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## Surgical Technology BRIDGE Program

### Application and Requirements Deadline – June 1, 2022

**Effective Fall 2020, Surgical Technology is an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree.**

CVCC reserves the right to change curriculum and admission requirements without prior notice. It is a student's responsibility, whether enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere, to monitor program information for changes in curriculum/requirements on a semester by semester basis.

**Application to this program requires applicants to secure and submit multiple documents. Applicants who begin the CVCC admission process in advance of the deadline allow time to resolve unexpected issues. Gathering immunization records and/or other documentation may take time.**

This packet provides information to assist you with the admission and selection process for the Surgical Technology program. Please carefully review all information provided in this packet. Additional information may be found on the CVCC Surgical Technology webpage. For questions regarding the program, contact the Director of Surgical Technology at (828) 327-7000 extension 4332 or by email at [kholman@cvcc.edu](mailto:kholman@cvcc.edu). For questions regarding general admission requirements, email [admissions@cvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@cvcc.edu) or [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Applicants to the Surgical Technology-BRIDGE program must have the following **prior** to applying to the BRIDGE program:

1. An earned diploma or certificate from a CAAHEP **accredited** Surgical Technology program;
2. A current American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) for healthcare providers certification which is to be maintained throughout the program; and
3. A current certification in Surgical Technology (CST) issued by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

**What is the Surgical Technology BRIDGE program?** This program is designed to allow currently **certified**, non AAS degreed, Surgical Technologists the ability to earn an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Surgical Technology.

**What is the class schedule/length for the Surgical Technology BRIDGE program?** It is assumed applicants to the BRIDGE program are/have been employed in the surgical technology field. Students may complete the general education course requirements at their own pace. The Surgical Technology classes will be completed in the course sequence described in the AAS – Surgical Technology program. Applicants should plan to be enrolled at least 2 semesters.

**How will my previous credits be applied to the AAS Surgical Technology – BRIDGE program?** The CST and Surgical Technology diploma from regionally accredited institutions will provide credit for the following courses in the AAS program:

- SUR 110 – Introduction to Surgical Technology – 3 credit hours
- SUR 111 – Periop Patient Care – 7 credit hours
- SUR 122 – Surgical Procedures I – 6 credit hours
- SUR 123 – Clinical Practice I – 7 credit hours
- SUR 134 – Surgical Procedures II – 4 credit hours
- SUR 135 – Clinical Practice II – 5 credit hours
- SUR 137 – Professional Success Prep – 1 credit hour

Total Credit Hours: 33

**How do I apply for the program?** Complete and activate\* the [CVCC Application](#) with “Surgical Technology – Bridge Program” as intended major. The program begins each **Fall** semester.

\*Applications are activated when an applicant sends an email by the deadline to [admissions@cvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@cvcc.edu) that includes a cell phone photo of a photo ID (driver’s license) & a request to activate the Application by email. Applicants are responsible for following Surgical Technology Admissions packet directions and meeting requirements. Previous CVCC students may email [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) to confirm an active program status for Surgical Technology.

**How much does the program cost?** College tuition is set by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change. Students are required to purchase a variety of books, class uniforms, malpractice insurance, accident insurance, and other fees as set by the College. The approximate tuition cost for the program is \$1,400. This figure is based upon current in-state tuition rates and reflects an approximate cost only. For additional information, refer to the *Estimated Additional Program Costs* document in this packet.

**How do I apply for Financial Aid?** All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)). For information about financial aid, contact the [Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid](#) online, by email at [financial\\_aid@cvcc.edu](mailto:financial_aid@cvcc.edu) or by calling at 828-327-7000, ext. 4860.

**Will I be required to complete a Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening?** Yes. Carefully read the information below regarding background checks, drug testing, and the result of a negative background check.

Applicants must use [CastleBranch](#), a background screening and compliance management company, for background check/drug screenings/immunization verification. **Applicants accepted to the Bridge program, but who fail to secure final clearance from CastleBranch, will forfeit their spot in the program.**

- Clinical facilities will require students to undergo criminal background checks and drug testing prior to clinical placement.
- The student will be required to pay fees associated with these screenings.
- Clinical facilities may refuse access to clinical experiences based on the criminal background checks and/or drug testing.
- If any clinical facility refuses to allow a student access to a clinical experience, the student will be **unable to continue in the program.**

**Do I need a computer?** Yes. Coursework requires ready access to a reliable computer with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and dependable internet access. Students are assigned a CVCC email address following their visit with an admissions staff member in Student Services. Students must use the CVCC email for all college related communication. It is the responsibility of the student to open his/her email account and read it frequently as the College provides crucial program information through this email account. Students must use their secure CVCC email account for all college related electronic communications.

