

# SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

## Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

**Program Code: 10-512-1**

**Total Credits: 62**

The Surgical Technology program at Mid-State prepares graduates to work as part of the surgical team in operating rooms, providing proper handling and use of equipment, assisting the surgeon during procedures, and ensuring patient safety. Students learn skills and techniques used in sterile processing. Training encompasses both classroom and lab instruction. You will gain clinical hands-on experience in surgery, ambulatory centers, sterile processing, and other related areas. After successful completion of the program and certification exam, you will be a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST).

To learn more about this program, visit [mstc.edu/programs](http://mstc.edu/programs).

### ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715-422-5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit [mstc.edu/advising](http://mstc.edu/advising).

### NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST

Complete the following steps to prepare for your New Student Advising appointment with your academic advisor:

- Submit a Mid-State application at [mstc.edu/apply](http://mstc.edu/apply).
- Send official transcripts to:  
Mid-State Technical College  
Student Services  
500 32nd Street North  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov). Mid-State's Financial Aid team is available to assist with your FAFSA application and to answer your financial aid questions. Contact Financial Aid or schedule an appointment at [mstc.edu/financial-aid](http://mstc.edu/financial-aid).
- Set up student MyCampus account at [mstc.edu/mycampus-assistance](http://mstc.edu/mycampus-assistance).
- Schedule a New Student Advising appointment at [mstc.edu/advising](http://mstc.edu/advising).

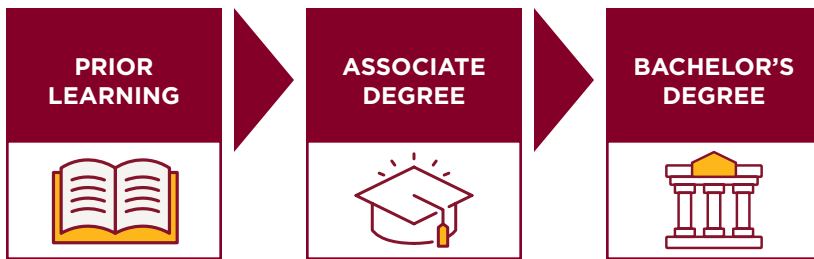
[mstc.edu](http://mstc.edu) • 888-575-6782 • TTY: 711



Adams Campus • Marshfield Campus • Stevens Point Downtown Campus • Wisconsin Rapids Campus • Virtual Campus • AMETA® Center

Mid-State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its program, activity, or employment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Vice President – Human Resources; 500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494; 715-422-5325 • AAEO@mstc.edu. 3/2026-AC

## CAREER PATHWAY



Career pathways help you build your education step by step. Each stage offers one or more credentials that are recognized by employers and lead to real jobs—and you can keep building toward your career goals as you go.

**Begin at any point.**

### **Prior Learning**

#### **Credit for Prior Learning**

- Certifications and Licenses
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at [mstc.edu/cpl](https://mstc.edu/cpl).

### **High School Credit**

- High School Dual Credit
- Mid-State Fast Track

Learn about High School Credit at [mstc.edu/dc](https://mstc.edu/dc).

### **Associate Degree**

- Surgical Technology (62 Credits)  
Start Your Career: GI Technician, OB Technologist (Birth Center), Ophthalmic Assistant, Surgical Technologist (Clinical Setting, Operating Room, Ambulatory Surgery Center, Dermatology/MOHS Surgery, or Oral Surgery), Vascular/Cath Lab Surgical Technologist

### **Bachelor's Degree**

For those interested in continuing their education, Mid-State offers transfer guides with various four-year colleges and universities. For more information, visit [mstc.edu/transfer](https://mstc.edu/transfer).

