Indian River State College

Surgical Technology Program

Fall Application

2027

Powered by

The School of Health and Human Sciences

(Rev.11/2026)

Indian River State College Overview

Indian River State College is a public, comprehensive college with a statewide and national reputation for excellence. Located in Florida's Treasure Coast region, each of the College's five campuses provide unparalleled educational environments.

Indian River State College serves approximately 30,000 students annually and offers more than 100 programs leading to Bachelor's degrees, Associate degrees, technical certificates and applied technology diplomas. Continuing a 60-year tradition of responsiveness to community needs, Indian River State College is committed to advancing educational, cultural, career training, workforce and economic development in its service area.

Indian River State College was distinguished as the 2019 winner of the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, an honor that recognizes outstanding quality in the areas of completion & transfer, labor market outcomes, learning, equity and more. Indian River State College is one of the few colleges in the nation to earn the Achieving the Dream™ Leader College designation. The College is identified by the United States Department of Education as the most affordable college in Florida and the third-most affordable college in the country.

EA/EO Statement

Indian River State College provides equal employment and educational opportunities to all without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, and any other factor protected under applicable federal, state, and local civil rights laws, rules and regulations. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non- discrimination policies:

Adriene B. Jefferson, Dean of Northwest Center, Equity
Officer & Title IX Coordinator
Indian River State College Massey Campus ▪ 3209 Virginia Ave. ▪ Fort
Pierce, FL 34981 772-462-7101

ACCREDITATION

The Surgical Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
9355 113th Street N., #7709, Seminole, FL. 33775 □Phone 727-210-2350

Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting
19751 East Mainstreet, Suite #339, Parker, CO 80138 □Phone 303-694-9262

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INTRODUCTION

Applicants should carefully review the application procedures outlined. Admission to the Surgical Technology program is on a competitive basis. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application process is complete.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Surgical Services Program supports the mission of Indian River State College by preparing the student to function effectively as members of the surgical team. The Program is committed to providing innovative educational opportunities in both the classroom and clinical environments to promote student engagement and success.
Surgical technologists are vital members of the surgical team, and their education must integrate cognitive knowledge, psychomotor skills, and professional behavior. Our program emphasizes patient safety, sterile technique, and collaboration within the perioperative environment to optimize the provision of quality patient care.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROFESSION

Surgical technologists are allied health professionals, who are an integral part of the team of medical practitioners providing surgical care to patients. Surgical technologists work under the supervision and delegatory authority of a surgeon to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of invasive and non-invasive surgical procedures, ensuring that the operating room environment is safe, that equipment functions properly, and that the operative procedure is conducted under conditions that maximize patient safety. Surgical technologists are experts in the theory and application of principles of asepsis and sterile technique to combine the knowledge of human anatomy, surgical procedures, and implementation and tools and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance of invasive therapeutic and diagnostic
procedures.

PROGRAM PURPOSE STATEMENT

To prepare entry-level Surgical Technologists who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains to enter the profession.

SURGICAL SERVICES PROGRAM CURRICULUM - 64 Credit Hours

General Education courses should be taken prior to acceptance into the program or must be completed while enrolled in the program. All core curriculum (STS prefix), English, A.S. humanities, math, and natural science courses require a grade of "C" or higher. Students must complete all degree requirements to graduate. See the College Catalog for specific requirements for the A.S. degree in Surgical Services.

Priority consideration for admission to the program will be given to those who have completed Anatomy and Physiology I and the co-requisite lab (BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L), Anatomy and Physiology II and co-requisite lab (BSC 2086 and BSC 2086L), and Medical Terminology I (HSC 2531) and Microbiology for Health Science with corequisite lab (MCB 2010 and MCB 2010L).

Students must complete all degree requirements to graduate. See the College Course Catalog online for specific requirements for the A.S. degree in Surgical Services.

Classes in the Surgical Services program meet four to five days per week with meeting times four to eight hours per day. Students need to arrange travel and other commitments to arrive at class or clinical assignments on time. Classes generally begin at 9:00 a.m. Clinical rotations generally begin at 6:00 a.m. or 6:30 a.m. and end at either 3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. Occasional weekend and evening rotations are required. Students should be prepared to travel to any of the clinical education sites located within the four- county service district of Indian River State College: St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee and Indian River counties. All clinical education sites are located within a one-hour driving distance from the Massey Campus.