**How does undocumented immigrant status or DACA status affect application to the program?** Current North Carolina Community College System policy allows DACA and undocumented applicants to enroll at CVCC at the out of state tuition cost. However, acceptance to the college does not guarantee acceptance to a *specific* program. Students with an *unexpired DACA status* are eligible to apply to an Allied Health program. Students must keep active DACA status to remain enrolled in an Allied Health program. Professional licensure is granted by state licensing boards. **Students should inquire with the appropriate licensure board for specific licensure requirements.** Undocumented students are not eligible for admission to an Allied Health program. According to North Carolina and Federal laws, undocumented students are not eligible for North Carolina professional licensure. This policy is subject to change without notice based upon federal and state regulations.

**What if I move my residence while applying for this program?** It is a student's responsibility to inform the college of changes in personal information regarding name, phone number and mailing address. To make changes to personal information, follow the instructions found in the FAQ section of Student Records on the MyCVCC Portal.

**What if I am not admitted to the program?** Applicants not admitted need to re-apply by completing the MAR Checklist for the year of reapplication and email [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) to confirm an active Surgical Technology BRIDGE program status. Students are responsible for following reapplication guidelines.

**Do I need to wait until the deadline to submit items and apply?** No. Applicants should not wait until the deadline to submit items. Applicants are encouraged to submit items early and are responsible for ensuring all materials are submitted as directed by the deadline.

**How do I submit required documentation and a completed MAR Checklist?** From the student's CVCC email account (activated *after* an email request to activate the application has been received at [admissions@cvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@cvcc.edu)), email a scanned or cell phone photo of the completed MAR Checklist to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu). The MAR Checklist must be entirely readable with the student's name and CVCC ID#. MAR Checklists are not accepted after the published deadline; applicants should make note of the deadline date published in the packet and on the MAR Checklist.

**When and how will I be notified of acceptance to the program?** Applicants are notified of accepted/alternate or non-accepted status to the program within 2-4 weeks of the program deadline. Notifications are sent to the student's CVCC email account.

**If accepted, what am I required to do before the first day of class?** Accepted applicants must attend a Mandatory Orientation Session with the Program Director and Faculty at which time the applicant will be provided with information concerning other program requirements.

**What if I am unable to attend the Mandatory Orientation Session or meet the other requirements before the first day of class?** Applicants not attending the Mandatory Orientation Session and/or being unable to meet any additional requirements will be unable to enter the program.

# Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) Explained – Surgical Technology–BRIDGE Program

To be considered for acceptance, all applicants must complete Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) by the published deadline. Applicants are responsible for making sure all materials have been submitted to the College.

**Please do not wait until the deadline to start the process. Application to any healthcare program is complex. Applicants who begin the CVCC admission process weeks or months before the deadline give themselves time to resolve unexpected issues.**

**1. DO THIS FIRST: Activate\* the [CVCC Application](#) with “Surgical Technology – Bridge Program” as the intended major and the appropriate entry term.**

\*Applications are activated by email when an applicant sends an email by the deadline to [admissions@cvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@cvcc.edu) that include a cell phone photo of an applicant’s photo ID (driver’s license) & a request to activate the application by email. Applicants are responsible reading and understanding Surgical Technology Admissions Packet contents and meeting all requirements by the deadline. Previous CVCC students may email [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) to inquire about an active program status.

**2. High School Transcript:** Submit an *official* High School/High School Equivalency transcript in a sealed envelope issued by the high school, electronically through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor to [transcripts@cvcc.edu](mailto:transcripts@cvcc.edu) or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline. Applicants seeking information on how to request transcripts may visit [How to Request Official Transcripts](#). **Applicants who earned a diploma in Surgical Technology from CVCC may have a high school transcript on file; email [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) to confirm.**

**3. College Transcripts:** Submit **ALL** *official* college transcripts from **EVERY** college/university **EVER** attended. Transcripts may be sent in a sealed envelope issued from the college/university, electronically through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor to [transcripts@cvcc.edu](mailto:transcripts@cvcc.edu) or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline.

- Applicants who earned a Diploma in Surgical Technology **from CVCC** may have transcripts on file; email [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) to confirm. Applicants who attended other colleges or universities *after* earning the Diploma from CVCC must submit official transcripts from **every** school attended.
- Applicants **who did NOT** earn a diploma in Surgical Technology from CVCC must submit all official transcript(s) to CVCC from **every college/university ever attended**, including the transcript(s) from the CAAHEP accredited institution where the diploma or certification in Surgical Technology was earned.

