



MODEL CURRICULUM FOR CENTRAL STERILE PROCESSING TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Central Sterile Processing (CSP) Technician is an integral member of the healthcare team that performs a critical role in preventing patients from acquiring healthcare-associated infections. This is a specialized profession that requires a commitment to excellence and providing quality patient care. The Central Sterile Processing (CSP) Technician certificate program provides students with the knowledge and skills for maintaining medical instruments and devices including equipment that must be cleaned and disinfected, decontaminated, assembled, sterilized, stored, and distributed to all patient care areas of a healthcare facility. Additionally, students learn teamwork skills necessary to work with the CSP Department team as well as professionally interacting with other healthcare facility departments. Graduates have an in-depth knowledge of infection control as it relates to decontamination, packaging, sterilization, and record-keeping processes that contributes to breaking the chain of infection transmission to patients and staff.

Career opportunities include working in:

- hospitals
- physician's clinics, and
- ambulatory surgery centers.

With experience the individual may be able to work as a healthcare manufacturer representative.

This is a 3-semester certificate program that is a prerequisite to entering the surgical technology program. It includes completing 400 hours of hands-on training in the CSP Department. Upon completion the graduate is eligible to take the Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST) national certification examination offered by the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA) or the Certified Sterile Processing and Distribution Technician (CSPDT) national certification examination offered by the Certification Board of Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD).

(Note: The following proposed CSP Technician Program model curriculum is based on the assertion that the program is a prerequisite to an accredited associate degree surgical technology (ST) program and courses such as A & P I and II, microbiology, medical terminology, and ethics fulfill the ST program requirements. It is also assumed that the general education courses such as basic math, business computer applications, college composition or English I, and communications fulfill the associate degree ST requirements.)

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the program, the learner will be proficient in the following.

1. Applying the principles of safe practice in the CSP Department.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical, moral, and legal standards related to patient care.
3. Cleaning, disinfecting, and decontaminating medical devices, equipment, and instruments.
4. Assembling and packaging medical devices, equipment, and instruments for sterilization.
5. Sterilization processes for medical devices, equipment, and instruments.
6. Maintaining records of the sterilization processes and using the information to identify and troubleshoot malfunctioning sterilization processes.
7. Sterile storage in the CSP Department as well as other healthcare facility departments.
8. Effective communication and team-building skills when working with the CSP Department team as well as with members of other healthcare facility departments.

First Semester

• Anatomy and Physiology I	3 (without lab); 4 (with lab)
• Microbiology (with or without lab)	3 (without lab); 4 (with lab)
• Medical Terminology	1
• Surgical Instrumentation, Devices, & Equipment	3
• English Composition I	3

College Credits (semester)

Second Semester

• Anatomy and Physiology II	3 (without lab); 4 (with lab)
• Foundations of Math	3
• Principles and Practice of Sterile Processing	5

College Credits (semester)

Third Semester (summer)

• Clinical Internship	8.5
• Ethical & Legal Aspects of Healthcare	1
• Business Computer Applications	1

College Credits (semester)

Total College Credits 34.5 or 36.5 (with labs)

BIO 200 Anatomy and Physiology I

BIO 200 (lecture) 3 credits

BIO 200L (lab) 1 credit

This course will serve as an introduction to the systems of the human body. Necessary life functions and survival needs will be examined, followed by an orientation of the language of anatomy. Thorough analyses of intracellular function, tissue types, the integumentary system, skeletal tissue and the human skeleton, joints, muscle tissue and the muscular system, the fundamentals of nervous tissue, the nervous system, and the endocrine system will follow.

BIO 201 Anatomy and Physiology II

BIO 201 (lecture) 3 credits

BIO 201L (lab) 1 credit

Prerequisite: Anatomy and Physiology I

This course will focus on the structure and function of the human body and mechanisms for maintaining homeostasis. Topics include the study of blood, cardiovascular system including lymphatic system, immune system, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system, and male and female reproductive systems. Emphasis is placed on the integration of systems as they relate to normal health. Laboratory exercises provide first-hand experience with the structure and processes discussed in lecture.

BIO 202 Microbiology

BIO 202 (lecture) 3 credits

The course is designed to convey general concepts, methods, and applications of microbiology for health sciences. The role of microorganisms in the environment and in human disease is discussed. Topics include immunology, bacteriology, virology, and mycology; the morphology, biochemistry, and physiology of microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, and fungi; the diseases caused by these microorganisms and their treatments.

HLTH 100 Medical Terminology

3 credits

Introduces the student to the structure of medical terms with emphasis on using and combining the most common prefixes, roots, and suffixes. Includes terms related to major body systems, oncology, surgery, as well as clinical laboratory and diagnostic procedures and imaging. Course focuses on analysis of word parts, correct pronunciation of terms and use in the healthcare setting, and diseases of the body systems. The student will also learn the most commonly used medical abbreviations related to anatomical directions and medications and symbols.

HLTH 101 Ethical & Legal Aspects of Healthcare

1 credit

This course provides the student with a deeper understanding of legal and ethical issues in healthcare. Students explore the legal, ethical and moral dilemmas currently faced by healthcare professionals, and identify issues related to potential legal liability in the workplace.

CSP 100 Surgical Instrumentation, Devices, & Equipment

3 credits

Examines the categories of surgical instruments, devices, and equipment used in healthcare facility departments. Students will also learn the concepts of inventory management and distribution as well as management of patient care equipment.

CSP 101 Principles and Practice of Sterile Processing

5 credits

Students will learn the methods of cleaning, disinfecting, decontaminating, packaging, and sterilizing surgical instruments and patient care devices and equipment used in the surgery department and other healthcare facility departments. Students also learn the specific methods for decontaminating and reprocessing endoscopes according to government regulations. The course introduces the student to infection prevention practices, government regulations for monitoring sterilization processes, quality assurance processes, safety practices, and teamwork communication skills.

CSP 102 Clinical Internship

8.5 credits

Students complete a supervised, hands-on work experience in a Central Sterile Processing Department at a hospital. The student will complete 400 hours of training to meet the requirement as set by the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA) to be eligible to take the Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST) national certification examination.

ENG 1011 English Composition I

3 credits

Emphasizes the planning, writing, and revising of compositions, including the development of critical and logical thinking skills. This course includes a wide variety of compositions that stress analytical, evaluative, and persuasive and argumentative writing.

MAT 100 Foundations of Mathematics

3 credits

Foundations of Mathematics reviews basic math skills and concepts. This course includes computation using integers, fractions, decimals, proportions and percents along with an overview of measurement, geometry, statistics and linear equations.

BCIS 1300 Business Computer Applications

1 credit

Students will study computer terminology, hardware, and software related to the business environment. The focus of this course is on business productivity software applications and professional behavior in computing, including word processing, spreadsheets, presentation graphics, and utilization of the Internet.