### **Other Options**

Related Programs: Dental Assistant, Health & Wellness Promotion, Health Information Management, Medical Assistant, Medical Coder, Nursing, Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy Technician, Radiography, Respiratory Therapy, Sterile Processing Technician

## OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as a Surgical Technology graduate, to be able to:

- Apply health care and technological science principles to the perioperative environment.
- Maintain principles of sterile technique in the surgical environment.
- Provide a safe, efficient, and supportive environment for the patient.
- Prepare the patient, operating room, and surgical team for the preoperative phase.
- Perform intraoperative case management in the scrub role.
- Perform postoperative case management.
- Function as an ethical, legal, and professional member of the health care team as determined by governing bodies.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure outcomes attained by students. This requirement is called Technical Skills Attainment (TSA). The main objective of TSA is to ensure graduates have the technical skills needed by employers. Faculty will let students know when and how the Technical Skills Attainment (TSA) is being assessed in the program.

## ACCREDITATION

The Mid-State Technical College Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA).

### Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

9355 113th St. N, #7709  
Seminole, FL 33775

### Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting

19751 East Mainstreet, Suite #339  
Parker, CO 80138  
303-694-9262 • [www.arcstsa.org](http://www.arcstsa.org)

## ENTRY CRITERIA

To apply to the Surgical Technology program, please complete the following steps:

1. Complete a Mid-State application at [mstc.edu/apply](http://mstc.edu/apply).
2. Meet with an advisor for your new student advising appointment. Completion of the Criminal Background Statement of Understanding, Release of Information, and Technical Standards Form will be done at the appointment. These forms can also be found at [mstc.edu/programs/surgical-technology](http://mstc.edu/programs/surgical-technology).
3. Complete placement test or ACT if requirements not met via High School Grade Point Average.

**Mid-State Technical College • Admissions**  
**500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494**

## For guaranteed course start date in core Surgical Technology Program courses (512-level classes):

### Meet the Prerequisite for General Anatomy and Physiology via one of the following options:

- Complete General Anatomy & Physiology with a final grade of “C” or better.
- Verify completion of the above with assigned academic advisor.

## TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A list of specific physical, emotional, and mental tasks needed to function as a surgical technologist is available at [mstc.edu/programs/surgical-technology](http://mstc.edu/programs/surgical-technology). Contact the Accessibility Services Coordinator in the Student Services & Information Center to receive assistance.

## CLINICAL-RELATED REQUIREMENTS

Prior to placement at a clinical site, students need to pay for a criminal background check and provide documentation of required health work.

Students are responsible for ensuring all requirements remain current during program enrollment.

Clinical sites have the right to refuse a student’s placement based on inadequate health records, pending charges, or conviction records. Students with a criminal history may not be able to complete clinical courses. Mid-State will make two attempts to place a student in an appropriate clinical experience. If Mid-State is unable to place the student after two attempts, the student will be withdrawn from the clinical course and will not be able to advance in the program.

## PROGRAM PROGRESSION

In order to progress in and successfully complete the program, students must:

- Repeat courses not completed with a grade of “C” or better prior to progressing in core courses or other courses with co- or prerequisites.
- Receive a grade of “C” or better in all courses required for graduation.

Please note that the ability to repeat courses is dependent upon availability of courses. Students may be required to apply for program re-entry in order to repeat courses within the program’s instructional area.

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

Visit [mstc.edu/studenthandbook](http://mstc.edu/studenthandbook) to view Mid-State’s student handbook, which contains information about admissions, enrollment, appeals processes, services for people with disabilities, financial aid, graduation, privacy, Mid-State’s Student Code of Conduct, and technology.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The GPS for Student Success course is required for all Mid-State program students and is recommended to be completed before obtaining 12 credits. Some students are exempt from this requirement. Please see your academic advisor for more information.

## ADDITIONAL COURSES AS NEEDED

The following courses may be recommended or required if the student does not achieve minimum placement scores.

### College Reading and Writing 1

**10831104**

**3 credits**

Provides learners with opportunities to develop and expand reading and writing skills to prepare for college-level academic work. Students will employ critical reading strategies to improve comprehension, analysis, and retention of texts. Students will apply the writing process to produce well-developed, coherent, and unified written work.

### Pre-Algebra

**10834109**

**3 credits**

Provides an introduction to algebra. Includes operations on real numbers, solving linear equations, percent and proportion, and an introduction to polynomials and statistics. Prepares students for elementary algebra and subsequent algebra-related courses.

