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**Johnstown** is located in the Laurel Highlands, nestled in the western slopes of the Allegheny Mountains in western Pennsylvania. The breathtaking scenery and fascinating history offer a unique combination of fun and education. The Johnstown Inclined Plane is the steepest vertical, vehicular incline in the world. The view oversees the downtown city of Johnstown.

The Laurel Highlands region, with its forests, mountains, lakes and rivers, abounds in recreational opportunities during all seasons. Four ski resorts, a dozen hiking trails, including the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Trail, 15 miles of cross-country skiing trails in the Laurel Mountains, boating, fishing, swimming, snowmobiling and additional outdoor activities are available. Johnstown offers a wealth of cultural and sporting activities, including the All American Amateur Baseball Association (AAABA) championship tournament and the Sunnehanna Amateur Golf Tournament, and was named Kraft Hockeyville USA in 2015.

Entertainment and historical opportunities are abundant in Johnstown and its surrounding area. The Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown is the home of the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra. Additional entertainment is available from the Johnstown Youth Symphony, the Johnstown Symphony Chorus, the Johnstown Concert Ballet and the big band sound of the Johnstown Jazz Workshop.

Local theaters, with summer stock and local performers, include the Allegheny Highlands Regional Theatre, the Mountain Playhouse, the Penn Wood Players, and St. Vincent College Theater. Johnstown's Community Arts Center caters to painters and craftspeople with specialties such as watercolor, woodcarving, calligraphy, and photography. The Center features an annual fair, Log House Arts Festival, Holly Bazaar, and Festival of Trees.

The work of both local and national artists is highlighted in exhibits at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art on the Saint Francis University campus in Loretto, PA, and The Johnstown Art Museum. The Pasquerilla Conference Center near the Cambria County War Memorial Arena hosts numerous conferences, as well as city, state, and national events. In addition, the Point Stadium and Cambria County War Memorial Arena host sporting events and concerts.

The Flight 93 Memorial where 40 passengers and crew lost their lives while stopping an attack on the United States Capitol on September 11, 2001 is within close driving distance.

## **Program for Surgical Technology**

The Certificate Program for Surgical Technology at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center was established in 1966. The Program has been engaged in a joint venture with the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown since 1998.

Enrolled students may earn a Certificate in Surgical Technology from Conemaugh Memorial and an Associate or Bachelor of Science Degree from Pitt Johnstown. This association was undertaken as a result of the July 1990 resolution of the Association of Surgical Technologists that declared the Associate Degree as the preferred model for the entry level for surgical practice. The basic Certificate Program offered at Conemaugh Memorial was enhanced and now includes college level Anatomy & Physiology, Psychology and Microbiology courses. The Associate Degree-Certificate Program also provides academic enhancement by including courses in writing, algebra and distribution of studies courses (electives).

Students register for courses in Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology and Microbiology at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (transfer of equivalent courses is also possible) prior to entrance into the Hospital Program. The faculty teach Operating Room Techniques, Pharmacology and Clinical Practicum Classes at Conemaugh Memorial.

Students receive a certificate from the Conemaugh program and a degree upon graduation from Pitt Johnstown. Graduates who earn both the Associate (or higher) degree from Pitt Johnstown and the certificate from Conemaugh Memorial's Program are eligible to take the certifying examination of the National Board of Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). All graduates must earn both the certificate and the Associate Degree or higher from Pitt Johnstown, to sit for the exam (an exception allows those who have an acceptable Associate Degree prior to entrance in the Program to also sit for the exam, until the classes that start after August 1, 2024). All graduates are eligible for employment at hospitals throughout the country. The state of PA now requires that Surgical Technologists graduate from accredited programs, pass a certification exam and maintain 30 approved continuing education credits (per two years or be grandfathered). The CMMC Classes of 2008 thru 2018, 2020, 2021 and 2022 all had a 100% pass rate of the certifying exam as have most of the past

## **Program Student Learning Outcomes**

A graduate of the Surgical Technology Program will:

- 1. Provide care in a responsible, accountable manner and within ethical-legal dimensions.
- 2. Relate principles of asepsis to the surgical setting.
- 3. Utilize the principals of Surgical Technology to meet the needs of the surgical patient in the OR, Ambulatory Surgery Unit, Conemaugh East Hills outpatient center, GI Lab, Cardiac Cath Lab and Post Anesthesia Care Unit.
- 4. Organize the sterile surgical field to provide safe and efficient surgical care to the patient.
- 5. Performs with knowledge, skills, and affective behaviors of a competent entry-level Surgical Technologist.
- 6. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication methods necessary for the profession.