Refer to the Indian River State College website at www.irsc.edu. Click Academics, Resources and select Course Catalog. On the content column, Click Associate in Science and Select Surgical Services. All core curriculum, natural science courses English, humanities, and A.S. math require a grade of "C" or higher.

SURGICAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Graduates of this program are eligible to sit for the national certification exam administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Council of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARCSTSA).

The curriculum includes General Education requirements as well as in-depth instruction in professional behaviors, ethical and legal issues, pharmacology, pathophysiology, and surgical procedures.

The clinical education component of the program is conducted at community partner facilities which include acute-care facilities, ambulatory surgery centers, specialty surgery centers, and physician offices that serve the four-county area. Program graduates may choose to continue their education at the university level, or further specialize in surgical services with a surgical first assistant certification (CSFA).

PRE-COLLEGE PREPARATION FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

High school students interested in becoming a surgical technologist are advised to follow the recommended course of study for medical science and health careers offered at their school, develop typing and computer skills, and join the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) program at their school.

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

During the basic coursework phase of the program, the student gains knowledge, upon which the remainder of his/her performance is based. Therefore, the student must demonstrate a satisfactory command of the basic concepts in all learning environments.

Performance Standards	Icon	Definition
Critical Thinking		Ability to analyze clinical situations, make sound judgments quickly, and adapt under stress.
Retention		Consistently applies and builds upon previously acquired knowledge in academic and clinical settings.
Interpersonal Skills		Establishes respectful, professional relationships and demonstrates sensitivity to diverse backgrounds.
Communication		Conveys information clearly and effectively in verbal and written English.
Mobility		Moves freely within clinical environments and performs essential tasks such as lifting and emergency procedures.
Gross and Fine Motor Skills		Performs precise and safe clinical tasks including handling instruments and positioning patients.
Auditory Ability		Hears and interprets sounds accurately to assess patient needs and respond appropriately.
Visual Ability		Observes and assesses the surgical field and patient conditions to ensure safety and precision.
Tactile Skills		Uses sense of touch and manual dexterity to perform assessments and tasks with precision.
Strength/Stamina		Has endurance and strength to provide continuous patient care over extended periods.
Respect for Others		Engages in professional, respectful interactions honoring diverse perspectives and backgrounds.
Accountability		The responsibility to uphold professional standards, follow through on commitments, and take ownership of actions and outcomes in clinical and academic settings.

INFORMATION PRESENTATION VIDEO

Students interested in applying to the program should plan to view the Surgical Technology Program Information Presentation video, located on the program's website. The presentation video addresses any questions or concerns prospective applicants may have. The video also assists students in understanding how to achieve a **"qualified"** applicant status.

Surgical Technology Information Presentation Video can be found on the Surgical Technology website.

APPLYING TO THE SURGICAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Prior to beginning the application process:

1. Read the Surgical Services Application Booklet.
2. Complete and submit the Indian River State College Application for the Surgical Technology program. ($30 nonrefundable fee) keep a copy of receipt.

All applicants will be notified of their status approximately four to six weeks after the deadline via the email address provided in the Health Science Application. No information is available by telephone. To finalize acceptance once notified of provisional acceptance, students will be required to have a completed IRSC physical examination form, a negative drug screen report and a FDLE background check.

APPLICANT REVIEW

Admissions/Records must receive the college application and all transcripts prior to the application deadline date. **No documentation will be considered after the Application Deadline date**.

Consideration for program admission is based on the student completing the following by the **application deadline**:

1. 18 years of age or older
2. Indian River State College Admission status must be complete.
3. Indian River State College and College Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
4. General Education coursework completed.

Note: All the above criteria must be met, or the applicant file will not be reviewed and scored. Meeting admission criteria does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Students are selected on a selective admission basis.

Final consideration for admission into the Surgical Services program will be based upon the Health Science Admissions Committee review and scoring of the selection criteria detailed on page 6 on this book.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

(Items due by Application Deadline)

Completion of the items on this checklist alone does not guarantee acceptance to the Surgical Technology program. Students are selected on a selective admission basis. Completion of the checklist is the applicant's responsibility.

To prepare to apply to the program:

- □ Complete the Indian River State College Application for the Surgical Technology program online at www.irsc.edu and pay the $30 non- refundable application fee.
- □ Priority selection is based on a point system. Refer to page 6 for recommended courses students should complete with a "C" or better prior to the application deadline date.
- □ Indian River State College and previous college cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- □ Request high school, GED, former school and/or college(s) transcript(s) and forward to the Office of Student Records at IRSC.

