

# TECHNICAL STANDARDS

## Sterile Processing Technician

In this program grouping, students should be able to meet specific technical standards, which are the essential skills and abilities needed to be successful in a program, with or without reasonable accommodation. It is important to review and understand these standards before applying to the program. All Technical Standards documents are available for review on the Mid-State Technical College website. (Go to <https://www.mstc.edu/programs> and select the program.)

**This document should be reviewed prior to applying to the program.**

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made to ensure access to academic programs, activities, services, and employment in accordance with Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended. If accommodations are needed, contact the Disability Services coordinator at 888.575.6782, TTY 711, at least two weeks in advance of needed assistance. Services available are documented at <https://www.mstc.edu/student-services/disability-services>.

For more information, please see Mid-State Technical College's Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Policy.

| STANDARD                 | DEFINITION OF STANDARD   | EXAMPLE(S) OF TECHNICAL STANDARD   |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Critical Thinking Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to demonstrate critical thinking, problem-solving, and the decision-making ability.</li><li>• Ability to establish and prioritize tasks according to needs of the department.</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performing closing counts while prioritizing sterile team members' request.</li></ul>  |
| Mobility/Motor Skills    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to bend, stretch, twist, or reach with your body, hands, and arms.</li><li>• Ability to make precisely coordinated movements of the fingers of one or both hands to grasp retractors, manipulate, or assemble instrument parts with good hand-eye coordination.</li><li>• Ability to stand in one spot for an extensive amount of time.</li><li>• Ability to lift surgical instrument trays.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lengthy procedures that often require abstinence from nourishment and restroom breaks while standing in one confined area.</li><li>• Lifting heavy instrument caskets.</li><li>• Moving equipment.</li><li>• Transferring patients from stretcher to Operating Room (OR) bed and back.</li></ul> |
| Tactile Skills           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to assemble instruments/retractors.</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Passing instruments to multiple sterile personnel while holding retractor(s).</li><li>• Passing instrumentation and supplies to sterile team members.</li></ul>  |

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| Auditory Skills      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to hear and understand communication without visualization of the person's mouth and lips.</li><li>• Ability to tolerate noisy environment.</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Able to hear others with use of a mask.</li></ul>  |
| Visual Skills        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to detect warning signals on equipment.</li><li>• Ability to see the equipment and instruments with or without corrective lenses and wearing safety glasses.</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visualizing hair-thin suture and micro-needles to maintain correct counts during procedure.</li><li>• Visualizing hand signals during surgery.</li></ul> |
| Communication Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to communicate verbally, nonverbally, in writing, with groups and using information technology.</li><li>• Ability to interpret and convey information gathered from communications.</li><li>• Ability to discuss and ask questions.</li><li>• Ability to convey information in a clear, professional, and timely manner.</li><li>• Ability to listen and respond to others in an accepting and respectful manner.</li><li>• Ability to read and identify equipment and instruments.</li><li>• Ability to read and understand all sterile processing procedures and manuals.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading and creating medication labels.</li><li>• Communication with fellow team members.</li></ul>  |
| Interpersonal Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to establish effective relationship with staff and peers.</li><li>• Ability to show respect for diverse populations.</li><li>• Ability to establish a professional working rapport with hospital/clinic personnel and a variety of other departmental staff as well as patients.</li><li>• Ability to exhibit positive interpersonal skills staff and faculty interactions.</li><li>• Ability to demonstrate appropriate problem-solving skills and professional level of maturity.</li><li>• Ability to demonstrate good team building skills.</li></ul>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to listen to others and determine their wants and needs and respond quickly.</li></ul>   |
| Behavioral Skills    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to tolerate exposure to a wide range of chemical and biological agents that could be potentially harmful.</li><li>• Ability to tolerate temperature changes. (e.g., extreme heat/steam and cold)</li><li>• Ability to work independently.</li><li>• Ability to wear personal, protective equipment for safe practices (e.g., masks, eyewear etc.).</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surgical conscience.</li></ul>   |

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Mid-State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its program, activity, or employment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Vice President – Human Resources; 500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494; 715.422.5325 • AAEO@mstc.edu.