



Sterile Processing Technician

Sterile processing technicians (SPT) play a critical role in keeping patients healthy by ensuring medical instrumentation and equipment is sterile. Their work helps patients avoid infections while receiving treatment. They also maintain the functionality and inventory of healthcare and surgical equipment.

The SPT can work in a sterile processing department and central service department in a variety of healthcare facilities, including hospitals, dental or eye care practices, plastic surgery offices, surgery centers and laboratories. You will contribute to a team of sterile processing technicians who are all working together to maintain sterilization and storage.



Trusted. Respected. Preferred.

Sterile Processing Technician Course Outline

Career Prep Sequence					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CSK 100	Study Skills	15			1.0
CAT 150	Anatomy, Physiology, and Terminology	55			3.5
CCB 100	Computer Basics		15		0.5
CMF 95	Math Fundamentals	20			1.0
CHS 100	CPR & First Aid	10	5		0.5
Career Prep Sequence Total		100	20		6.5
Professional Sequence I					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CSP 100	Principles and Practices of Sterile Processing	30			2.0
CSP 105	Surgical Instruments	30	30		3.0
CSP 110	Microbiology and Infection Control	30			2.0
Professional Sequence I Total		90	30		7.0
Professional Sequence II					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CSP 120	Sterilization Procedures and Practice	45	45		4.5
CSP 130	Storage and Distribution	15	15		1.5
Professional Sequence II Total		60	60		6.0
Professional Sequence III					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CSP 115	Surgical Terminology	30			2.0
CSP 140	Decontamination Procedures and Practice	30	45		3.5
CSP 150	Medical Equipment	15			1.0
Professional Sequence III Total		75	45		6.5
Externship					
Course #	Course	Theory	Lab	Extern	Credits
CSP 180	Externship			400	8.5
CSP 190	Certification Review	20			1.0
Externship Total		20		400	9.5
PROGRAM TOTALS		345	155	400	35.5

What You Will Learn

During your nine-month SPT program, you will learn microbiology and infection control, the principles and practices of sterile processing and decontamination procedures. Our real-world lab and experienced instructors will prepare you for the CRCST exam offered by the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA), externship and career.

Job Outlook

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of the sterile processing technician is projected to grow 6 percent nationally, faster than average from 2023 to 2033.*

Employment

Pima Medical Institute’s SPT certificate program will prepare you to work on a team that maintains sterilization of all instrumentation and equipment – a vital part of maintaining patient safety. You will prepare and assemble equipment, take inventory and order equipment as needed. In addition, you will help provide information to staff about any equipment defects and ensure that all equipment is used before its sterilization expiration date.

* Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Medical Equipment Preparers, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/about/data-for-occupations-not-covered-in-detail.htm#Healthcare> support occupations. (visited December 9, 2024).



- Hands-on training
- Financial aid if qualified
- Career planning services