Surgical First Assisting Program

Growing Through Excellence

Carrie Nutsch, LPN, CST
208.732.6715
cnutsch@csi.edu

College of Southern Idaho
Surgical First Assisting Program

Health Sciences & Human Services Building
397 North College Road • PO Box 1238
Twin Falls ID 83303-1238
Why the Surgical First Assisting program at CSI?

You do not have to leave home to attend clinical! Students must be able to secure clinical sites in their home town or state with an approved surgeon as a preceptor.

The Surgical First Assistant program is an advanced level course for experienced operating room professionals who wish to become surgical assistants.

As defined by the American College of Surgeons, the surgical assistant provides aid in exposure, hemostasis, and other intraoperative technical functions that will assist the surgeon to carry out a safe operation with optimal results for the patient.

This role will vary based on the surgical operation, specialty area, and type of facility.

This is an Associate of Applied Science program, with very strong career placement options.

Surgical First Assisting Associate of Applied Science

Required Courses
- 3 credits: Computer Literacy (prerequisite)
- 2 credits: Medical Terminology (prerequisite)
- 8 credits: Human Anatomy and Physiology (prerequisite)
- 3 credits: English Composition 1 (prerequisite)
- 3 credits: General Psychology
- 3 credits: Any General Education Math
- 3 credits: Fundamentals of Oral Communication

MEDA 220 Human Diseases
- 2 credits

SUFA 251 Technical Microbiology
- 2 credits

SUFA 288 Surgical Pharmacology
- 2 credits

SUFA 289 Anesthesia Methods and Agents
- 2 credits

SUFA 290 Applied Bioscience
- 4 credits

SUFA 291 Surgical Complications
- 2 credits

SUFA 292 Principles of First Assisting Lab
- 0 credits

SUFA 292 Principles of First Assisting
- 2 credits

SUFA 293-L Wound Closure Techniques
- 2 credits

SUFA 295-C General Surgical Procedures
- 4 credits

SUFA 296-C Orthopedic Surgical Procedures
- 4 credits

SUFA 297-C OB/GYN Surgical Procedures
- 4 credits

SUFA 298-C Specialty Surgical Procedures
- 4 credits

Program Entry Requirement
- Prospective students must possess a working knowledge of operating room fundamentals including knowledge and practice of aseptic principles and technique.
- Students must have at least 1 year of documented current scrub experience in the Operating room.
- RN, LPN and CNOR must hold certification in Surgical Technology or meet evaluation criteria. This program is available through the College of Southern Idaho or an accelerated program can be found on the ARC-STSA web site: http://arcs.org/pdfs/AADApprovedPrograms.pdf
- Completed application to the program
- College Transcripts (unofficial)
- Certification or Registration #
- RN and LPN/LVN: must be licensed in the state of your clinical rotations
- Current CPR/BLS certification
- Current health and immunization records
- Ability to be employed as a surgical first assistant including drug testing and background testing etc.

Current tuition and fees for the Surgical First Assisting program can be found at: http://www.csi.edu/tuition/

College of Southern Idaho policies and standards for enrollment can be found at: www.csi.edu

Application to the program and information on accreditation status can be accessed at: http://hshs.csi.edu/surgical_firstAssist/

For further information please contact:
Carrie Nutsch, LPN, CST
Instructor, Surgical First Assisting
Health Sciences & Human Services Building
397 North College Road • PO Box 1238
Twin Falls ID 83303-1238
208.732.6715
cnutsch@csi.edu