CARISURG MEDTECH PATHWAYS PROGRAM

The **CariSurg MedTech Pathways Program** is a dual-track training and research programme designed to build Caribbean capacity in advanced medical technology, healthcare AI, and surgical robotics.

Applicants may apply to one or both pathways, depending on their background, interests, and career goals. This document provides an overview of the pathways and a direct comparison between the two programs to help you determine the best fit.

ABOUT CARISURG

CariSurg is a Caribbean-founded medical technology initiative committed to building sustainable regional capacity in **healthcare AI, surgical robotics,** and **digital health innovation.** Founded by Caribbean researchers and engineers, CariSurg aims to transform the region into a hub for contextually grounded, locally developed healthcare solutions. CariSurg designs and delivers **high-impact programs**—both virtual and in-person—led by active clinicians, researchers, and technologists working at the cutting edge of global medical innovation.

THE TWO MEDTECH PATHWAYS

CariSurg currently offers two parallel pathways under the MedTech Pathways umbrella:

- **Surgical Robotics Research Program** (in-person, research-intensive)
- **Healthcare AI Training Program** (fully virtual, applied engineering).

Category	Surgical Robotics Research Program	Healthcare AI Training Program
Duration	12 weeks (1 June – 27 August 2026)	12 weeks (1 June – 27 August 2026)
Structure	4 weeks virtual + 8 weeks in-person (UK)	12 weeks virtual (at least 40 hours/week)
Primary Focus	Surgical robotics & medical device research	Healthcare AI & software system development
Core Output	Research experience	Deployable AI portfolio project
Ideal For	Students considering MSc/PhD or research careers	Students targeting applied AI / tech roles
Funding	No program fee, 8 weeks fully funded in the UK	No program fee

SURGICAL ROBOTICS RESEARCH PROGRAM

The **CariSurg Surgical Robotics Research Program** is a twelve-week, fully funded research experience running from **1 June to 27 August 2026**, comprising an initial **four-week virtual preparation phase** followed by an **eight-week in-person research placement in the United Kingdom** (stipend included to cover return flights, Visa fees, travel insurance, accommodation, and living expenses in the UK).

Delivered through a structured collaboration between the **University of the West Indies** and the **University of Leeds**, the program embeds selected students directly into active research projects within a world-leading surgical robotics laboratory. Participants are exposed to **real research workflows** including experimental design, system development, testing, data analysis, and scientific communication.

Available Projects

Participants apply to one of the following projects:

- **Project 01:** Custom Surgical Grasper with Integrated Sensing for the da Vinci Surgical Robot
- **Project 02:** Vine Robot Deployment Interface Design for Minimally Invasive Surgery
- **Project 03:** Hybrid Concentric Spring-Based Continuum Robot Design and Control

Primary Outcome

- Research readiness
- International lab experience
- Strong positioning for MSc/PhD programs and research careers

Click here for more details

HEALTHCARE AI TRAINING PROGRAM

The **CariSurg Healthcare AI Training Program** is a twelve-week, fully virtual program running from **1 June to 27 August 2026**, designed to build applied skills in healthcare AI, data engineering, and medical technology.

Delivered in partnership with **10 Academy's tenx platform**, the program immerses participants in an industry-simulated workflow focused on end-to-end system development using real tools and real Caribbean healthcare challenges.

The 2026 cohort will focus on building an **AI-assisted emergency triage system** for low-resource clinical environments, with direct clinician involvement.

Primary Outcome

- Job-ready technical skills
- A deployable healthcare AI portfolio project
- Readiness for roles in healthcare AI, software, and data engineering

Click here for more details

ELIGIBILITY

Category	Surgical Robotics Research Program	Healthcare AI Training Program
Nationality	CARICOM	CARICOM
Age	18-25	18–25
Education	UWI undergraduate (engineering/related)	Student, graduate, or self-taught
Background	Engineering / robotics interest	Basic programming (Python, SQL)
Career Orientation	Research & postgraduate study	Applied technical roles

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants may apply to **one or both pathways** if eligible.

Step 1: Online Application
Submit your application via the CariSurg application portal until 15 March 2026.
https://www.carisurg.com/apply

Step 2: Technical Readiness Assessment
After applications close on 15 March 2026, eligible applicants will be invited to complete an online quiz.

Step 3: Final Assessment & Selection

- **Surgical Robotics Research Program:** Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed as part of the final selection process.
- **Healthcare AI Training Program:** Shortlisted applicants complete an applied assessment week ("Week 0"), which takes place the week before the program starts, in late May 2026, before final offers are made.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

- Meeting the minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee selection
- Applicants are encouraged to apply even if they feel underprepared but highly motivated
- Selection decisions prioritise potential and growth, not credentials or formal experience