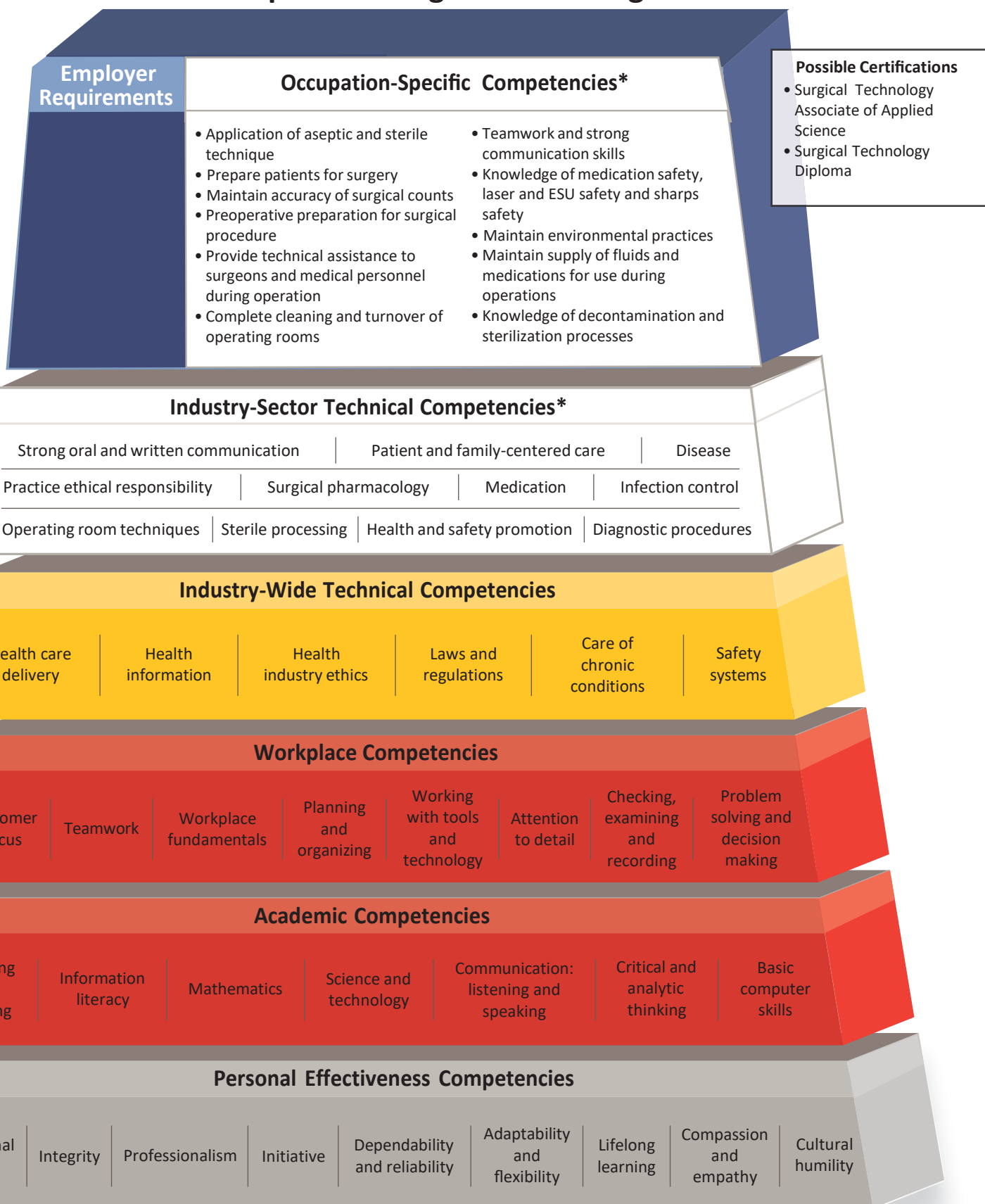


Minnesota Dual-Training Pipeline Competency Model for Health Care Services Occupation: Surgical Technologist



Based on: Health: Allied Health Competency Model Employment and Training Administration, United States Department of Labor, December 2011.

* Pipeline recommends the Industry-Sector Technical Competencies as formal training opportunities (provided through related instruction) and the Occupation-Specific Competencies as on-the-job training opportunities.