## MULTIPLE MEASURES

Students can place into courses using high school GPA and completed classes. Placement can be determined in the following ways:

- **Multiple Measures Writing (MMW)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school writing courses with a “C” or better
- **Multiple Measures Reading (MMR)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school literature courses with a “C” or better
- **Multiple Measures Math 1 (MMM\_1)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school math (Algebra 1 or equivalent) with a “C” or better
- **Multiple Measures Math 2 (MMM\_2)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school math including Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 with a “C” or better
- **Multiple Measures Science 1 (MMS\_1)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school lab science course with a “C” or better
- **Multiple Measures Science 2 (MMS\_2)**  
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school chemistry with a “C” or better

*Past high school and college transcripts are used in making course placement decisions.*

## SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Surgical Technology • 62 Total Credits

### Prerequisite/Required Prior to Beginning Surgical Technology Courses

<b>Prerequisite</b> 4 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10801677	General Anatomy & Physiology	Yes	4

<b>Term</b> 14 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10501101	Medical Terminology	Yes	3
	10512125	Intro to Surgical Technology	No	4
	10512126	Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1	No	4
	10512127	Exploring Surgical Issues	Yes	2
	10890102	GPS for Student Success	Yes	1

<b>Term</b> 15 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512128	Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2	No	4
	10512129	Surgical Pharmacology	Yes	2
	10512130	Surgical Skills Application	Yes	2
	10806197	Microbiology	Yes	4
	10801195 or 10801136	Written Communication or English Composition 1	Yes	3

<b>Term</b> 16 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512131	Surgical Interventions I	No	4
	10512132	Surgical Technology Clinical 1	No	3
	10512133	Surgical Technology Clinical 2	No	3
	10801198 or 10801196	Speech or Oral/Interpersonal Communication	Yes	3
	10809122 or 10809172 or 10809196	Introduction to American Government or Introduction to Diversity Studies or Introduction to Sociology	Yes	3

<b>Term</b> 13 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512135	Surgical Technology Clinical 3	No	3
	10512136	Surgical Technology Clinical 4	Yes	3
	10512142	Surgical Interventions II	No	4
	10809198 or 10809188	Introduction to Psychology or Developmental Psychology	Yes	3

#### Please Note

- Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) options are available for some courses. You can visit [mstc.edu/cpl](http://mstc.edu/cpl) or contact your academic advisor for details.
- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to [mstc.edu/schedule](http://mstc.edu/schedule).
- Get the latest updates online at [mstc.edu](http://mstc.edu).

## SAMPLE PART-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Surgical Technology • 62 Total Credits

### Prerequisite/Required Prior to Beginning Surgical Technology Courses

Prerequisite 4 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10801677	General Anatomy & Physiology	Yes	4

Term 7 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10501101	Medical Terminology	Yes	3
	10809198 or 10809188	Introduction to Psychology or Developmental Psychology	Yes	3
	10890102	GPS for Student Success	Yes	1

Term 7 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10806197	Microbiology	Yes	4
	10801195 or 10801136	Written Communication or English Composition 1	Yes	3

Term 10 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512125	Intro to Surgical Technology	No	4
	10512126	Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1	No	4
	10512127	Exploring Surgical Issues	Yes	2

Term 8 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512128	Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2	No	4
	10512129	Surgical Pharmacology	Yes	2
	10512130	Surgical Skills Application	Yes	2

Term 6 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10801198 or 10801196	Speech or Oral/Interpersonal Communication	Yes	3
	10809122 or 10809172 or 10809196	Introduction to American Government or Introduction to Diversity Studies or Introduction to Sociology	Yes	3

Term 10 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512131	Surgical Interventions I	No	4
	10512132	Surgical Technology Clinical 1	No	3
	10512133	Surgical Technology Clinical 2	No	3

Term 10 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10512135	Surgical Technology Clinical 3	No	3
	10512136	Surgical Technology Clinical 4	Yes	3
	10512142	Surgical Interventions II	No	4

**Developmental Psychology**

**10809188**

**3 credits**

Studies human development throughout the lifespan and explores developmental theory and research with an emphasis on the interactive nature of the biological, cognitive, and psychosocial changes that affect the individual from conception to death. Application activities and critical thinking skills enable students to gain an increased knowledge and understanding of themselves and others.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English*

