Surgical Technology—Certification Information

As a part of the [SLCC Surgical Technology](#) program students prepare to take the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) certification examination, leading to the CST certification. The SLCC Surgical Technology program is accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs](#) (CAAHEP). Information about the SLCC Surgical Technology outcome assessment and exam results are available [here](#).

The NBSTSA, CST certification exam fee is $290. Students completing the Surgical Technology at SLCC have the cost for one attempt on this exam included in program tuition and fees.

Some states have laws impacting the practice of surgical technologists. This document represents a good faith effort to describe these state requirements. Please recognize that there may be additional requirements for clinical practice not outlined in this document, as state requirements can change at any time.

It is common for employers to have additional requirements beyond state-set mandates. Please verify with potential employers for specific practice requirements within their institution.

If you have difficulty finding the requirements for practice within your state, please contact your academic advisor or SLCC's [state authorization coordinator](#) for help.

Helpful Links
[Association of Surgical Technologist—Legislative Overview](#)

States and Territories	Does the SLCC Surgical Technology program meet degree requirements in this state? This list was last updated **9/25/2023**. Requirements for certification can change at any time. Please [email](#) for more information.
Alabama	Alabama does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Alaska	Alaska does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Arizona	Arizona does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
[Arkansas](#)	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets the educational requirements for registration in Arkansas.* **Board**: [Arkansas State Medical Board](#) **Contact**: 1401 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 340, Little Rock, AR 72201-2936. Phone: 501-296-1802. Email: LicenseMonitor@armedicalboard.org. **Statute**: [Arkansas Medical Practice Act, Surgical Technologists](#) (PDF—Scroll to Page 96). **Additional Information**: [Requirements and application packet](#). - Applicants for the registry must attach a copy of their transcript showing successful completion of a nationally accredited surgical technology program. - Applicants must submit proof of NBSTSA or NCCT Certification.
California	California does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
[Colorado](#)	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for Colorado.* **Board**: [Colorado Office of Surgical Assistant & Surgical Technologist Registration](#).

Contact: 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, CO 80202. Phone: 303-894-7800. Email: dora_surgassist_surgtech@state.co.us

Statute: Laws, Rules, and Policies.

Additional Information:
- Applicants are required to register in order to work in Colorado.
- Registration information and online application.
- Application checklist.
- Frequently Asked Questions.

Connecticut	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for Connecticut.* **Contact**: Connecticut Department of Public Health 410 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06134, 860-509-8000 **Statute**: Connecticut General Assembly. Search for: H 6835 **Additional Information**: • Health care facilities are required to employ surgical technologists with certification from a nationally certified body that certifies surgical technologist recognized by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. • AND holds and maintains certification as a surgical technologist from a national certifying body.
Delaware	Delaware does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
District of Columbia	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for the District of Columbia.* **Board:** DC Health **Contact:** 899 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002. Phone: 877-672-2174. Email: doh@dc.gov. **Statute:** District of Columbia Regulations. **Additional Information**: • Application checklist. • Criminal background check is required. • DC requires surgical technologists to be certified. • Applicants must have completed a CAAHEP-accredited surgical technology program, completed a program offered by the Armed Forces, or completed fulltime work as a surgical assistant/technician. • Applicants must list all surgical assistant certifications they have earned.
Florida	Florida does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Georgia	Georgia does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Guam	Guam does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Hawaii	Hawaii does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Idaho	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Idaho.* **Statute**: IDAPA 16.03.14 - Rules and Minimum Standards for Hospitals in Idaho (PDF—Scroll to page 7)). **Additional Information**:

- Idaho has an administrative rule requiring that surgical technologists (referred to as "operating room technicians" in the rule) either complete a CAAHEP-accredited program **OR** meet the requirements for CST certification by the Association of Surgical Technologists.

