materials, lab supplies, lab instruments, program accreditation, and state of the art facilities. *Subject to change.

What if I cannot afford the program? If you are a OneStop client, a Veteran and/or on Unemployment benefits, you may be eligible for additional funding. Contact your individual case worker for additional information.

What is the refund policy: Students may withdraw from the program prior to the 4th class session to receive a refund of their enrollment fee excluding a $1000 processing and administrative fee.

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