**4. Required Grade Point Average (GPA).** Applicants must have a minimum college cumulative GPA of 2.00.

**5. Current Certification in Surgical Technology:** From the applicant's CVCC email account, email the following documentation to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) by the published deadline:

- A scanned or cell phone photo of the applicant's *Certification in Surgical Technology* (CST) issued by the National Board of Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). The document must be clear and readable.

**6. Submit the completed MAR Checklist before the deadline.** From the applicant's CVCC student email account, email a scanned or cell phone photo of the completed MAR Checklist to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu). The entire document must be legible and readable.

## COMPETITIVE SELECTION AND RANKING

The following criteria will be used to evaluate and select the best-qualified applicants from those who completed all Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) by the deadline. Those applicants receiving the highest number of points will be admitted to the program until the class is filled. The number of students accepted each year may vary. Students are admitted to the program until all 20 spots are filled.

(a) Points in the competitive admission process are awarded for completion (with a grade of "C" or higher) of any of the following general education courses:

ENG 112 (Writing/Research) OR ENG 113 (Lit Based Research) OR ENG 114 (Prof Research)	Humanities/Fine Arts – (NOTE: NO COURSE SUBSTITUTIONS ALLOWED) HUM 115 - Critical Thinking OR PHI 240 – Intro to Ethics
BUS 137 – Principles of Management	SOC 210 – Intro to Sociology

**NOTE:** Only completed courses are awarded points in the competitive admission process. Courses in progress do not earn points.

(b) Points for applicant's cumulative GPA. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative college GPA of 2.00.

# Surgical Technology – BRIDGE Program Technical Standards

The following activities are examples of the kind of activities which a student in the Surgical Technology program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program. If an accepted applicant believes that he/she cannot meet one of more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the applicant should consult the counselor of the program for students with disabilities. Please Note: Examples are not all inclusive.

<b>Critical Thinking</b>	A Surgical Technology student should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	Students must be able to bring together and relate the similarities of surgical procedures and situations in order to function on unfamiliar procedures.
<b>Interpersonal Skills</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with surgeons, OR personnel, hospital departmental staff, and patients. These individuals are all experiencing different levels of anxiety within the OR environment in relationship to the position they are holding within the surgical suite. This also includes the ability of the student to handle constructive criticism. Constructive criticism is an ongoing process.	Constructive criticism is expressed in the lab as a teaching tool, in the classroom and in the clinical sites as well. Students shall establish a working rapport with surgeons, anesthesia personnel, other surgical technologists, nurses, and a variety of other departmental specialists as well as patients.
<b>Communication Skills</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal form.	Discuss and ask questions regarding the surgical procedures both pre-operatively and intra-operatively.
<b>Mobility</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move and maneuver in a small operating room. Students will experience periods of standing in one spot for an extensive amount of time as well as during shorter surgical procedures. Some surgical procedures require sitting for long periods of times as well. A Surgical Technology student will experience lifting surgical instrument trays as well as participating in patient lifting and positioning.	Holding a patient's extremity for 5 to 15 minutes or standing for a surgical procedure that may last several hours. Instrument trays may weigh as much as 27 pounds.
<b>Motor Skills</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective care in the operating room.	Manipulating very fine and delicate instruments and suture as well as the larger more complex orthopedic and neuro equipment.
<b>Hearing</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess auditory ability to monitor and assess needs by the surgeon and other sterile operating room team members.	Surgeons and/or staff wear surgical masks during surgical procedures. This limits the ability to hear requests and directions at the surgical field.
<b>Visual</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess visual ability and acuity for observation and assessment necessary during a surgical procedure.	Handling fine surgical suture needles safely and efficiently in response to the needs of the surgeon and surgical procedure, being able to visualize and follow the surgical procedure, and working with small supplies and instruments that require calibration.
<b>Tactile</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess tactile ability to sufficiently handle all the microscopic supplies, instruments, and equipment.	Implantable items for patients may be very delicate, in combination with sterile surgical gloves, some supplies and instruments require very delicate manipulation.
<b>Stress</b>	Stress in the operating room is very common. Tension runs high many days and it can affect a student's ability to cope with the environment and others in the environment. Stress arises from the difficult development of interpersonal skills within the operating room. Stress is also environmental related (this is a totally different environment than any you have been in; ex: room temperatures, noises, odors, patient conditions, sites, and standing for a long period of time either in an ergonomic or non-ergonomic position).	Students often feel stress in the SUR 111 Lab as well as in the clinicals when they are being watched very closely by the operating room staff or the surgical technology faculty.
<b>Cognitive Abilities</b>	A Surgical Technology student shall possess the ability to be oriented to time, place, and person, organize responsibilities, and make quick appropriate decisions.	Students will need to quickly assess needs for surgical procedures, anticipate surgeon's needs, and act appropriately at all times. Organizational skills when setting up the instrument table and mayo table allows the student to function in a more efficient manner.
<b>Occupational Exposures</b>	A Surgical Technology student is at high risk for exposure to blood and body fluids resulting in exposure to communicable disease, toxic substances, medical preparations, and chemical sterilization practices at all times. Standard precautions are to be practiced at all times.	A student may be assigned to a surgical procedure with a patient that has a known or unknown communicable disease. Ethylene oxide is a means of a lethal chemical sterilization process.

