Learning Assessment and Testing Services

Surgical Technology Program
Program Admission Testing Information

Entrance testing is a requirement for all candidates seeking admission to the Surgical Technology Program. All candidates are required to take the National League for Nursing’s Pre-admission test or PAX test.

How do I schedule an appointment for program admission testing?

- You need to schedule your appointment in person at the Learning Assessment and Testing Services Department, Sugar Grove campus. Individual appointments are available throughout the year, Monday through Saturday, limited times during the month of December. The tests are administered only at the Sugar Grove campus.
- A non-refundable fee of $40.00 is due at the time of initial test registration. You may reschedule your appointment only one time per the $40.00 fee.
- Allow at least two hours to complete the computerized PAX test.
- For testing accommodations for disabilities, please contact 630-466-5700 for further information.

What will be included in the Program Admission Test?

The PAX includes:
- Verbal (Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension) 40 minutes / 60 questions
- Math 40 minutes / 40 questions
- Science 40 minutes / 60 questions

What PAX test scores are required to meet the requirements for admission to the Surgical Technology Program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RN Percentile Rank</th>
<th>Composite Score</th>
<th>Verbal</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Use the RN percentile rank scores, not the PN scores listed below these scores.

How can I prepare for testing?

- A PAX Online Preparation Guide, purchased through your student account on the NLN website: [www.nlnonlinetesting.org](http://www.nlnonlinetesting.org) After you create an account and login, click on the Store tab. The cost is between $10 to $75.
- A PAX Paper study guide, the National League for Nursing’s Review Guide for RN Pre-Entrance Exam, ISBN# 9780763762711, is available in the Waubonsee libraries or at the bookstore. This guide is at no cost, however, it is not the most current or up-to-date version.
- The PAX online review is available through the Developmental Education and College Readiness Department at [https://www.waubonsee.edu/learning/academic-support/tutoring/index.php](https://www.waubonsee.edu/learning/academic-support/tutoring/index.php) or at: 630-466-5706.
- A simple four function or a TI-30X calculator will be provided for you to use for the entire test.
When will my results be available?

- You can log back in to your NLN account approximately **four hours** after you test to access your PAX scores. Your PAX scores will also be available on your mywcc portal within 2 to 3 days after you test. Also, The Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) does not permit providing scores over the telephone.

Can I retest?

- You are allowed to retest **one time only** for the PAX for a specific program. If you are changing programs, you must wait eight weeks from your last test date and you will have one initial test and one retest opportunity for the new program.
- **PAX:** You need to wait **eight weeks** from your initial test date to retest. The entire PAX test must be retaken (not just the sections with scores below minimum requirements). A $40.00 fee is required to retest.

How many times can I test?

- You can test twice in a lifetime for the Surgical Technology program. All prior NET test scores and expired PAX test scores are included in this count.
  For example:
  a) If you tested in 2007 with the NET test, that counts as test number one.
     OR
  b) If you tested in 2010 with the PAX and your scores expired, that counts as test number one.
  Exception: If you tested prior to 1-01-2009, you have three times to test in a lifetime for the Surgical Technology program.

**Learning Assessment and Testing Services**

Sugar Grove Campus Location

Student Center, Room 230
Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

Sugar Grove Hours

8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Monday -Wednesday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Thursday & Friday *
*except for the last Friday of each month 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon, First Saturday of each month

Reminders for testing day

- A candidate **photo ID** is required to test
- All exams must be taken during the same test session
- Food, drinks, hats, watches, personal belongings and unauthorized materials, such as cell phones, wearable and other electronics are not permitted in the testing room.

Contact the Health Professions and Public Service Department for any questions about the Surgical Technology program or application at (630) 585-7900, ext. 3900.

Waubonsee Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, veteran’s status, marital status, disability or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. For more information on the college’s nondiscrimination policies, contact the Executive Director of Human Resources at (630) 466-7900, ext. 2367, Waubonsee Community College, Route 47 at Waubonsee Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9454.
Learning Assessment and Testing Services
Surgical Technology Program Admission Testing
Interpretation Guide

What scores do I need to meet the program requirements?