## **Equal Opportunity Policy**

The Program for Surgical Technology is committed to equal opportunity in education to all applicants, on the basis of one's qualifications to perform the essential functions of a job, with or without a reasonable accommodation without discrimination by race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, status as a veteran or any other status legally protected by federal, state or local law in its educational admission policies, enrollment policies, student activities and services. Any issue should be reported to the Program Director. Conemaugh Memorial will make a reasonable accommodation to known physical or mental limitations of a qualified applicant with a disability unless the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the facility.

deemed appropriate. Legal sanctions, under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act or comparative legislation, may include probation, fines or imprisonment.

Each applicant is required to have a pre-entrance physical health examination completed at the Employee Health Office at CMMC. Students should provide an updated immunization record at the time of their physical that should show documentation of two MMR, two Varicella, T-dap, and COVID vaccines. All student are required to have blood titers drawn in order to determine immunity for Hepatitis B – Hepatitis B Surface Antibody. If an immunization record is not available or up to date, blood titers will be drawn also for rubella IGG, rubeola IGG, and varicella

be considered to meet the intent of the standard until after August 1, 2024 start date, when the full curriculum will be required.

## Curriculum Plan at Pitt Johnstown Curriculum Plan at Conemaugh Memorial

15 hours of theory = 1 college credit 15 hours of theory = 1 credit

30 hours of lab = 1 college credit 45 hours of clinical practice = 1 credit

45 hours of clinical practice = 1 college credit

### First Year, Fall Term at Pitt Johnstown

*	Anatomy & Physiology with lab	4 credits
*	Introduction to Psychology	3 credits
**	DOS	6 credits
**	English Composition / Writing	3 credits

### First Year, Spring Term at Pitt Johnstown

*	Anatomy & Physiology II with lab	4 credits
**	Algebra I	3 credits
*	Medical Microbiology	3 credits
*	Medical Microbiology Lab	1 credit
**	DOS	3 credits

#### Second Year, Fall Term at C

# **Pitt Johnstown Course Descriptions**

Pitt

## **Admission Requirements**

Applicants for the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown must meet Pitt Johnstown's admission standards. Please refer to Pitt Johnstown Catalog for specifics. It is recommended that the student apply to the Conemaugh Memorial Program for Surgical Technology after completion of at least two of the four prerequisite courses. Applicants must complete the required prerequisite courses (Anatomy I, II, Microbiology and Psychology) with a grade point average of at least 2.0 with no failures accepted, before entering the Program for Surgical Technology. Since enrollment is limited, selection is based on interview, class rank, and letters of reference, academic achievement, health and criminal clearances (as required by hospital policy). Provisional admission status may be granted under special circumstances at the discretion of the Admissions Committee. Pr2P6gec q0h4(ci)5(r)7(cums)9(t)-ce m4(cl)n(ad that,

loaned books and equipment. ID badge and car security tag must be returned to the Program Director.

#### Readmission

A student who withdraws voluntarily or involuntarily from the Program may apply to a future class. The student must follow admission protocol. The decision rests with the Admissions Committee.

## **Typical Demands of the Program**

Surgical Technology students, under supervision, perform essentially the same activities as Certified Surgical Technologists in the clinical setting. The following are physical activities required in nursing and surgical technology and are considered in the medium duty category, as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Students may be required to:

Stand for prolonged periods, possibly up to 6 or 8 hours.

Function without nourishment for periods, extending to 6 to 8 hours.

Lift (50 lbs. est.), pull and carry (50 lbs. est.), push (300 lbs. estimate)

Thread a needle with a thread that is smaller than a human hair.

Assemble delicate equipment.

Your hearing must fall within normal ranges, with, or without corrective aids.

**Speaking:** The Surgical Technologists (ST) must clearly speak the English language to elicit information, communicate changes in patient status and interact with health team members. Assertiveness skills are encouraged and are reinforced by lectures, and role-play.

**Hearing**: A normal range of hearing is required for the ST to communicate effectively. The ST listens with a stethoscope in the performance of blood pressure assessment and must be able to detect mechanical alarms and effectively participate in group discussions and phone conversations. The ST must often respond to auditory requests without visual cues.

**Vision**: The ST must read written communication, monitor equipment and prepare medications. The ST must also be able to handle sutures and needles thinner than a human hair. Depth Perception: This is required for fine task performance when using medical supplies for insertion into the body.

