

Personality + Career

The Surgical First Assist program is for the Certified Surgical Technologist looking for the next step in their career. This field allows for advanced critical thinking, knowledge of anatomy and physiology, and the entire surgical care of the patient. You will be a valued team member providing safe, quality patient care.



Program	What do students learn in the program?	What you'll earn!	Career Opportunities	Certificate Preparation	Required Tools, Supplies, and Uniforms
Surgical First Assist	Students learn advanced surgical anatomy and the perioperative functions and techniques of a Surgical First Assistant. Students will gain additional understanding of microbiology as it relates to disease transmission and/or prevention. The use of pharmaceutical drugs throughout the perioperative process, diagnostic testing, wound healing, trauma, preoperative and postoperative nutrition, and techniques in maintaining homeostasis are taught.	\$29.55 hourly, \$61,464 annually	Certified Surgical First Assistant in a hospital, surgery center, or specialty clinics for a surgeon Certified Surgical First Assistant Clinical Preceptor, Clinical Instructor, or Program Director	Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to take the National Certification Exam administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting with the goal of achieving the Certified Surgical First Assistant (CSFA) credential.	Supplies provided by program and received during lab.





Surgical First Assist

2024-2025 / » southeast.edu



A surgical first assistant has expanded duties which are more focused on assisting the surgeon during surgery. You will assist the surgeon with tasks such as visualization of the surgical site, hemostasis, wound closure, and safe operation practices, providing optimal results for the patient. Our Surgical First Assist program allows you to continue to work full-time while advancing your career. You will take online courses with an in-person lab during the first week of the Spring Semester.

Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education, www.caahep.org Phone: 727-210-2350, Fax: 727-210-2354.

Program Contact Information
Amy Goracke, Program Chair
 402-437-2285, 800-642-4075 ext. 2285
 ✉ agoracke@southeast.edu

» Your Next Steps to Choose SCC

- ▶ Schedule a Campus Visit - southeast.edu/visit
- ▶ Explore career options with an Admissions Counselor - southeast.edu/admissionsadvising
- ▶ Apply - southeast.edu/applynow

» Paying for SCC

- ▶ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa
- ▶ Scholarships - southeast.edu/scholarships
- ▶ Payment Plan - mycollegepaymentplan.com/southeast
- ▶ Veteran Education Benefits - southeast.edu/veterans-services
- ▶ GAP Assistance Program - southeast.edu/gap
- ▶ Children of State Teammate Tuition Reimbursement Program - southeast.edu/children-of-state-teammate-tuition-reimbursement-program



Scan this code to find out more about Surgical First Assist

Contact Admissions to get started!
 402-437-2600, 800-642-4075 ext. 2600
 ✉ admissions@southeast.edu

The SCC Experience

- » SCC's Surgical First Assist program is for the Certified Surgical Technologist with at least two years experience in the field who is looking for career advancement.
- » The state-of-the-art Health Sciences Building provides an excellent learning environment, including LapSim, which gives students the ability to navigate virtual laparoscopic surgery.
- » SCC's Surgical First Assist program is one of 12 accredited surgical first assist certificate programs in the country. Our faculty designed an intentional, comprehensive curriculum to ensure that students gain the skills needed to keep patients safe and succeed.
- » Lab skills are taught by surgeons and experts in the field of Surgical First Assisting, giving students additional exposure to case studies and real-life learning experiences.
- » Students have the opportunity to take the national certification exam prior to graduating from SCC! Graduates leave SCC prepared to advance their career!



Related pathways at SCC:

- Associate of Health Sciences
- Surgical Technology
- Respiratory Care
- Radiologic Technology
- Practical Nursing



Program	What is the starting term for each program option?	In what term do students start clinicals?	Where do students participate in clinicals?	In general, what time of day and days of the week can students expect to attend clinical?	Will the program help student secure their sites? Do students need to contact clinical sites prior to acceptance/placement?	How many clinical hours do students complete in the program?
Surgical First Assist	Spring	Spring. Students will complete a one-week lab at the start of the semester prior to beginning clinicals.	Students complete clinicals at their place of employment. Students must submit a letter of support from employer.	Varies depending on work hours and case requirement completion	Students need to obtain letter of support from place of employment allowing them to function in the student role to obtain required cases. If the student is unable to complete cases at the place of employment, the student will be responsible for finding another clinical site.	270 hours

Program	Credential	Location	Credit Hours	Tuition/Fees*	Books/Fees/Supplies	Tools	Total Cost*	Starting Term(s)	Number of Semesters Required- Full Time	Is summer term required for Full Time?	Online Option	Can the program be completed entirely online?	Part-Time Option	Typical Class Schedule
Surgical First Assist	Certificate	Online Lab-Lincoln	17	R- \$2,091 NR- \$2,448	\$615	NA	R- \$2,706 NR- \$3,063	Spring	2 Semesters – Spring & Summer terms	Yes	Yes – program only online	Yes; students are required to attend a 1 week lab in Lincoln at the beginning of the program.	No	Students will attend a one-week lab at the beginning of the semester. The lab is scheduled the first week in the afternoon/early evening. All other coursework is online.

*R=Resident, NR=Non-resident. Costs listed are estimates and are subject to change based on the market price of books, supplies, tools, uniforms, etc. Estimated costs also include tuition and fees. Additionally, days/times of week for class, lab, clinical/practicum are subject to change based on curriculum, facilities, instructor, and site availability. Actual program schedules will be provided prior to each enrolled term.