

Program Information	Contact Information	Date Updated
Central Sterile Processing PHM-3002	Heather Carter Program Coordinator, Central Sterile Processing hcarter@forsythtech.edu	June 2025

This document is intended to guide your research on certification requirements for sterile processing technicians on a state-by-state basis, encompassing the United States and its territories.

Educational Preparation: Forsyth Technical Community College’s Central Sterile Processing program prepares students to work in hospital and clinical settings, where they are responsible for cleaning, sterilizing, and preparing surgical instruments and equipment. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for the Certified Registered Central Service Technician (CRCST) exam offered by the Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA), using HSPA-aligned instructional materials and textbooks.

Certification Requirements: There are currently no federal or state-mandated curriculum standards or accrediting bodies for sterile processing education in the United States. The primary requirement for CRCST certification is 400 hours of documented work experience, verified by an employer. Certification through HSPA or the Certification Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution (CBSPD) is not required in all states but is strongly preferred—and often required—by employers. As of now, certification is required for employment in Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee, with Florida, Massachusetts, and Minnesota considering similar legislation.

Additional Employer, State, or Territory Requirements: In most locations, employment requirements for sterile processing technicians are determined at the discretion of the employer. However, some states and U.S. territories may have additional requirements, such as continuing education, CPR certification, background checks, health screenings, additional training hours, or state-specific registration. Individuals are strongly encouraged to verify the most current expectations with potential employers and relevant state or territorial agencies.

[Forsyth Tech Website](#)

[Additional Resource - 1](#)

[Additional Resource - 2](#)

Disclaimer: It is crucial to acknowledge that laws and regulations in the field of Central Sterile Processing are subject to constant change. For the most current information and requirements, we strongly advise you to consult the specific state board or agency responsible for Central Sterile Processing licensure/certification.

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Alabama	✓	
Alaska	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
American Samoa	✓	
Arizona	✓	
Arkansas	✓	
California	✓	
Colorado	✓	
Connecticut	✓	
Delaware	✓	
District of Columbia	✓	
Florida	✓	
Georgia	✓	
Guam	✓	
Hawaii	✓	
Idaho	✓	
Illinois	✓	
Indiana	✓	
Iowa	✓	
Kansas	✓	
Kentucky	✓	
Louisiana	✓	
Maine	✓	
Maryland	✓	
Massachusetts	✓	
Michigan	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Minnesota	✓	
Mississippi	✓	
Missouri	✓	
Montana	✓	
Nebraska	✓	
Nevada	✓	
New Hampshire	✓	
New Jersey	✓	
New Mexico	✓	
New York	✓	
North Carolina	✓	
North Dakota	✓	
Northern Mariana Islands	✓	
Ohio	✓	
Oklahoma	✓	
Oregon	✓	
Pennsylvania	✓	
Puerto Rico	✓	
Rhode Island	✓	
South Carolina	✓	
South Dakota	✓	
Tennessee	✓	
Texas	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
US Virgin Islands	✓	
Utah	✓	
Vermont	✓	
Virginia	✓	
Washington	✓	
West Virginia	✓	
Wisconsin	✓	
Wyoming	✓	