

Students who are considering the Surgical Technology program at Macomb Community College must meet the technical standards for the profession of surgical technology with or without reasonable accommodations.

AREA	STANDARD	EXAMPLES (not inclusive)
<b>Physical Skills</b>	<p>Students must have sufficient endurance to meet physical requirements to function and participate in the lab and clinical setting. Students must perform physical activities that require considerable use of their hands, arms, and legs. This includes fine motor abilities such as finger dexterity, arm-hand steadiness and trunk strength. This must be done in a timely manner for safe and effective patient care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate unassisted ability to safely lift, hold, and mobilize patients, and/or lift instrument trays or items of 50 pounds.</li> <li>• Ability to push heavy equipment such as microscopes, c-arms, endoscopy towers, operating room tables.</li> <li>• Ability to ambulate unassisted without use of canes, crutches or assistive devices.</li> <li>• Be able to stand in one place for long periods of time, 4 hours or more.</li> <li>• Be able to safely maneuver in small places.</li> <li>• Demonstrate appropriate manual dexterity with both fingers and hands to accurately load sharps and needles, pass surgical instruments and manipulate equipment.</li> <li>• Be able to perform tasks of scrubbing, gowning, gloving, set up of sterile field and functions of the surgical technologist within the sterile field.</li> </ul>
<b>Sensory Skills</b>	<p>Students must have hearing sufficient to perform surgical technology tasks. Possess auditory ability to monitor and assess needs of the surgeon and other operating room team members.</p> <p>Students must have vision sufficient for observation and assessment necessary during a surgical procedure.</p> <p>Students must have the tactile ability to perform a surgical technologist's duties in a timely manner.</p> <p>Students must have olfactory abilities that would permit detection of odors within the surgical environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possess visual ability necessary to read surgeons' preference cards, identify supplies and equipment needed for surgical procedures.</li> <li>• Be able to accurately read charts, small print, medication labels, syringes, and identify hand gestures.</li> <li>• Be able to accurately distinguish tonal differences and use a variety of communication devices, e.g., telephones, alarms, computer tones, suctions, and surgeons' needs.</li> <li>• Possess keen visual observation, ability to maintain asepsis, and identify and correct any breaks in aseptic technique.</li> <li>• Be able to detect unusual odors.</li> <li>• Be able to hear surgeons' and team members' muffled communications while wearing face masks without reading lips.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Communication Skills</b></p>	<p>Students must effectively communicate verbally, nonverbally and in writing, with groups and using information technology.</p> <p>The student must be able to interact appropriately with patients, peers, and with all members of the surgical team.</p> <p>Students must be able to interpret and convey information gathered from communications.</p> <p>Students must be able to demonstrate emotional stability, adapt to changing environment/stress.</p> <p>Students must demonstrate interpersonal skills within the work environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students must be able to communicate clearly, accurately, and appropriately in English, both verbally and in writing, utilizing accurate and appropriate terminology.</li> <li>• Students must be able to utilize and respond to nonverbal communication.</li> <li>• Students must be able to handle themselves in all types of stressful situations; be calm and quiet, yet responsive, and be able to exhibit respect, concern and compassion for peers, staff and patients.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Thinking Skills</b></p>	<p>Students must measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize data in a timely manner.</p> <p>Students must demonstrate critical thinking, problem-solving and the decision-making ability needed during surgical procedures both independently and as a member of the surgical team.</p> <p>Students must demonstrate clinical competency and participate in all clinical experiences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply critical thinking skills necessary for clinical decision making and problem solving for appropriate safety and proper care of the patient.</li> <li>• Be able to identify contamination of the sterile field and know how to correct the situation.</li> <li>• Be able to follow directions accurately to the smallest detail.</li> <li>• Be able to quickly make changes, sometimes without notice.</li> <li>• Have the ability to prioritize and organize work, rapidly and efficiently, under supervision.</li> <li>• Be able to anticipate the surgeon's needs; be one step ahead of the surgeon.</li> <li>• Be able to adapt and relate similarities of surgical procedures and relate them to unfamiliar procedures to function.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Professionalism</b></p>	<p>Students must demonstrate cross-cultural competency, integrity, moral reasoning, ethical behaviors and concern for others.</p> <p>Students must acquire interpersonal skills for professional interactions with diverse individuals and communities.</p> <p>Students must work cooperatively with intra and inter professional teams, adapt to changing environments inherent in clinical practice, and function effectively under stress.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be able to interact effectively with individuals of all ages, races, genders, socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds with respect for individual differences.</li> <li>• Be able to cope with demands of supervision, productivity, and heavy workloads with respect for duty.</li> <li>• Be able to exhibit respect, concern and compassion for peers, staff, and patients.</li> <li>• Adhere to the Macomb Community College Student Code of Conduct.</li> <li>• Adhere to the Code of Ethics established by the Association of Surgical Technologists.</li> <li>• Demonstrate social responsibility and accountability.</li> <li>• Be diligent when performing tasks; being careless or reckless could cost a patient's life.</li> <li>• Students must possess the capacity to be creative, adaptable, and resourceful, as well as believe in the highest standards of care and uphold the values of personal responsibility, honesty, integrity, ethical behavior, trust, and professionalism.</li> <li>• Exhibit emotional stability in stressful situations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Occupational Exposure/Safety Skills</b></p>	<p>The student must apply knowledge, skills and experience to provide a safe work environment.</p> <p>Students must understand occupational risks and exposures and possess the ability to self-protect by using standard precautions when encountering patients and hazardous materials.</p>	<p>Exposures include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blood and body fluids</li> <li>• Sharps injuries</li> <li>• Communicable and infectious diseases</li> <li>• Ionizing radiation</li> <li>• Anesthetic gases</li> <li>• Smoke plume</li> <li>• Chemotherapy drugs</li> <li>• Latex</li> <li>• Electromagnetic fields</li> <li>• Formalin</li> <li>• Disinfecting solutions</li> <li>• Unpleasant sites and odors</li> </ul>

If a student believes that they need accommodations to perform these essential performance standards, the student should contact Student Access Services and speak to a counselor. Students receiving accommodations must provide documentation (certification by a physician, licensed psychologist, or public school district) in order to receive services. Students requiring accommodations will be required to meet the same standards as other students in the program. The student must be physically capable of performing all of the responsibilities and functions of a surgical technologist.

If accommodations are recommended for a student, the Student Access Services counselor will email a Classroom Assistance Letter (CAL) to the student's instructor(s) and the student listing the student's approved accommodations. The email will be sent either a week before classes start if requested prior to the beginning of the semester or as soon as possible if requested after the semester has begun.