

# College of Southern Idaho

## Surgical First Assisting Program

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Students who want to advance from a certificate of completion in Surgical First Assisting (SFA) to AAS degree must meet our college transfer guidelines as well as our programmatic advance degree applicant guidelines.

**1. To qualify as a CSI student who would like to advance their technical certificate to AAS degree students must:**

- Have a current certificate is Surgical First Assisting
- Have a current certification in Surgical First Assisting
- Have a transfer of credit GPA of 3.2
- Have a course pass rate of 85% or higher
  - To get this number look at your transcripts and find the number of credits earned divide that number by the number of credits attempted. This number must be equal to or higher than 85% to qualify for our program.

2. If your GPA and course pass rate qualify you for our program go to #3 below.

**3. Is your current college or existing certificate/college transfer credits from a REGIONALLY Accredited College (i.e. was the college regionally accredited at the time when you earned your credits/credential)? (If not please skip to #4 below)**

If your answer is yes you will need to submit the following admission documents - documents are hyperlinked to our website or you may visit the site and download the documents at

[http://hshs.csi.edu/surgical\\_firstAssist/](http://hshs.csi.edu/surgical_firstAssist/)

- Apply for admission [to the College of Southern Idaho online at: https://mycsi.csi.edu/ics](https://mycsi.csi.edu/ics)
- Complete the [application to the College of Southern Idaho Surgical First Assisting Program \(SFA\)](#)
- A completed [SFA skills checklist](#)
- A copy of your official transcripts
- Document confirming graduation was from a **CAAHEP accredited program** and the year of accreditation
- A copy of your Current National SFA Certification
- A letter of reference from current surgical employer
- Two letters of reference from surgeons for whom you have assisted (they must be from different surgical specialties)

CSI accepts transfer credits from postsecondary institutions accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. However, each student's transcript is evaluated on an individual basis.

Students interested in continuing their education to obtain an AAS in Surgical First Assisting should follow these steps:

Please contact Carrie Nutsch at [cnutsch@csi.edu](mailto:cnutsch@csi.edu) or call 1-208-732-6715 for further information

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- a. Contact the institution from which you received the credits and request an **Official Transcript** to be mailed to:

College of Southern Idaho  
Admissions and Records  
P. O. Box 1238  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

- b. Admissions and Records will notify you when they have received these documents and evaluated your credits.
- c. You may address any questions about this process directly to the Admission and Records staff at 208-732-6795. Please remember that the beginning of each semester is a “peak” time for transfer students and there may be an extended wait if you procrastinate. So, the sooner the better!

A maximum total of 70 lower-division credits will normally be accepted for transfer however you must transfer with a Grade Point Average of 2.0 and MUST have passed the following courses with a C or better, and from a regionally accredited school.

To earn an Associate of Applied Science degree at CSI students must meet the SFA program’s education requirements which include:

	Credits
COMM 101 Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
*ENGL 101 English Composition*	3
*MATH GE Any Gen Ed Math Course	3
PSYC 101 General Psychology	3
ALLH 101 Medical Terminology	2
**BIOL 227 Human Anatomy & Physiology 1+ <b>lab</b>	4
**BIOL 228 Human Anatomy & Physiology 2 + <b>lab</b>	4
PHYA 151 Stress Management	1
*MEDA 220 Human Diseases	3
*SUFA 251 Technical Microbiology	2
*SUFA 287 First Assisting Techniques	2
*SUFA 288 Surgical Pharmacology	3
*SUFA 291 Surgical Complications	3
*SUFA 293 Wound Closure techniques	3
*SUFA 295CSurgical First Assisting Clinic	8
*SURT 101 Surgical Concepts	3
*SURT 105 Surgical Techniques	5
SURT 110 Leadership for Surgical Tech	2
*SURT 140 Beginning Surgical Procedures	3
*SURT 160 Advanced Surgical Procedures	3
3 credits of General Education Electives	3

**Students must take the last 15 credits from CSI.**

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### **AAS degrees don't always transfer to other Universities.**

If you are interested in earning an **Associate of Liberal Arts Degree** (which will transfer) you will need to include in your course work:

- 36 General education courses (you can transfer some in)
- 6 credits of Humanities courses
- 6 credits of Social Science (in 2 separate disciplines)
- 2 credits PE
- 3 credits of English 102

If you are interested in earning an **Associate of Science Degree** (which will transfer) you will need to include in your course work:

- 36 General education courses (you can transfer some in)
- 6 credits of Humanities courses
- 6 credits of Social Science (in 2 separate disciplines)
- 3 credits of English 102

Students must complete the general education courses listed above AND all of the following: **(These courses MUST be taken from our program to earn the AAS degree)** the courses listed below will **ONLY** be taught online during the semester listed. **Please plan accordingly.**

- |                    |  |                  |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| ○ <b>SUFA 288</b>  | <b>Technical Microbiology (spring semester)</b>                    | <b>2 credits</b> |
| ○ <b>SUFA 293L</b> | <b>Wound Closure online (fall semester)</b>                        | <b>2 credits</b> |
| ○ <b>SUFA 288</b>  | <b>Surgical Pharmacology (fall semester)</b>                       | <b>2 credits</b> |
| ○ <b>MEDA 220</b>  | <b>Human Diseases (fall &amp; summer semesters)</b>                | <b>3 credits</b> |
| ○ <b>SURT 110</b>  | <b>Leadership<br/>for surgical technologists (spring semester)</b> | <b>2 credits</b> |
| ○ <b>PHYA 151</b>  | <b>Stress Management (fall semester)</b>                           | <b>1 credit</b>  |

If you have taken courses as part of a professional technical program but not from a regionally accredited college or University, you may choose to apply for [Credit by exam](#) (or CLEP) for select coursework.

