

## Professional Licensure / Certification Requirements

Bellin College participates in federal financial aid programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Therefore, Bellin College is required to comply with the Program Integrity Misrepresentation rules published in 2010 and State Authorization regulations (which vary from state to state) in application to online/distance education programs. The regulations require institutions of higher education to obtain approval from the states in which they provide postsecondary education programs. Bellin College participates in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), which is an agreement among states that establishes national standards for the interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. Through SARA, Bellin College may provide distance education to residents of any other SARA member state without seeking authorization from each SARA member state.

We urge students / graduates to review the regulations regarding authorization of your specific state if you are a U.S. citizen and *either* of the following apply to you:

- You do not live in Wisconsin
- You are thinking about enrolling in a Bellin College program with the intent of residing outside of WI post-graduation.

If you become a Bellin College student, you are responsible for checking program authorization and licensure requirements in your state of residence. Rules and regulations vary by state. If you move to a new state, you are responsible for ensuring our program is approved in your new state. **Note: State regulations are being modified frequently. Applicants and graduates interested in out of state licensure/certification are encouraged to keep up to date on the requirements of their desired state.**

### National Licensure & Certification

Completion of Bellin College's CAAHEP-accredited Bachelor of Science in Surgical Assisting program meets the educational requirements to apply for the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) certification exams.

Licensure laws require that the individual meet and maintain certain professional standards. Though licensure laws vary from state to state, one typically must be certified by a nationally recognized organization, such as the NBSTSA, as part of the licensure process. Fees for licensure itself are typically paid to the state. For a current list of states that require certification and/or licensure, visit:

[https://www.ast.org/Public\\_Policy/Legislative\\_Overview/](https://www.ast.org/Public_Policy/Legislative_Overview/)

Currently, there are seven states that require a surgical assistant to be licensed:

- Texas
- Kentucky
- Nebraska
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- Washington, D.C.
- Colorado