



**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**  
*Dr. R. Scott Ralls, President*

June 3, 2008

**RESPONSE DEADLINE: June 17, 2008**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Select Chief Academic Officers

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

SUBJECT: Curriculum Standard Revision to Surgical Technology (A45740)

The System Office has received a request to revise the curriculum standard for the Surgical Technology (A45740) program.

Attached is a form requesting your approval or disapproval of the proposed changes. ***Please complete and return the form to Renee Batts by June 17, 2008.*** You may fax your response to (919) 807-7164. Once the responses have been received at the System Office, we anticipate that the curriculum standard revision will be presented at the July meeting of the State Board of Community Colleges for future action and the August meeting of the State Board of Community Colleges for action.

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

DAP/rb

Attachments

c: Select Presidents  
Judith C. Mann  
Renee Batts

S08-036  
Email

**College Recommendation**  
**Reply Form – Please Return By June 17, 2008**  
(Fax Number: 919-807-7164)

<b>Curriculum Standard Revision Request: Surgical Technology (A45740)</b>
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**Proposed Revision**

- Revise the curriculum description.

**Rationale of Requesting College:** The national certification examination for Surgical Technologists has previously been administered by the Liaison Council’s Certification Examination for Surgical Technologist (LCC-ST). The certification body’s name has changed to the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). A student must graduate from an accredited program to be eligible to apply to take the national certifying examination. Changing the verbiage to “graduates of accredited programs will be eligible” is more accurate and should not mislead students if a program is not accredited by the Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology.

**Please indicate your recommendation below (check one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ We have reviewed the proposed revision and **recommend** adoption.

\_\_\_\_\_ We have reviewed the proposed revision and **do not recommend** adoption for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ We do not offer this program and wish to decline from making a recommendation.

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

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

Please return form to:

Renee Batts, Coordinator  
Program Services  
NC Community College System  
5016 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-5016  
**Fax Number: (919) 807-7164**

# CURRENT CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective  
Term  
Fall 1998  
[1998\*03]

Curriculum Program Title

**Surgical Technology**

Code

**A45740**

Concentration

**(not applicable)**

## *Curriculum Description*

The Surgical Technology curriculum prepares individuals to assist in the care of the surgical patient in the operating room and to function as a member of the surgical team.

Students will apply theoretical knowledge to the care of patients undergoing surgery and develop skills necessary to prepare supplies, equipment, and instruments; maintain aseptic conditions; prepare patients for surgery; and assist surgeons during operations.

Graduates of this program will be eligible to apply to take the Liaison Council's Certification Examination for Surgical Technologists. Employment opportunities include labor/delivery/emergency departments, inpatient/outpatient surgery centers, dialysis units/facilities, physicians' offices, and central supply processing units.

## *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 associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. (*See second page for additional information.*)
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	<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>

*\*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.*

# CURRENT

## 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 of 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 degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

### Surgical Technology A45740

	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> <i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i>  <b>Required Courses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* SUR 110 Introduction to Surgical Technology 3 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 111 Perioperative Patient Care 7 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 122 Surgical Procedures I 6 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 123 SUR Clinical Practice I 7 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 134 Surgical Procedures II 5 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 135 SUR Clinical Practice II 4 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 137 Professional Success Preparation 1 SHC</li> <li>SUR 210 Advanced SUR Clinical Practice 2 SHC</li> <li>SUR 211 Advanced Theoretical Concepts 2 SHC</li> </ul> <b>Required Subject Areas:</b> None	<b>37 SHC</b>	<b>33 SHC</b>	
<b>B. CONCENTRATION</b> ( <i>Not applicable</i> )			
<b>C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b> <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>  BIO, BUS, CIS, COE, CSC, ECO, ENG, HSC, PSY, SOC, STP, and <b>SUR</b>  <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>			

# PROPOSED CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term  
Fall 2008  
[2008\*03]

Curriculum Program Title

**Surgical Technology**

Code

**A45740**

Concentration

**(not applicable)**

## *Curriculum Description*

The Surgical Technology curriculum prepares individuals to assist in the care of the surgical patient in the operating room and to function as a member of the surgical team.

Students will apply theoretical knowledge to the care of patients undergoing surgery and develop skills necessary to prepare supplies, equipment, and instruments; maintain aseptic conditions; prepare patients for surgery; and assist surgeons during operations.

Graduates of accredited programs will be eligible to apply to take the national certification exam for Surgical Technologists which is administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting. Employment opportunities include labor/delivery/emergency departments, inpatient/outpatient surgery centers, dialysis units/facilities, physicians' offices, and central supply processing units.

## *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 associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. (*See second page for additional information.*)
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	<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>

*\*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.*

# PROPOSED

## 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 of 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 degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

### Surgical Technology A45740

	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> <i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i>  <b>Required Courses:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* SUR 110 Introduction to Surgical Technology 3 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 111 Perioperative Patient Care 7 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 122 Surgical Procedures I 6 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 123 SUR Clinical Practice I 7 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 134 Surgical Procedures II 5 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 135 SUR Clinical Practice II 4 SHC</li> <li>* SUR 137 Professional Success Preparation 1 SHC</li> <li>SUR 210 Advanced SUR Clinical Practice 2 SHC</li> <li>SUR 211 Advanced Theoretical Concepts 2 SHC</li> </ul> <b>Required Subject Areas:</b> None	<b>37 SHC</b>	<b>33 SHC</b>	
<b>B. CONCENTRATION</b> (Not applicable)			
<b>C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b> <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>  BIO, BUS, CIS, COE, CSC, ECO, ENG, HSC, PSY, SOC, STP, and <b>SUR</b>  <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>			