



Surgical Professions



Do you want to be where the action is in the medical field? You can work as a member of the health care team alongside surgeons, registered nurses, and other health care workers delivering patient care before, during, and after surgery. Collin College offers three different pathways for students interested in the surgical professions field.

Central sterile processing technicians play a critical role in preventing infection by sterilizing, cleaning, processing, assembling, storing, and distributing medical supplies.

Surgical technologists help prepare the operating room by setting up sterile surgical instruments, equipment and supplies, such as drapes, gowns, gloves, suction tubing, and receiving solutions and medications from the circulator. During the surgical procedure, the surgical technologist is responsible for anticipating the needs of the surgeon by passing instruments and providing needed supplies.

Surgical assistants provide retraction of tissue and organs for optimal visualization, maintain hemostasis by direct pressure, placement of ties, suture ligatures, or application of chemical hemostatic agents, use electrocautery, clamp, ligate, and cut tissue. They harvest the saphenous vein, dissect the common femoral artery, close all wound layers, and insert drainage tubes per surgeons' directives. They also select and apply wound dressings and assist with resuscitation of patients during cardiac arrest or other life-threatening events in the operating room.

About Collin College's Programs

Collin College has three pathways in Surgical Professions that prepare students for important roles in the medical field. Students may take one of the Surgical Professions career options and develop skills to become a central sterile processing technician, surgical technologist, or a surgical assistant. All pathways are special admissions programs that require students to complete prerequisite courses and submit additional applications or materials.

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Learn more at

www.collin.edu/academics/programs/SURG_1Overview.html

Collin College is an equal opportunity institution and provides educational and employment opportunities without discrimination on any basis protected by applicable law.

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For the latest version, visit www.collin.edu/academics/info/.

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Careers in Surgical Professions

Medical Equipment Preparers
(Similar job titles: Central Processing Technician, Sterile Preparation Technician)

Average Salary: \$35,900
Job Growth: 21.7%

Surgical Technologist
Average Salary: \$52,300
Job Growth: 21.8%

Surgical Assistants, Health Information Technologists, Healthcare Practitioners, and Technical Workers
Average Salary: \$70,100
Job Growth: 25.1%

Note: Data for Collin County obtained from JobsEQ and O*Net. Average salary is as of 2019 and job growth is projected from 2020-2026. The earning potential for employees with certifications and Associate of Applied Science degrees may exceed the average salary.

Choose Your Education

Associate of Applied Science – Surgical Technology
(60 credit hours)

Certificate Level 1 – Central Sterile Processing
(16 credit hours)

Advanced Technical Certificate – Surgical Assisting
(34 credit hours)