  NOTE: All transcripts must be received and evaluated by the application deadline for validation of competency and/or transfer of credit.

- □ Meet with a Health Science Academic Advisor or Admissions Counselor at any campus to review program and application requirements.

Once the application is closed, all applications will be evaluated using the review criteria listed above. All application requirements must be met by the application deadline or the applicant's file will not be reviewed and scored. Selection occurs once a year in which students and alternates are selected.

Students will be notified by the Health Science Division of their provisional acceptance into the program via their College River Portal or email used to complete the application. Students will receive instructions about how to proceed from the Program Director, including date and time of mandatory program welcome session.

DO NOT PROCEED WITH DRUG/BACKGROUND SCREENING OR PHYSICAL AND IMMUNIZATIONS UNTIL NOTIFIED BY THE HEALTH SCIENCE DIVISION.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Factors utilized by the Admissions Committee include but are not necessarily limited to:

Academic performance in the general education courses for the A.S. Degree in Surgical Services and cumulative college grade point average are indicators for selection. It is recommended that students complete the general education requirements prior to applying to the program due to the rigor and demands of the surgical technology program. In addition to previously stated admission requirements, the selection is based on grades achieved in the courses listed below.

Students are selected based on a point system (see below). Applications are selected based on these scores until all seats are filled.

Certified/Licensed Healthcare Practitioners = 10 points
(RN, LPN, or Paramedic)
Certified/Licensed Healthcare Practitioners = 5 points
(CRCST, CNA, MA, or EMT)

A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points

COURSE	GRADE	X CREDITS	POINT TOTAL
BSC 2085		3	
BSC 2085L		1	
BSC 2086		3	
BSC 2086L		1	
HSC 2531		3	
MCB 2010		3	
MCB 2010L		1	
Certified/Licensed Healthcare Practitioner		5 or 10 Points	

Subject to change

All the applicants review criteria must be met by the application deadline, or the applicant file will not be reviewed and scored. The most qualified (highest scores) are selected.

NOTE: Meeting admission criteria does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Students are selected on a competitive basis.

ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

All applicants will be notified of their status approximately four–six weeks after the application deadline via the email address provided in the Surgical Technology Application. No information is available by telephone.

Students who receive notification of *provisional acceptance* must complete the following steps to be admitted to the program:

1. Submit Program Acceptance Response form to secure your provisional acceptance.
2. Create an account with American Database (Complio).
3. Schedule FDLE background check and complete fingerprinting process.
   FDLE report must be received and reviewed in Complio for approval
4. Schedule Drug Screen and complete drug screen.
   Drug screen report must be received and reviewed in Complio for approval
5. Attend the mandatory Program Welcome Session.

During the Program Welcome Session, students will be provided with important program dates to allow students to prepare for the next steps of the provisional acceptance process which includes:

1. Submit Health Science Physical & Immunization form.
2. Submit proof of personal health insurance.

Students will not be admitted to the program and be able to register for courses, purchase books or uniforms, or obtain student I.D. until all required documentation is approved as Compliant.

DRUG SCREENING

Refer to the IRSC website at **www.irsc.edu**. Click Academics**, Browse by Interest, select Health Sciences, select Surgical Services/ Surgical Technology** and select the **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements link.**

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Refer to the IRSC website at **www.irsc.edu**. Click Academics**, Browse by Interest, select Health Sciences, select Surgical Services/ Surgical Technology** and select the **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements link.**

Note: All students must read this information carefully to understand what may disqualify them from entry into the program, clinical participation, licensure/certification and/or employment.

NON-ACCEPTANCE into PROGRAM

Applicants who do not qualify for the program will be notified via email and may call the School of Health and Human Sciences at (772) 462-7550 for information regarding their application.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Refer to the Indian River State College website at **www.irsc.edu**. Click Academics, All Programs and select **Dental Hygiene**. Scroll down the page and click on the **Program Expenses** link.

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS

Financial Aid is available to those who qualify. Complete the FAFSA application to determine eligibility. For more information, contact the Indian River State College Financial Aid Office at 772-462-7450.

Scholarships designated for students in the Health and Human Sciences programs may also be available. Click on the Foundation link to learn about scholarships at ***The River*** **https://irsc.edu/admissions/financial-aid/types-aid/scholarships/ .**

You may also contact the Scholarship Development Coordinator; Sherri Monds at smonds@irsc.edu