**English Composition 1**

**10801136**

**3 credits**

Learners develop and apply skills in all aspects of the writing process. Through a variety of learning activities and written documents, learners employ rhetorical strategies, plan, organize and revise content, apply critical reading strategies, locate and evaluate information, integrate and document sources, and apply standardized English language conventions.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMW or Accuplacer Writing of 262 or Accuplacer Reading 253 or ACT English score of 20 or ACT Reading 21 or completion of College Reading and Writing 1 10831104 with a "C" or better*

**Exploring Surgical Issues**

**10512127**

**2 credits**

Explores a variety of issues related to surgical technology. Emphasis is placed on becoming a professional member of the surgical team.

*Corequisites: Intro to Surgical Technology 10512125 and Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1 10512126*

**General Anatomy & Physiology**

**10806177**

**4 credits**

Examines basic concepts of human anatomy and physiology as they relate to health sciences. Using a body systems approach, the course emphasizes the interrelationships between structure and function at the gross and microscopic levels of organization of the entire human body. It is intended to prepare health care professionals who need to apply basic concepts of whole-body anatomy and physiology to informed decision making and professional communication with colleagues and patients.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMS\_1 and MMM\_1 or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 262 and QAS of 246 or ACT Math score of 19 and Reading score of 19 or College Math 10804107 or Intermediate Algebra with Applications 10804118 with a "C" or better, or General Chemistry 10806134, or General Biology 10806114, or Human Body in Health & Disease 31509302*

**Introduction to Diversity Studies**

**10809172**

**3 credits**

This course introduces the study of diversity from a local to a global perspective using a holistic, interdisciplinary approach that encourages exploration and prepares students to work in a diverse environment. The course introduces basic diversity concepts, examines the impact of bias and power differentials among groups, explores the use of culturally responsive communication strategies, and compares forces that shape diversity in an international context.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English*

**Introduction to Ethics: Theory & Application**

**10809166**

**3 credits**

Provides a basic understanding of the theoretical foundations of ethical thought. Diverse ethical perspectives are used to analyze and compare relevant issues. Students critically evaluate individual, social, and/or professional standards of behavior, and apply a systemic decision-making process to these situations.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English*

**Introduction to Sociology**

**10809196**

**3 credits**

Introduces students to the basic concepts of sociology: culture, socialization, social stratification, multi-culturalism, and the five institutions of family, politics, economics, religion, and education. Other topics include demography, deviance, technology, environment, social issues, social change, social organization, and workplace issues.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English*

**Introduction to Psychology**

**10809198**

**3 credits**

This science of psychology course is a survey of multiple aspects of behavior and mental processes. It provides an overview of topics such as research methods, theoretical perspectives, learning, cognition, memory, motivation, emotions, personality, abnormal psychology, physiological factors, social influences, and development.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English*

**Intro to Surgical Technology**

**10512125**

**4 credits**

Provides the foundational knowledge of the occupational environment. Principles of sterilization and disinfection are learned. Surgical instruments are introduced. Preoperative patient care concepts are simulated. Lab practice is included.

*Prerequisites: Admission to Surgical Technology 105121; General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177 with a grade of "C" or better. Corequisite: Medical Terminology 10501101*

**Medical Terminology**

**10501101**

**3 credits**

Focuses on the component parts of medical terms: prefixes, suffixes, and word roots. Learners practice formation, analysis, and reconstruction of terms. Emphasizes spelling, definition, and pronunciation. Introduces operative, diagnostic, therapeutic, and symptomatic terminology of all body systems as well as systemic and surgical terminology.

**Microbiology**

**10806197**

**4 credits**

Examines microbial structure, metabolism, genetics, growth and the relationship between humans and microbes. Addresses disease production, epidemiology, host defense mechanisms and the medical impact of microbes. Presents the role of microbes in the environment, industry, and biotechnology.

