

2026 CERTIFIED SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST (CST) PROGRAM FAQ

General Program Overview

What is the CST Cohort Program?

St. Elizabeth Healthcare has partnered with UC Clermont to provide a professional development pathway for associates to become highly skilled members of a surgical team. Participants progress through the program together as a cohort, gaining expertise in sterile environments and surgical instrumentation.

What is the program structure?

- **Duration:** This is a 20-month program (approx. 62 credits) beginning in August.
- **Format:** The program includes didactic classroom instruction, laboratory work, and on-site clinical rotations at St. Elizabeth.
- **Accreditation:** The program is accredited by CAAHEP.

2026 Important Dates & Deadlines

When are the information sessions?

Attendance at one informational session is mandatory for admission consideration. All sessions are held at SETEC Classroom 2:

Date	Time	Location
Friday, Feb 13, 2026	8:00am – 9:00am	SETEC Classroom 2
Thursday, Feb 19, 2026	8:00am – 9:00am	SETEC Classroom 2
Thursday, Feb 19, 2026	4:00pm – 5:00pm	SETEC Classroom 2
Tuesday, Feb 24, 2026	4:00pm – 5:00pm	SETEC Classroom 2
Tuesday, March 3, 2026	8:00am – 9:00am	SETEC Classroom 2

When is the application deadline?

The deadline to submit all program materials is April 15, 2026.

Application & Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

- Current SEH associates with at least 6 months of tenure.
- Must work a minimum of 20 hours per week (40 hours biweekly).
- Overall GPA of 2.75 or higher.
- No Level II or III counseling or probation on file.

How do I apply?

- Complete the internal application (Qualtrics link provided at info sessions).
- Complete the UC Clermont application forms.
- Selection is based on your application and a meeting of the Selection Committee.

When will I be notified of results?

Selection notifications will be sent by May 15, 2026.

Costs & Commitment

What costs does St. Elizabeth cover?

St. Elizabeth Healthcare covers the cost of tuition.

What am I responsible for?

Associates are responsible for any pre-requisite courses, additional fees, textbooks, and personal expenses.

What is the post-program work commitment?

In exchange for tuition coverage, participants sign a scholarship agreement requiring:

- **Payback Period:** Two years of full-time employment (4,160 hours) as a CST at St. Elizabeth post-graduation.
- **Minimum Hours:** Must maintain at least 20 hours per week during the payback period.
- **Repayment:** If you withdraw or are terminated from the program, or leave employment early, you must repay the scholarship funds.

Next Steps

1. **Register:** Sign up for an info session through Healthstream (Search: "SEH UC Clermont Surgical Tech Info Session").
2. **Attend:** Join us at SETEC to review the full application process.
3. **Apply:** Submit all materials by the **April 15, 2026**, deadline.