

## Surgical Technology Essential Functions and Technical Requirements

DSCC Surgical Technology students will be required to complete up to 120 clinical scrubs during their time in the program. Clinical scrubs are essential and necessary to successfully complete the program. Students will be expected to perform the following essential functions and technical requirements. While the following essential functions and technical requirements standards **are not conditions of admission to the program**, interested applicants are advised to carefully review and consider the following list to develop a better understanding of the physical and behavioral characteristics needed to successfully complete the program. DSCC strives to provide reasonable accommodations, where applicable, for students with disabilities. For more information about services for students with disabilities please follow this link, <https://www.dsc.edu/students-with-disabilities/>.

Please be reminded that the surgical climate is built to **prioritize and accommodate the safety of the patient**.

### Essential Functions and Technical Requirements:

- Effectively communicate with classmates, faculty, and members of the surgical team and associated departments when visualization of mouth/lips are restricted.
- Access information from books, reference manuals, computers, and paper, and electronic medical documents to accurately perform duties and safely use equipment.
- Safely access, prepare, and operate equipment and supplies in a variety of settings and pressured situations.
- Assist with transport and transfer of patient and/or equipment. *Please note instrument trays may weigh up to 45 pounds.*
- Assist with surgical procedures for prolonged periods without nourishment or restroom breaks.
- Safely perform tasks such as, loading a fine (10-0) suture onto needles and needle holders while wearing safety glasses, requiring fine motor control and corresponding hand-eye coordination.
- Prioritize, organize, and utilize time-management skills to perform tasks such as, but not limited to, appropriately tracking surgical supplies and performing anticipation skills intraoperatively.
- Utilize instruments, supplies, and equipment safely within the operating suite.
- Respond appropriately to activation and warning signals on equipment.
- Detect and respond appropriately to odors in order to maintain environmental safety and patient needs.
- Perform or assist with and/or transfer, lift, move, position, and manipulate and unconscious patient, either before, during or after surgical procedure.
- Demonstrate positive, professional interpersonal skills during interactions with patients, staff, faculty, and health care team members.
- Demonstrate appropriate professional and procedural judgment decisions under stressful and/or emergency conditions such as an unstable patient condition, emergent demands such as stat test orders, and a distracting environment with possible high noise levels and complex visual stimuli.
- Recognize potentially hazardous materials, equipment, and situations and proceed safely in order to minimize risk of injury to patient, self, and nearby individuals by referencing, utilizing and adhering to OSHA requirements.

- Prioritize, organize, and utilize time-management skills to perform tasks such as, but not limited to, appropriately tracking surgical supplies and performing anticipation skills intraoperative.

### **Occupational Risks**

The Surgical Technology Program involves clinical experiences in which a student may be assigned to administer care to individuals who are HIV seropositive or who have ARC or AIDS. Students are expected to treat all patients with concern and dignity inherent in the ANA Ethical Code of Conduct and Professional Standards of Practice. Students are expected to initiate and follow all recommended guidelines for “Prevention of HIV Transmission in Health Care Settings” published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease Control, <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00023587.htm>. Prior to any contact with patients for clinical experiences, students will attend the hospital

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Each clinical facility is expected to practice universal precaution procedures in the care of patients with infectious diseases. The Surgical Technology student is educated in and is expected to be knowledgeable in the practice of these precautions and care for these patients.