Competency Model for Health Care Services

Surgical Technologist – assist in operations, under the supervision of surgeons, registered nurses, or other surgical personnel. May help set up operating room, prepare and transport patients for surgery, adjust lights and equipment, pass instruments and other supplies to surgeons and surgeon assistants, hold retractors, cut sutures, and help count sponges, needles, supplies, and instruments.

Occupation-Specific Competencies*

- Application of aseptic and sterile technique – maintain a proper sterile field during surgical procedures.
- Prepare patients for surgery – correct patient identification, surgical site and procedure.
- Maintain accuracy of surgical counts – Prepare necessary instrumentation and equipment for surgical case. Proper care, handling and use of instrumentation.
- Preoperative preparation for surgical procedure – assist surgical team to gown and glove. Perform in scrub and first assistant role.
- Provide technical assistance to surgeons and medical personnel during operation – to facilitate the safe and effective application of technologies.
- Complete cleaning and turnover of operating rooms – can be a complex task where numerous resources must be synchronized in order to achieve efficiency.
- Teamwork and strong communication skills – working closely and cooperatively with peers while communicating effectively produce positive results.
- Knowledge of medication safety, laser and ESU safety and sharps safety – utilizing the latest technology and clinical guidelines for safe usage.
- Maintain environmental practices – implement steps to reduce the impact of surgery on the environment while not compromising quality of care.
- Maintain supply of fluids and medications for use during operations – while maintaining a proper sterile field during surgical procedures.
- Knowledge of decontamination and sterilization processes – cleaning and disinfecting surgical instruments according to established healthcare facility protocols.

Industry-Sector Technical Competencies*

- Strong oral and written communication – The ability to exchange information in writing, speaking, and listening, cognizance of both verbal and non-verbal communication.
- Patient and family-centered care – training in the human values necessary to implement patient and family-centered care.
- Disease – Any deviation from or interruption of the normal structure or function of any body part, organ, or system.
- Infection control – Understand and practice infection control to ensure a sanitary environment for clients. Knowledge of gowning and gloving, waste disposal and infection containment procedures.
- Medication – Understanding of medication classifications, usages, and side effects.
- Surgical pharmacology – How drugs and medications used in surgery treat patients and the effects of these substances.
- Practice ethical responsibility – Understand principles of medical ethics and how they apply in professional standards.
- Operating room techniques – Ability to provide technical assistance to surgeons, surgical nurses, anesthesiologists and other medical team during surgery.
- Sterile processing – cleaning and sterilization of devices used in medical procedures.
- Health and safety promotion – Proficiency with what constitutes good health, and how to access support and service to maintain/return good health.
- Diagnostic procedures – Knowledge of medical tests performed to detect, diagnose, or monitor diseases and determine a course of treatment.

*The PIPELINE Program recommends the Industry-Sector Technical Competencies as formal training opportunities (provided through related instruction) and the Occupation-Specific Competencies as on-the-job training opportunities.

Possible Certifications:

Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science

Surgical Technology Diploma

Surgical Technologist Training Plan

	List Course/Training Name and Title	Description of Courses and/or Training Program	List Responsible Provider: Company, College, Trainer, or other	Anticipated Completion Date
Related Instruction Competencies				
Strong Oral and Written Comprehension				
Patient and Family-Centered Care				
Disease				
Infection Control				
Medication				
Surgical Pharmacology				
Practice Ethical Responsibility				
Operating Room Techniques				
Sterile Processing				
Health and Safety Promotion				
Diagnostic Procedures				

On-The-Job Training Competencies				
Application of Aseptic and Sterile Technique				
Prepare Patients for Surgery				
Maintain Accuracy of Surgical Counts				
Preoperative Preparation for Surgical Procedure				
Provide Technical Assistance to Surgeons and Medical Personnel during Operation				
Complete Cleaning and Turnover of Operating Rooms				
Teamwork and Strong Communications Skills				
Knowledge of Medication Safety, Laser and ESU Safety and Sharps Safety				
Maintain Environmental Practices				
Maintains Supplies of Fluids and Medications for use during Operations				
Knowledge of Decontamination and Sterilization Processes				