*Prerequisite: "C" or better in General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177 or General Biology 10806114 or Plant Biology 10806184*

**Oral/Interpersonal Communication**

**10801196**

**3 credits**

Focuses on developing effective listening techniques and verbal and nonverbal communication skills through oral presentation, group activity, and other projects. The study of self, conflict, and cultural contexts will be explored, as well as their impact on communication.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 236 and Writing of 237 or ACT of 15 Reading/16 English or College Reading and Writing with a C or better*

**Speech**

**10801198**

**3 credits**

Explores the fundamentals of effective oral presentation to small and large groups. Topic selection, audience analysis, methods of organization, research, structuring evidence and support, delivery techniques, and other essential elements of speaking successfully, including the listening process, form the basis of this course. Includes informative, persuasive, and occasion speech presentations.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMR and MMW or Accuplacer Reading Skills of 253 and Writing of 262 or ACT of 21 Reading/19 English or completion of College Reading and Writing 1 10831104 with a "C" or better*

**Surgical Interventions I**

**10512131**

**4 credits**

Provides the foundational knowledge of surgical core and specialty procedures. Examines the pathophysiology, diagnostic interventions, health sciences, and surgical techniques for a variety of procedures.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2 10512128 and Surgical Skills Application 10512130*

**Surgical Interventions II**

**10512142**

**4 credits**

Expands knowledge of core and specialty surgical procedures by incorporating pathophysiology, diagnostic interventions, health sciences, and surgical techniques.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Interventions 1 10512131 and Surgical Technology Clinical 2 10512133*

**Surgical Pharmacology**

**10512129**

**2 credits**

Basic study of drug classifications, care, and handling of drugs and solutions, application of mathematical principles in dosage calculations, terminology related to pharmacology, anesthesia, and drugs used in surgery.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1 10512126*

**Surgical Skills Application**

**10512130**

**2 credits**

Provides a transition from the academic to the clinical setting. Learners integrate the surgical technologist skills as they apply to various surgical procedures.

*Corequisite: Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2 10512128*

**Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1**

**10512126**

**4 credits**

Focuses on preparing the patient and operating room for surgery. Principles of sterile technique are emphasized as the student moves into the scrub role. Lab practice is included.

*Corequisite: Intro to Surgical Technology 10512125*

**Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2**

**10512128**

**4 credits**

Focuses on enhancing surgical technology skills while functioning as a sterile team member. Lab is included.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Tech Fundamentals 1 10512126, and Exploring Surgical Issues 10512127; Corequisites: Microbiology 10806197 and Surgical Pharmacology 10512129*

**Surgical Technology Clinical 1**

**10512132**

**3 credits**

Apply basic surgical theories, principles, and procedural techniques in the operating room. Students begin to function as team members under the guidance of the instructor and authorized clinical personnel.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Tech Fundamentals 2 10512128, Surgical Skills Application 10512130, General Anatomy & Physiology 10806177, and Microbiology 10806197*

**Surgical Technology Clinical 2**

**10512133**

**3 credits**

Further experience in a clinical setting allows the student to continue to improve technical skills while accepting more responsibilities during surgical procedures.

*Prerequisites: Surgical Technology Clinical 1 10512132 and Surgical Skills Application 10512130*

**Surgical Technology Clinical 3**

**10512135**

**3 credits**

Further experience in a clinical setting allows the student to continue to improve technical skills while accepting more responsibilities during surgical procedures.

*Prerequisite: Surgical Technology Clinical 2 10512133*

**Surgical Technology Clinical 4**

**10512136**

**3 credits**

During this clinical course the student will function relatively independently. Serves as a transition from a student perspective to an employee by utilizing advanced skills for an entry-level Surgical Technologist.

*Prerequisite: Surgical Technology Clinical 3 10512135*

**Written Communication**

**10801195**

**3 credits**

Develops writing skills which include prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. A variety of writing assignments are designed to help the learner analyze audience and purpose, research and organize ideas, and format and design documents based on subject matter and content. Also develops critical reading and thinking skills through the analysis of a variety of written documents.

*Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMW or Accuplacer Writing of 262 or ACT English score of 20 or completion of College Reading and Writing 1 10831104 with a "C" or better*