Indian River State College

Surgical Technology Program

APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM

Application Deadline: When the maximum number of qualified applicants have applied.
Program Begins: Fall

For more information IRSC Information Call Center
1-866-792-4772

www.irsc.edu
IRSC OVERVIEW

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE is a public, comprehensive college with a nationally recognized commitment to helping students succeed. The College was selected out of 1,000 colleges nationwide as a Finalist with Distinction for the prestigious 2017 Aspen Prize for Excellence and has been designated an Achieving the Dream™ college for support of students from enrollment to employment. Over 30,000 people enroll in IRSC courses each year, attracted by the College’s combination of quality, convenience and affordable tuition. IRSC is designated as the 3rd Most Affordable College in the country by the U.S. Department of Education, and students benefit from many scholarship and financial aid opportunities.

Every aspect of IRSC is focused on helping students succeed with small classes, an array of student support services, convenient campuses, and online courses. IRSC offers over 100 programs, including Bachelor’s degrees, Associate in Arts degrees for continuing education at IRSC or a university, Associate in Science degrees for in-demand careers after two years of training, short-term certificate programs and Quick Job Training.

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, Equity Officer & Title IX Coordinator
IRSC Main Campus • 3209 Virginia Ave. • Fort Pierce, FL 34981 (772) 462-7156

ACCREDITATION

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

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158
Clearwater, FL 33763 • Phone 727-210-2350
THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST

A surgical technologist works closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, registered nurses and other surgical personnel to deliver appropriate patient care before, during and after surgery. Duties of the surgical technologist include preparation of the operating room, instruments and equipment for surgery. A surgical technologist is part of the sterile team during a surgical procedure and maintains the sterile working field between the surgical team and the patient. Under the surgeon’s direction the STSR (Surgical Technician in the Scrub Role), passes instrumentation as required, assists during surgery as directed and maintains correct instrument, sponge and needle counts. A surgical technician must be knowledgeable and proficient in equipment sterilization processes.

Surgical technologists must be able to perform under pressure in stressful and emergency situations. They must also possess a stable temperament, be responsible, detail-oriented, quick and accurate and have a great deal of manual dexterity and physical stamina.
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**Forms**

Student Advisement Form .......................................................... 11
The following items are found in the Health Science Division Student Handbook.
(This list has been updated as of 1/18.)

1. Health Science Division Purpose Statement
2. Health Science Statement of Ethics
3. Health Science Plagiarism Regulation
4. Email/Contact Information
5. Health Science Use of Electronic Regulation
6. Health Science Confidentiality Statement
7. Health Science Grading
8. Health Science Retention Regulation
9. Health Science Probation Regulation
10. Health Science Readmission and Dismissal Regulation
11. Health Science Complaint Guidelines
12. Health Science Liability, Accident and Insurance Regulation
13. Health Requirements
14. Indian River State College Health Science Post Exposure Protocol
15. Health Science Background Check Regulation
16. Health Science Substance Abuse Regulation
17. Health Science Dress Code/Professional Standards
18. Health Science Student Parking Regulation
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Completion of the items on this checklist alone does not guarantee acceptance into the Surgical Technology program. Students are selected on a competitive basis. Completion of the items on the checklist is the applicant’s responsibility. All items must be completed by the application deadline to be qualified for this program.

1. Complete the online Indian River State College Application for Admission at www.irsc.edu.

2. Request high school, former school and/or college(s) to forward transcript(s) to the Admissions Office at IRSC. (Must be received by application deadline.) College transcripts must be evaluated by the application deadline for validation of competency and/or transfer of credit.

3. Meet with an Academic Advisor to review program requirements.

4. Attend an information session – offered every 4th Tuesday at 4:00 p.m., Smith Center for Medical Education, Room FSU-223, Main Campus by deadline date. Proof of attendance will be verified.

5. Complete a Student Advisement form with Educational Services. Applicants must forward a completed Student Advisement form to the Health Science Division Office. (Form can be found in the back of this book.)

6. Submit a copy of current American Heart Associate Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider CPR card. Card should be valid for the length of the program. Failure to maintain a current CPR card will result in immediate withdrawal from the program.

