



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

*H. Martin Lancaster, President*

March 28, 2007

**RESPONSE DEADLINE: April 18, 2007**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Select Chief Academic Officers

FROM: Delores A. Parker, Vice President  
Academic and Student Services

SUBJECT: Requested Revision in Curriculum Standard

The System Office has received a request to revise the Central Sterile Processing (D45180) curriculum standard. Attached is a form requesting your approval or disapproval of the proposed change. ***Please complete and return the form to Kim Jernigan by April 18, 2007.*** You may fax your response to 919-807-7164. Once the responses have been received at the System Office, the curriculum standard will be presented to the State Board of Community Colleges for action.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact Kim Jernigan at (919) 807-7118 or [jernigank@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:jernigank@nccommunitycolleges.edu).

DAP/KJ/swj

Attachments

c: Select Presidents  
Kim Jernigan  
Judith Mann

SO7-016  
Email

**College Recommendation**  
Curriculum Standard Revision  
**Central Sterile Processing (D45180)**

**Current Curriculum Standard Information:**  
See attached Curriculum Standard

**Proposed Curriculum Standard Information:**  
*Change curriculum standard from a diploma to a certificate and make revisions reflected in the attached proposed curriculum standard.*

**See Attachment II Proposed Curriculum Standard**

**Rationale of Requesting College:**

Central Sterile Processing (D45180) does not need to be at the Diploma level for the student to achieve the skills to perform in the field of decontamination/sterilization processing. Industry requires employees to have basic decontamination/sterilization processing training and does not financially support an employee in this specialized area with the expanded skills of a surgical technologist. Students can be adequately trained for positions in sterile processing with fewer hours of instruction that are more efficiently implemented.

\_\_\_\_\_ We have reviewed the proposed revision and **recommend** the adoption of this change for **Central Sterile Processing (D45180)** for the following reasons(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ We concur with the rationale of the requesting college

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ We have reviewed the proposed revision and **do not recommend** the adoption of this change for **Central Sterile Processing (D45180)** for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ We do not offer **Central Sterile Processing (D45180)** and wish to decline from making a recommendation.

**College:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by **April 18, 2007** to:

Kim Jernigan, Program Coordinator  
Health Sciences, Program Services  
NC Community College System  
5016 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-5016  
Fax Number: (919) 807-7164

**PROPOSED**

**Effective Term**  
Spring 2008  
[2008\*01]

## **CURRICULUM STANDARD**

Curriculum Program Title                      Central Sterile Processing (Certificate)                      Code                      C45180  
Concentration    (not applicable)

### **Curriculum Description**

The Central Sterile Processing curriculum is designed to prepare individuals for the field of Sterile Processing and Central Service Supply.

Students will develop skills necessary to properly disinfect, prepare process, store, and issue both sterile and nonsterile supplies and equipment for patient care. Also, students will learn to operate sterilizing units and monitor effectiveness of the sterilization process.

Graduates will receive a certificate and may be eligible to apply to take the National Institute for Certification of Healthcare Sterile Processing and Distribution Personnel Examination (CBSPD). Employment opportunities include surgery centers, dialysis facilities, and central processing units in hospitals.

### **Curriculum Requirements\***

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in a degree or diploma program up to a maximum of 8 semester hours and in a certificate program up to a maximum of 2 semester hours. (*see back of page for Major Hours requirements*)
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may require other subjects or courses to complete graduation requirements. These requirements may include electives, orientation, study skills courses, or other graduation requirements.

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
<b>Total Semester Hours Credit in Program</b>	<b>64-76</b>	<b>36-48</b>	<b>12-18</b>

**Major Hours**

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration (if applicable).** A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degree and diploma curriculum programs up to a maximum of 8 semester hours credit and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours credit.

Central Sterile Processing (Certificate) (C45180)

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
<b>Minimum Major Hours Required</b>	<b>49 SHC</b>	<b>30 SHC</b>	<b>12 SHC</b>
<b>A. CORE</b>  <b>Required Courses:</b>  <b>STP 101 Intro Sterile Processing 6 SHC</b>  <b>STP 102 STP Clinical Practice 3 SHC</b>  <b>STP 103 Prof Success Prep 1 SHC</b>  <b>BIO 106 Intro to Anat/Phys/Micro 3 SHC</b>  <b>Required Subject Areas:</b>  None			<b>13 SHC</b>
<b>B. CONCENTRATION (Not applicable)</b>			
<b>C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b> <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>  <b>BIO, CIS, COE, **SPA, STP</b>  **This prefix is limited to a maximum of 3 SHC			

Curriculum Program Title	<b>Central Sterile Processing (Diploma)</b>	Code	<b>D45180</b>
Concentration	<b>(not applicable)</b>		

***Curriculum Description***  
 The Central Sterile Processing curriculum prepares individuals to function in the central service profession with the scientific principles that underlie their daily work.

Students will develop skills necessary to properly disinfect, prepare, process, store, and issue both sterile/nonsterile medical/surgical supplies and equipment for patient care. In addition, students will learn to operate sterilizing units and monitor effectiveness of the sterilization process.

Graduates will be eligible to apply to take the National Institute for the Certification of Healthcare Sterile Processing and Distribution Personnel Examination. Employment opportunities include inpatient/outpatient surgery centers, dialysis units/facilities, and central processing units in hospitals.

***Curriculum Requirements\****

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in a degree or diploma program up to a maximum of 8 semester hours and in a certificate program up to a maximum of 2 semester hours. *(see back of page for Major Hours requirements)*
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may require other subjects or courses to complete graduation requirements. These requirements may include electives, orientation, study skills courses, or other graduation requirements.

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
<b>Total Semester Hours Credit in Program</b>	<b>64-76</b>	<b>36-48</b>	<b>12-18</b>

## *Major Hours*

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** (*if applicable*). A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degree and diploma curriculum programs up to a maximum of 8 semester hours credit and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours credit.

### Central Sterile Processing (Diploma) D45180

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate																					
<b>Minimum Major Hours Required</b>	<b>49 SHC</b>	<b>30 SHC</b>	<b>12 SHC</b>																					
<p><b>A. CORE</b></p> <p><b>Required Courses:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">STP 101</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Central Processing Clinical I</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">7 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>STP 102</td> <td>Central Processing Clinical II</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>STP 103</td> <td>Professional Success Preparation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SUR 110</td> <td>Introduction to Surgical Technology</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SUR 111</td> <td>Perioperative Patient Care</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SUR 122</td> <td>Surgical Procedures I</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6 SHC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SUR 134</td> <td>Surgical Procedures II</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5 SHC</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Required Subject Areas:</b> None</p>	STP 101	Central Processing Clinical I	7 SHC	STP 102	Central Processing Clinical II	4 SHC	STP 103	Professional Success Preparation	1 SHC	SUR 110	Introduction to Surgical Technology	3 SHC	SUR 111	Perioperative Patient Care	7 SHC	SUR 122	Surgical Procedures I	6 SHC	SUR 134	Surgical Procedures II	5 SHC		<b>33 SHC</b>	
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