CSI accepts subject matter CLEP scores for equivalent courses. If the score submitted is at or above the approved score, students can receive credit for the equivalent course(s). The subject matter examination will show the corresponding CSI course number and title. Students are assessed a fee for each CLEP test taken, as well as a CSI testing fee.

CLEP tests are administered by the CSI Testing Center. Please direct questions to the CSI Testing Center: [campustesting@csi.edu](mailto:campustesting@csi.edu) (208) 732-6532. Students can request CLEP scores by contacting:

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### [CLEP Transcript Service](#)

**P.O. Box 6600**

**Princeton NJ 08541-6600**

**(609) 771-7865**

[clep@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:clep@info.collegeboard.org)

**Credits for SFA program coursework that may be accepted are listed below.** For a complete listing of CSI approved CLEP examination listing visit [this website](#). <http://clep.collegeboard.org/about/score>

### **CLEP Examination and CSI Equivalent Courses**

<b>CLEP Examination</b>	<b>Equivalent Course(s)</b>
American Literature	ENGL 277-278
Composition Modular, College	ENGL 101-102
English Literature	ENGL 267-268
Algebra	MATH 143
Biology	BIOL 201
Chemistry	CHEM 111
Trigonometry	MATH 144
French, Level 1	FREN 101-102
French, Level 2	FREN 101-102 & 201-202
Spanish, Level 1	SPAN 101-102
Spanish, Level 2	SPAN 101-102 & 201-202
American Government	POLS 101
History of the US 1: Early Colonization's to 1877	HIST 111
History of the US 2: 1865 to the Present	HIST 112
Macroeconomics, Principles of	ECON 201
Microeconomics, Principles of	ECON 202
Psychology, Introductory	PSYC 101
Sociology, Introductory	SOCY 101
Western Civilization 1: Ancient Near East to 1648	HIST 101
Western Civilization 2: 1648 to the Present	HIST 102

In order to satisfy the 15 credit rule students may take any CSI courses but are required to work closely with the SFA instructor to make an academic plan.

**4. If your current college or existing certificate/college is NOT A REGIONALLY Accredited college, your process will be different from the one listed above.**

National accreditation is not the same as REGIONAL accreditation.

The following is a list of regional accrediting agencies:

- [Middle States, Association of Colleges and Schools](#)

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- [New England Association of Schools and Colleges](#)
- [North Central Association of Colleges and Schools](#)
- [Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities](#)
- [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#)
- [Western Association of Schools and Colleges; Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges](#)

Follow these steps:

- Apply for admission [to the College of Southern Idaho online at: https://mycsi.csi.edu/ics](https://mycsi.csi.edu/ics)
- Complete the [application to the College of Southern Idaho Surgical First Assisting Program \(SFA\)](#)
- After notification of acceptance by the program manager or program instructor you will need to enroll in **INSS 288 Portfolio Development** course for 1 credit at CSI. In this course you will be submitting a portfolio and have the opportunity to earn up to 12 [credits for prior learning](#) (CPL). You will be working closely with the program instructor. Information on the INSS Portfolio Development course is listed below.
- You may still submit CLEP scores if you desire.

*Credit for prior learning will provide the opportunity to earn 12 credit hours (1/4 of the 64 required program credits or 12 total) based on skills you learned from your existing/previous Certificate of Completion and demonstrated through the portfolio process. These credits will cost 20% of the CSI Idaho resident tuition for each credit earned through CPL. **Currently (as of March 16, 2012) this will be \$22 per credit. This fee is subject to change. For current tuition and fees please visit <http://www.csi.edu/tuition>.***

***These credits will not contribute to the 15 credits required for graduation from CSI.***

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**INSS 288 Portfolio Development** - after receiving permission from the [course instructor](#), an assigned Portfolio Evaluation Team will establish the method by which the student will demonstrate subject matter competency (the portfolio requirements are listed below).

A student may earn up to 1/4 of the credits required for a certificate or degree through the CPL method. Students are assessed 20% of the CSI Idaho resident tuition for each credit acquired by CPL. Credits earned in this manner may count toward the credit requirements for graduation, a grade of “P” (P=Pass) is given.

Your portfolio will include:

- The INSS application form
- A completed [SFA skills checklist](#)
- A copy of your official transcripts (or certificate) confirming year of SFA graduation and coursework
- Document confirming SFA graduation was from a **CAAHEP accredited program** and the year of accreditation
- A copy of your Current National SFA Certification

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- A letter of reference from current surgical employer
- Two letters of reference from surgeons for whom you have assisted (they must be from different surgical specialties)
- A list of Continued Education Credits completed since your Certification Exam
- A document with a list of all documented procedures scrubbed as a SFA in the past 2 years verified by either the physicians you assisted for OR by your employer

**To clarify our terminology and the policy:**

**[College-Level Examination Program \(CLEP\) \(From the 2011-2012 CSI Catalog page 26\)](#)**

**[CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING \(From the 2011-2012 CSI Catalog page 26\)](#)**

For more information about College policies and procedures visit the CSI Catalog:  
<http://www.csi.edu/catalog/>.