7. TABE Requirement – If exempt from TABE, proceed to #7. If TABE is required, applicant must take first attempt at the exam prior to the application deadline. (This criteria is met by simply taking the exam. Scores are not reviewed at this time).

8. Submit Health Science Program Application online and pay $30 fee by application deadline date.

All applications will be reviewed after the application deadline. Students will be notified by the Health Science Division of their provisional acceptance into the program through RiverMail. At that point, students will receive instructions on final acceptance and when to complete a drug/background screening/physical exam.
Do not proceed with drug/background screening or physical until notified.

I. Submit a non-refundable $100 check payable to IRSC to the Health Science Division Office (Main Campus, Fort Pierce, 3rd floor, H building) to cover mandatory drug screening and a national criminal background check (fingerprinting).

II. Submit Physical Exam Form complete with immunizations documented. Visit www.irsc.edu. Click Programs & Careers and then Health Sciences/How to Apply. In the Handbooks/Forms box, select Health Science Physical Examination and Immunization Form.

III. Submit proof of Personal Health Insurance.

Satisfactory results of these requirements must be on file in the Health Science Division Office.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the Surgical Technology program is to provide a dynamic, behavioral and highly technical process directed toward the learning, application and participation of the surgical team member with continuous concern and awareness of the patient as the center focus of care.

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.

NOTE: If at anytime during the application process you have a change of address or other personal information, submit this information to the Educational Services Department and Health Science Division by supplying documentation (i.e. copy of driver license, marriage license, new email, cell phone).
INFORMATION SESSIONS

Students interested in applying to any health science program must attend the appropriate, regularly scheduled, program information session for direction and assistance with the application process. The information session addresses any questions or concerns prospective applicants may have. The sessions also assist students in understanding how to achieve a “qualified” status. Students must attend an information session prior to the application deadline date. No reservations or fees are required to attend.

Surgical Technology Information Sessions are held in the
Smith Center for Medical Education
4th Tuesday of each month
Main Campus in Fort Pierce
Room FSU-223
4:00 p.m.

PRE-ADMISSION ADVISEMENT

Pre-advisement with an advisor is required for admission to the Surgical Technology program. Pre-advisement includes information on the application process, admissions requirements, program guidance and counseling, financial aid and time management. (See Student Advisement form in back of booklet.)

It is strongly advised that students requiring the TABE test begin this process during the application period and continue until an 11.0 in reading, 10.0 math, and 11.0 language is achieved. TABE requirements must be met for program completion.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Any candidate who wishes to be considered for a Health Science program at Indian River State College must complete the procedures outlined on the checklist on page 1. It is the student’s responsibility to see that admission requirements are met. No notices will be sent. Additional Surgical Technology program specifics follow in this booklet.

PROCESS FOR APPLYING ONLINE

1. Go to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu
2. Click MyIRSC
3. Click Sign into MyIRSC and enter your Student ID and pin number
4. Go to Registration (blue menu bar) and select Health Science Application
5. Place a check mark in the I Agree statement.
6. In the Health Science Program box, select Surgical Technology. Application Deadline: this automatically fills in the program deadline date.
7. Select Submit. Select OK
8. Select **Pay Fee Now** and then **PAY NOW**
9. Select process for payment
10. Select $30 application fee
11. Enter credit card details
12. Submit Payment

Student can log into MyIRSC at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu) to check the status of their application.

**APPLICANT REVIEW**

Consideration for admission into the Surgical Technology program will be based upon completion of the following criteria by the **application deadline**:

1. 18 years of age or over
2. IRSC Admission Status must be complete (receipt and evaluation of all transcripts).
3. Completion of Student Advisement form with Educational Services staff
4. Attend an Information Session.
5. Submit copy of CPR card.