**Fine Motor Skills**: The ST must be able to write clearly and precisely with a pen. In the performance of certain procedures, grasping and control of medical equipment is necessary.

**Tactile Sensation**: The ST must be able to feel vibration and distinguish temperature changes and must be able to grasp and manipulate equipment when providing patient care.

**Walking / Standing**: Walking and standing for extensive periods are required of the Surgical Technologist. During some operations, the ST must stand on stools.

Sitting: The ST is required to sit during certain operations and for long periods in

## **Smoke-Free Shift Policy**

The Conemaugh Health System has a Smoke-Free Shift Policy, which applies to students.

#### **Statement of Policy**

It is the policy of Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center to prohibit smoking as well as the use of smokeless tobacco by all physicians, employees, students, patients and visitors on all identified Conemaugh property. Smoking is not permitted during the school day. The use of tobacco products by physicians and employees on all identified Conemaugh Memorial property compromises the image of Conemaugh Memorial as a health care institution. As a leader in medicine and the community, Conemaugh Memorial has an obligation to its patients and to the public to strongly assert the risks of tobacco use. Establishment of a tobacco free environment makes such a statement. Patients have often expressed their concerns when they smell smoke on their caregiver. Visitors express their concern of the lingering smoke at building entrances. Seeing employees smoke or using tobacco in front of the Conemaugh Memorial campus buildings reflects negatively on us as a healthcare institution. The cigarette butts that frequent the sidewalks and parking lots are an eyesore, taking away from the beauty and cleanliness of our campus. Compliance with the policy will be monitored and disciplinary action will occur if violated.

#### **Dress Code**

Grooming and attire worn by individuals connected with the Program for Surgical Technology should reflect an image of respect and professionalism in an academic and hospital setting. Dress that is appropriate, modest and in good taste is expected on all Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center Campus areas. Students are to be properly groomed and hair clean. The student photo identification badge is to be worn at all times. Every impression made on patients and the public is a significant concern, regardless of department, location or assignment. At the discretion of the instructor/assigned staff, extremes in appearance or in attire will result in student dismissal from the learning experience. Repeated violation may result in program dismissal by the Director, Program for Surgical Technology.

**Photo ID Badge:** A Conemaugh Memorial photo identification badge is to be worn at all times. The ID badge is to be worn on the upper chest with photo and information visible. The badge is to be unadorned, except for gold stars and honor pins. Lack of an ID badge requires that a badge is immediately purchased from the Security department for a \$5 fee.

**Clinical Attire:** The clinical attire consists of Conemaugh Memorial Operating Room scrubs. Scrubs are available in the OR daily when the student is assigned to the clinical setting. The clinical shoes are required to be stored (clean) in the student's locker. Clean scrub jackets and the student's photo ID badge must be worn over OR scrubs when leaving the OR. Professional appearance is essential in patient care areas.

**Shoes:** Low heeled, leather or vinyl non-porous shoes are required in the OR. Backless shoes without a strap are not permitted. A0 0 1 72P 11.04 Tff1 0e

Conemaugh Health System • 1086 Franklin Street, Johnstown, PA 15905 • (814) 534-9000 • www.conemaughl

# **Educational Resources**

The Health Sciences Library serves Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center's medical staff, resident physicians, nurses,



Application Fee:

#### **Accreditations**

Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center's Certificate Program for Surgical Technology is accredited by The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon the recommendation of The Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA)

19751 East Main Street

Suite 339

Parker, CO 80138 Phone: 303-694-9262 info@arcstsa.org

The ARC/STSA Program ID # 2800

Accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

9355 – 113<sup>th</sup> Street, N, #7709 Seminole, Florida 33775 Phone: 727-210-2350

Fax: 727-210-2354 www.caahep.org

Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center is accredited by: Department of Public Welfare, Commonwealth of PA 1303 N Seventh Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110 Phone: 800-692-7462

The Joint Commission 1 Renaissance Blvd. Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 Phone: 630-792-5000 www.jointcommission.org

Conemaugh Health System is required by U.S. Department of Education regulations to provide its students and prospective students with contact information for any relevant state official or agency that would appropriately handle a student's complaint about Conemaugh's education programs. Students are encouraged to utilize Conemaugh's internal complaint policies and procedures prior to filing a complaint with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If a concern cannot be addressed through internal processes, students or prospective students may file a complaint with the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection (16th Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, PA 17120). Information about the Bureau of Consumer Protection's process for submitting consumer complaints can be found at <a href="https://www.attorneygeneral.gov">www.attorneygeneral.gov</a> or by calling 800-441-2555.

#### **Provision**