Illinois	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for registration in Illinois.* **Board**: IDFPR – Surgical Technologist **Contact**: PO Box 7007, Springfield, IL 62791. Phone: 217-782-8556. Online contact form. **Statute**: 225 ILCS 130. Registered Surgical Assistant and Registered Surgical Technologist Title Projection Act. **Additional Information**: - Certification is required in Illinois. - Applicant must have completed a nationally accredited surgical technology program. - Applicants must have successfully completed the surgical technologist national certification examination provided by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (Formerly the Liaison Council on Certification for Surgical Technologists). - Applicants are asked about high school graduation or equivalent on the application. - Applicants are asked about possible criminal background history. - Applicant must be a certified CST, CSFA, or SAC.
Indiana	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for certification in Indiana.* **Statute**: Indiana Code 25-36.1 Certified Surgical Technologists **Additional Information**: Indiana has a state law related to the certification of surgical technologists. In order to use the title "certified surgical technologist" or "CST", individuals must hold and maintain a Certified Surgical Technologist Credential administered by the NBSTSA.
Iowa	Iowa does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Kansas	Kansas does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Kentucky	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements for certification in Kentucky.* **Board**: Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure **Contact**: 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, KY 40222. Phone: 502-429-7150. Online contact form. **Additional Information**: - Online application portal. - Requirements for certification. - Applicants must hold and maintain a certificate from the NSAA or LCCST (now NBSTSA).
Louisiana	Louisiana does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Maine	Maine does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)
Maryland	Maryland does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)

Massachusetts	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Massachusetts.* **Statute**: [Section 235: Surgical Technologists; standards and requisites for employment; waiver](#). **Additional Information**: • Massachusetts has passed laws related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must have completed an NBSTSA-accredited educational program for surgical technologists. • Applicants must hold and maintain a certified surgical technologist credential administered by a nationally recognized surgical technologist certifying body. • Some exceptions to these requirements are also available.
Michigan	Michigan does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Minnesota	Minnesota does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Mississippi	Mississippi does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Missouri	Missouri does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Montana	Montana does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Nebraska	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Nebraska.* **Board**: [Nebraska Dept of Health and Human Services](#) **Contact**: PO Box 94986, Lincoln, NE 68509, 402-471-2118, DHHS.MedicalOffice@nebraska.gov **Statute**: [38-3501](#) **Additional Information**: • Nebraska has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical first assistants. • Applicants must be certified by an approved certifying body. • Applicants must hold and maintain a current credential as a surgical first assistant by the NBSTSA, NSAA, or ABSA. • Applicants must have completed a CAAHEP-accredited program. • Applicants must be at least 19 years old. Applicants must submit a high school diploma or transcript, or proof of GED • Applicants must submit proof of US citizenship or lawful presence. • Applicants must submit information about criminal convictions.
Nevada	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Nevada.* **Statute**: [Sec. 449.24185 Conditions under which health care facility may employ or allow person to engage in practice of surgical technology](#). **Additional Information**: • Nevada has passed laws related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must successful complete a program for surgical technologists that is accredited by a national accrediting organization.

	- Applicants must be certified as a Certified Surgical Technologist by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). - While certification is required, Nevada does not regulate registration at the state level.
New Hampshire	New Hampshire does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
New Jersey	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in New Jersey*. **Statute**: [C.26:2H-12.62](#) and [C.26:2H-12.63](#) **Additional Information**: - New Jersey has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. - In order to practice surgical technology, applicants must have successfully completed a nationally or regionally accredited educational program for surgical technologists. - Applicants must hold and maintain a certified surgical technologist credential administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).
New Mexico	New Mexico does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
New York	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in New York.* **Statute**: [Sec 2824*2, Surgical Technology and Surgical Technologists](#). **Additional Information**: - New York has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. - Applicants must have successfully completed a nationally accredited educational program for surgical technologists. - Applicants must hold and maintain a certified surgical technologist credential administered by a nationally accredited surgical technologist credentialing organization. - There are a couple of other routes towards meeting this requirement, such as military training programs for surgical technologists.
North Carolina	North Carolina does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
[North Dakota](#)	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets the educational requirements for registration in North Dakota.* **Board**: [North Dakota Board of Nursing](#) **Contact**: 919 S 7th Street, Suite 504, Bismarck, ND 58504. Phone: 701-751-3000. Email: contactus@ndbon.org **Statute**: [Article 54-07. Unlicensed Assistive Person Registry](#) **Additional Information**: - [Unlicensed Assistive Person Application](#). - North Dakota requires an "[Unlicensed Assistive Person, Technicians and Medication Assistant III](#)" registry for surgical technologists. - [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

- Surgical Technicians must have completed a board-recognized formal training program **OR** maintain current registration or certification by a recognized national body.
- Applicants are asked about criminal history and must submit a criminal history record check and fingerprinting.