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

**ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM**

Those provisionally accepted into the Surgical Technology program will be notified by the Health Science Division of their **provisional** acceptance. Final acceptance into the program is contingent upon satisfactory results from a physical examination, drug screen and a National Criminal background check via fingerprint process. **Information on obtaining these tests/reports will be provided in the provisional acceptance notification package. These reports should not be submitted with initial application materials.**

**DRUG SCREENING**

Refer to the IRSC website at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Click **Program & Careers** and then **Health Sciences/How to Apply**. In the Handbook/Forms box, select **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements**.

**CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS**

Refer to the IRSC website at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Click **Program & Careers** and then **Health Sciences/How to Apply**. In the Handbook/Forms box, select **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements**.

*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.*
Health/Medical Record

A completed medical health form must also be submitted and approved by the Program Director. This health record will contain results from a physical examination and laboratory tests including immunization records. The form is located on the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs and Careers and then Health Sciences/How to Apply. In the Handbook/Forms box, select Health Science Physical Examination and Immunization Form.

Applicants who do not meet the standards of good physical and mental health, as required by clinical facilities for safe patient care, may reapply and be considered for application to a Health Science program after resolution of the health problem. An updated health record, verified by a licensed physician, physician’s assistant or an ARNP must be submitted.

Indian River State College and partnering clinical sites require all health science students who register for clinical courses to have personal health insurance. Students will be asked to show proof of personal health insurance by presenting their insurance policy number, the name of the insurance provider and the telephone number of the provider to clinical preceptors or administrators. If students do not have health insurance or do not provide proof of health insurance, they will not be eligible for clinic rotation which will result in termination from the program. The Health and Wellness Department has information regarding personal health insurance options. For more information, call (772) 462-7825.

Student Drug Screen, Background Check, and Medical Records

IRSC cannot guarantee employment upon graduation as employers determine the requirements for employment eligibility at their institutions. Students accepted into any IRSC health science program who have a criminal history must recognize that the history may impact their eligibility for employment in health care.

When received, these records will become the property of the College and will not be available for copying or for use to meet the requirements of outside employers. Students who are out of the program for six months or more must submit new records.

NON-ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Applicants who do not qualify for the program will be notified and may call the Nursing Office at (772) 462-7570 for clarification on how to strengthen their application.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

A list of approximate costs is located on the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs & Careers and then Health Sciences/How to Apply. Click Surgical Technology. In the Start Here box, select Expenses. In addition to these costs, the candidate should allow for room, board, transportation and personal living expenses.
FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS

Financial Aid (grants, loans, work-study) is available to those who qualify. Complete the FAFSA and IRSC Supplemental Financial Aid Application to determine eligibility. For more information, contact the IRSC Financial Aid Office at (772) 462-7450 or toll-free at 1-866-900-3243 (FAID).

Scholarships designated for students in the Health Science programs may also be available. Complete the IRSC “STARS” ONLINE Scholarship Application, available at www.irscfoundation.org. The application deadline for all IRSC Health Science Scholarships is May. See “STARS” for exact deadline date for each scholarship.

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM CURRICULUM
(1330 Clock Hours)

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Program and Careers and then Health Sciences/How to Apply. Choose Surgical Technology. In the Start Here box, select Guided Pathway.

All core curriculum and natural science courses require a grade of “C” or higher.

Curriculum Notes

This 1330 clock-hour program provides the student with the technical ability, knowledge and skills required for entry-level employment as a member of the healthcare team in any hospital operating room or outpatient surgical center. The Surgical Technology program provides the student with a strong foundation in the essentials of healthcare, anatomy, physiology and medical language and pharmacology. Specialty didactic, laboratory and clinical courses in surgical technology prepare the student to become an entry-level surgical technologist.

The requirements for enrolling in Surgical Technology courses, completion of all admission requirements; a physical with all your immunizations current; proof of personal health insurance; a negative drug screen; and an approved background check. These requirements must be fulfilled before you can sign up for any STS (Surg. Tech) course.

All courses in the Surgical Technology program contain blended coursework. This requires the student to have access to a computer and the Internet throughout the program.

Students should be aware that laboratory experiences may take place in the evenings at area surgical facilities. Students should be prepared to travel to any health care facility within the four county service district of Indian River State College: St. Lucie, Martin, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties.

