

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Summer 2017
*[2017*02]*

Curriculum Program Title	Surgical First Assistant (Certificate)	Program Code	C45870
Concentration	(not applicable)	CIP Code	51.0909

Curriculum Description

The Surgical First Assistant curriculum is designed to prepare qualified Surgical Technologists and other surgical professionals with the educational preparation necessary to assume the role of the Surgical First Assistant during operative and other invasive procedures.

Students will learn to apply didactic knowledge to the care of the surgical patient and provide assistance in exposure, hemostasis, and other technical functions that will assist the surgeon in performing a safe operation with optimal results for the patient.

Graduates of an accredited Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program (CAAHEP) program may be eligible to test with one of the following organizations: National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA), National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA) and the American Board of Surgical Assisting (ABSA). Employment opportunities include hospitals, clinics, educational institutions, and self-employment.

Individuals entering this curriculum must possess a minimum of an associate degree.

Curriculum Requirements*

[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 1D SBCCC 400.10]

- 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-based learning 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.

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

**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.*

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 of 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-based learning 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 First Assistant (Certificate) (C45870)

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum Major Hours Required	49 SHC	30 SHC	12 SHC
A. CORE			18 SHC
Required Courses:			
SFA 200 SFA Anatomy & Pathophysiology	4 SHC		
SFA 201 Fundamentals of SFA	3 SHC		
SFA 202 Surgical Patient Management	3 SHC		
SFA 203 Advanced Surgical Pharmacology	3 SHC		
SFA 204 SFA Techniques	3 SHC		
WBL 111 Work-Based Learning I	1 SHC		
WBL 121 Work-Based Learning II	1 SHC		
B. CONCENTRATION (if applicable)			
C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS			
<i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i>			
<i>Not Applicable</i>			