Only use the Percentile Rank columns for all four of your required scores. Your scores are in the RN Percentile Rank column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Required Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Total/Composite Percentile Rank Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Verbal Percentile Rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Math Percentile Rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Science Percentile Rank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PAX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>Percentile Rank SCORES</th>
<th>RETEST RECOMMENDATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verbal:</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
<td>Passing scores – no retest necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47 - 49</td>
<td>Self-review of Reading skills in the PAX study guide* or contact the Developmental Education and College Readiness Center at 630-466-5706 for the PAX online review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46 or below</td>
<td>Strongly advised to register for Reading 070 class or for the PAX online review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math:</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
<td>Passing scores – no retest necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47 – 49</td>
<td>Self-review of Math skills in the PAX study guide* or contact the Developmental Education and College Readiness Center at 630-466-5706 for the PAX online review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46 or below</td>
<td>Strongly advised to register for Math 060 class or for the PAX online review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science:</td>
<td>50 - 99</td>
<td>Passing scores – no retest necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49 or below</td>
<td>Self-review of Science in the PAX study guide* or contact the Developmental Education and College Readiness Center at 630-466-5706 for the PAX online review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>60 – 99</td>
<td>Passing scores – no retest necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59 or below</td>
<td>See above to improve each section’s minimum score requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PAX Online study guide – log into your NLN student account to purchase. This is the most current version. PAX-RN paper study guide – National League for Nursing’s Review Guide for RN Pre-Entrance Exam, copyright 2009, ISBN #9780763762711. This paper version is not as up to date as the online one.

Test scores are valid for 24 months from the date of testing.
Frequently Asked Questions – PAX Test

1) When will my results be available?
   • You can log back in to your NLN account approximately four hours after you test to access your PAX scores. Your PAX scores will also be available on your mywcc portal within 2 to 3 days after you test. The Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) does not permit providing scores over the telephone.

2) What is the % correct score? It is the percentage of items that you answered correctly. It is NOT the score that is required for admission into your program. See above PAX score ranges.

3) What is a Percentile Rank score?
   • A percentile rank score is a ranking of how well you did on the same test in comparison with other test takers across the nation. For example, a 50 percentile in Math means that 50% of other test takers scored lower than you.
   • It is not the same as your % correct score.
   • This percentile rank score can range from 0 to 99.

4) Why do I need a 60 Composite Percentile score if I scored a minimum 50 in each subject? Why not a Composite Percentile Score of 50?
   You need a 60 Composite with a minimum in each section of 50. It is possible to achieve a 60 Composite, and still score below the required 50 in any given section. For example, a 90 in Verbal, a 12 in Science, and a 50 in Math MAY result in a Composite Percentile Score of 60. This will not result in a passing score because you need to demonstrate a minimum proficiency in each section while attaining the overall composite score as well.

5) Why do I have to retake the entire test if I only failed one section? The PAX test can only be administered in full (all three sections) in one sitting.

6) Can I combine passing scores from my first test with passing scores from my retest? No, see number 4 above. The entire test must be retaken.

Retest Information:
   • As of 1-01-2009, can only test twice in a lifetime for the Surgical Technology program. All prior NET test scores and expired PAX test scores are included in this count. For example:
     a) If you tested in 2007 with the NET, that counts as test number one.
     OR
     b) If you tested in 2010 with the PAX and your scores expired, that counts as test number one. Exception: If you tested prior to 1-01-2009, you have three times to test in a lifetime.
   • Must wait eight weeks from your initial test to take a retest.
   • Retest fees are $40 for the PAX.
   • Schedule a PAX retest appointment in person when you pay the $40 fee.
   • Contact the Developmental Education and College Readiness Center for information about the above classes at 630-466-5706 or at
     https://www.waubonsee.edu/learning/academic-support/tutoring/index.php

Call the Surgical Technology program office at (630) 585-7900, ext. 3900 for any additional program questions.