Full-time Surgical Technology students will attend classes 30-35 hours per week.
Program specific orientations (2) are mandatory (dates TBA). Orientation to clinical facilities is mandatory.

**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.
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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, in the clinical practice, a satisfactory command of the basic concepts.

The clinical rotations provide in-depth knowledge and application of operative procedures. Faculty provides the student guidance in acquiring skills in the performance of surgical technology functions during the intraoperative phase of patient care and related duties.

The following is a list of standards for admission and progression in the program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Standards</th>
<th>Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Critical Thinking/Coping</strong> ability</td>
<td>Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, synthesize, integrate, and prioritize all aspects of patient care in a prompt, timely fashion; display good coping mechanisms; ability to make fast decisions in stressful situations in a professional manner with a high degree of flexibility.</td>
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<td>sufficient for clinical judgment.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Interpersonal Skills</strong> sufficient to interact with individuals, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.</td>
<td>Establish professional rapport with patients. Display respect for colleagues and others; demonstrate sensitivity to individual differences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communication</strong> abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form with clear and effective use of English.</td>
<td>Give directions and explanations to patients, explain procedures to colleagues, initiate physician preferences, document, interpret and implement plans to include patient responses in a timely professional manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mobility</strong> sufficient to move from room to room and within the operating room; to be able to lift heavy objects.</td>
<td>Stand at operating room table during a case; move around in the operating room with ease; administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross and fine motor skills</strong> sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.</td>
<td>Position patients; pass surgical instruments; use equipment, safely and in timely manner per AST standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Auditory ability</strong> sufficient to assess needs.</td>
<td>Hear blood pressure accurately; hear emergency alarms, accurately hear instructions in a noisy environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual ability</strong> sufficient for observation and assessment necessary to maintain a surgical field.</td>
<td>Read and administer medications accurately; differentiate colors on the surgical field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manipulative/Tactile skills</td>
<td>Turn dials; press keyboards; operate special equipment; feel temperature changes; insert catheter; handle small sutures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength/Stamina</td>
<td>Adapt to shift work. Lift, without restrictions, from standing position; stand for long periods of time; administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect for Others:</td>
<td>Interacts with respect, consideration and tolerance. Resolves conflicts appropriately. Demonstrates ability to cope with anger, fear or hostility of others as well as differing opinions in a calm and professional manner.</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Program Goals and Outcomes: Minimum Expectations.**

1. To prepare competent entry-level surgical technologists in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (hands-on skills), and affective (professional behavior; conduct) learning domains.

2. Students will demonstrate knowledge, skills, and behavior expectations based on the (IRSC) Indian River State College mission, program performance standards, program philosophy and ethics, and the (AST) Association of Surgical Technology’s most current Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology through successful passing of all course requirements within the program.
**INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE**
**STUDENT ADVISEMENT FORM**

**SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY**

Name of Student: ___________________________ Student ID#: ___________________________

**PRINT NAME**

*All applicants must have this student advisement form completed by an Educational Service staff member or branch campus counselor or advisor.*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any NO responses to the questions below may prevent your application from being considered for selection into the program.

**HAVE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS BEEN MET?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Requirement</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Attend a Surgical Technology Information Session prior to application submission</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Submitted Health Science Application</em></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-refundable fee $30</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Do not forward this Student Advisement Form to Health Sciences until response to this item is YES.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions are complete</td>
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<tr>
<td>If YES, Date Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed Core Performance Standards</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware that major medical insurance is required for any program requiring clinical site rotations</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Aware of Criminal Background Check/Drug Screen/Physical</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Is Aware of TABE requirement for program completion.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>If yes, indicate student status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABE Results</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TABE Exemption</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated Testing Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completed the required College NSO.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scheduled/Completed CPR</td>
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*In addition to the list above, student has had the opportunity to discuss all related topics outlined in the Surgical Technology Application booklet including Program Expenses, Financial Aid opportunities, Time Commitment to the program, etc.*

**Educational Services Staff:** ___________________________

Print Name / Signature Date

**Student:** ___________________________

Signature / Today’s Date

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