If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Counselor for Students with Disabilities and Special Programs at (828) 327-7000, ext. 4222 or email [accommodations@cvcc.edu](mailto:accommodations@cvcc.edu).

## SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY BRIDGE – Estimated Additional Program Costs

These costs are in addition to CVCC tuition, activity fee, accident insurance, books, and class supplies. (Changes in costs may occur without prior notice.)

Malpractice Insurance	\$28.00
Set of Scrubs (two recommended)	\$65.00 each
Lab Coat	\$35.00
Vinyl or Leather Shoes	\$75.00 - \$100.00
Clinical Goggles (optional)	\$5.00 - \$50.00 (free from hospital)
Hepatitis Vaccine	\$175.00 (series of three)
Immunization Updates or Titters	\$100.00 - \$200.00
Physical Exam	\$165.00
Eye Exam (with retina check)	\$60.00 - \$100.00
TB Test (two step process is required)	\$56.00
TDap Immunization	\$55.00
Varicella Immunization (times two)	\$230.00
MMR (times two)	\$162.00
Influenza Immunization	\$0 - \$35.00 (optional w/signed declination form)
Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening (CastleBranch)	\$130.00 (approximate fee)
Travel Expenses for clinical	Cost varies
Travel Expenses for classes	Cost varies

### Note:

- These cost estimates are **in addition to** costs any student attending CVCC will incur each semester, such as tuition, activity fees, accident insurance, books, and class supplies such as pens, paper, etc.
- Students applying for graduation will pay diploma fees.
- Estimates for these costs may be found in the CVCC Catalog (<http://www.cvcc.edu>).

The information provided below is for planning purposes only. Admission and curriculum requirements are subject to change without notice. The deadline for application and submission of all paperwork for the Surgical Technology – BRIDGE program is **June 1, 2022**.

<p><b>BUS 137</b> Principles of Management (3 credit hours) or <b>SUR 212</b> Clinical Supplement (4 credit hours)</p>	
<p><b>ENG 112</b> Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3 credit hours) or <b>ENG 113</b> Literature Based Research (3 credit hours) or <b>ENG 114</b> Professional Research &amp; Reporting (3 credit hours)</p>	
<p><b>No course substitutions allowed for the following:</b> <b>HUM 115</b> Critical Thinking (3 credit hours) or <b>PHI 240</b> Ethics (3 credit hours)</p>	
<p><b>SOC 210</b> – Introduction to Sociology (3 credit hours)</p>	
<p><b>SUR 210</b> – Advanced SUR Clinical Practice (2 credit hours)</p>	
<p><b>SUR 211</b> – Advanced Theoretical Concepts (2 credit hours)</p>	

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**Program Requirements Deadline – June 1, 2022 at 11:59pm EST**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

It is the student's responsibility, whether enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere, to monitor completion of the Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) on a semester by semester basis. Students must ensure all materials have been submitted **before** the deadline as directed by the Admissions packet. CVCC reserves the right to change curriculum and admission requirements without prior notice.

- 1. **DO THIS FIRST:** Activate the [CVCC Application](#) with "Surgical Technology – Bridge Program" as the intended major. Previous CVCC students may confirm an active status by emailing [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

\*Applications may be activated provided the applicant sends an email to [admissions@cvcc.edu](mailto:admissions@cvcc.edu) that includes a cell phone photo of a photo ID (driver's license) & a request to activate the Application by email. Applicants are responsible for following packet directions and meeting program requirements.

- 2. Submit *official* [High School/High School Equivalency Transcript](#).
- 3. Submit ALL *official* [College Transcripts](#) from **EVERY** school applicant has **EVER** attended. If additional coursework was completed after submission of any transcripts, an official updated transcript must be submitted to CVCC to ensure all possible transfer credit is awarded.
- 4. Meet cumulative college GPA requirement of 2.00.
- 5. From the student's CVCC email account, scan and submit a copy of a current NBSTSA Certification in Surgical Technology to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).
- 6. **Submit the completed MAR Checklist:** From the student's CVCC email account, email a scanned or cell phone photo of the completed MAR Checklist to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu). The *entire* document must be legible and readable and must be received in the [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu) inbox by 11:59pm EST on June 1, 2022.