Ohio	Ohio does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Oklahoma	Oklahoma does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Oregon	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Oregon.* **Statute**: [Oregon ORS 676.875](#) **Additional Information**: • Oregon has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must provide the health care facility with documentation showing the person has completed an educational program for surgical technologists accredited by a national accreditation organization approved by the Oregon Health Authority (CAAHEP or ABHES). • Applicants must also hold and maintain a surgical technologist certification issued by a nationally accredited certifying organization for surgical technologists (NBSTSA). • A few exceptions to these requirements are also available.
Pennsylvania	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Pennsylvania.* **Statute**: [2020 Act 80 – Central Service Technician and Surgical Technologist Regulation Act](#) **Additional Information**: • Pennsylvania has passed a law in 2020 related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must successfully complete a surgical technologist program that is nationally recognized or holds a programmatic accreditation. • Applicants must hold and maintain a surgical technologist certification from an accredited certification program.
Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Rhode Island	Rhode Island does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
South Carolina	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in South Carolina.* **Statute**: [§ 44-7-380 Surgical Technology and operating room circulators](#). **Additional Information**: • South Carolina has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must have successfully completed an accredited educational program for surgical technologists. • Applicants must hold and maintain the Surgical Technologist Certification administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA).

	• Graduates may practice for up to 3 months before completing certification by the NBSTSA.
South Dakota	South Dakota does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Tennessee	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Tennessee.* **Statute**: [§ 68-57 Surgical Technologists](#). **Additional Information**: • Tennessee has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must earn national certification from the NBSTSA. • Applicants must have completed a surgical technology program accredited by CAAHEP.
Texas	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Texas.* **Statute**: [Sec. 259.002 Requirements for Practicing Surgical Technology](#) **Additional Information**: • Texas has passed a law related to the education and certification of surgical technologists. • Applicants must provide evidence that they have successfully completed a CAAHEP-accredited or nationally accredited educational program **AND** hold and maintain certification as a Certified Surgical Technologist (NBSTSA) or another surgical technologist certification program. • The [Texas State Assembly of Association of Surgical Technologists](#) has additional information and resources for surgical technicians in Texas.
Utah	Utah does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Vermont	Vermont does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
Virgin Islands	Virgin Islands does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. ([More information](#))
[Virginia](#)	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Virginia.* **Board**: [Virginia Board of Medicine](#). **Contact**: 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, VA 23233-1463. Phone: 804-367-4600. Email: [medbd@dhp.virginia.gov](#). **Statute**: [§54.1-2956.12. Registered Surgical Technologist; use of title; registration](#) **Additional Information**: • To use the title "surgical technologist", applicants must register with the Board. • To register, the applicant must present satisfactory evidence that they hold a current certification from the NBSTSA, • AND has successfully completed an accredited surgical technologist training program. • [Application information](#). • [Online application](#).
[Washington](#)	**Statement**: *The SLCC Surgical Technology program meets educational requirements in Washington.* **Board**: [Washington State Department of Health](#).

Contact: 111 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501. Phone: 360-236-4700. Email: hsqa.csc@doh.wa.gov.
Statute: RCW 18.215 Surgical Technologists.
Regulation: WAC 246-939 Surgical Technologist Program.
Additional Information:
- Washington requires registration for surgical technologists. Certification is not required for the registry.
- Application and additional forms.
- Applicants must submit a fingerprint-based background check.

West Virginia

West Virginia does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)

Wisconsin

Wisconsin does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)

Wyoming

Wyoming does not require certification for surgical technologists at this time. (More information)

∗ **Please Note**: It is common for employers to have additional requirements beyond state-set mandates. Please verify with potential employers for specific practice requirements within their institution.