

Division: SAN ANTONIO

Classification: CERTIFIED SURGICAL TECHNICIAN

Applicant Name:

Certified Surgical Technician:

The Certified Surgical Technician must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by facility job description.

Definition of Care or Service:

The Certified Surgical Technician works under the direct supervision of the surgeon to facilitate a safe operation with optimal results for the patient. Scope of Service may include:

- Assures quality patient care through coordination of patient care in the operating room with the circulating registered nurse and other members of the surgical team.
- Must have a thorough working knowledge of aseptic technique, handling instruments, supplies, and equipment necessary during a surgical procedure.
- Demonstrates advanced knowledge of surgical specialty(ies), and ensures quality patient care during the procedure while consistently maintaining sterile field integrity.
- Works in accordance with MHS policies, procedures, AORN standards, related laws, and regulations.
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA Healthcare conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians

Setting(s):

• Facility surgical services areas

Supervision:

- Direct supervision by surgeon <u>Direct Supervision</u> is defined as the physical presence of the surgeon/proceduralist in the procedure room.
 - o Indirect supervision by surgery department director, site manager or designee.
- The certified surgical technician will secure a sponsoring/ supervising physician form for each physician they wish to provide services.

Evaluator: Department director or designee in conjunction with supervising physician or Licensed Independent Practitioner.

Tier Level: 3

eSAF Access Required: YES

Qualifications:

- High school diploma/GED or higher
 - o If a higher level of education was received it must be in a physical, biological, or chemical science degree.
- Successfully completed a surgical technician program through one of the below:
 - o CAAHEP accredited program recognized by the US Dept of Education
 - o Through a United States military branch
 - Scrub nurse training if an LVN or RN (acceptable only if not employed as a surgical technician in the state Texas prior to September 1, 2009)



- Maintains current Surgical Technician Certification
- American Heart Association or Red Cross health care provider BLS Certification

NOTE: Where education may not be defined in qualifications area of the Scope, HCA Healthcare requires the highest level of education completed (not training or courses) confirmed on your background check

State Requirements:

N/A

Experience:

Minimum of one year recent perioperative experience in the surgical specialty

Competencies:

The Certified Surgical Technician will demonstrate:

- Accurate patient information review and evaluation through:
 Uses at least two ways to identify patients before treating or performing a procedure
 - o Labels containers used for blood and specimens in the presence of the patient
 - Labels all medications and solutions on and off the sterile field in perioperative and procedural settings according to hospital policy
 - Participating in the pre-procedure process to verify the correct procedure, for the correct patient, at the correct site and involves the patient in the verification process when possible
 - o Participates in a time-out when called by the surgeon or another member of the surgical team immediately prior to the start of an invasive procedure or surgeon incision
 - Accesses the patient medical record appropriately maintaining confidentiality & privacy in accordance with HIPAA
- Possesses an advanced working knowledge of operating room fundamentals to include aseptic principles & techniques:
 - o Appropriate surgical attire
 - o Opening sterile packs & supplies
 - o Opening sterile instruments Scrubbing, gowning, & gloving
 - Surgical draping
 - o Follows universal precautions and hand hygiene practice
 - o Follows MHS hazardous materials management guidelines found on MHS Central (Intranet)
 - Instrument processing & sterilization/disinfection practices
- Appropriately handle non-controlled medications as directed by a licensed team member.
 - o Follows MHS policy for verification and labeling of medications in operative and procedural areas
 - Prepares medications and solutions for use during procedures under the direction of the circulating registered nurse, according to physician's orders
- Preparation:
 - O Determines plans for & ensures equipment and supplies needed for procedures according to physicians' preference and patient needs.
 - Assists with preparation and set up of operating room with surgical instruments, equipment, sterile drapes, and necessary medications.
- Consistently assists in maintaining patient's expected physiologic responses to surgery:
 - Latex allergy
 - Malignant Hyperthermia
 - o Infection Prevention
 - o Knowledge of SCIP measures & practices



- Wound management & application of dressings after incision closure
- Maintains accountability for instruments, sharps, and sponges, according to MHS policy throughout the surgical procedure to ensure that no foreign objects are retained in the surgical wound. Takes appropriate action(s) if counts are not correct and communicates information to the surgical team.
- Utilizing appropriate techniques assists the surgeon with:
 - Retraction
 - Cutting sutures
 - o Maintaining visualization of the surgical site using sponges or suction
 - Use of safe zone to pass sharps
 - Applying electrocautery to clamps on bleeders
 - Connecting drains to suction devices
 - Use of rigid safety procedures & protocols with use of:
 - Electrocautery
 - Powered equipment
 - Lasers
 - Hazardous chemicals
- Monitors sterile field during procedure & takes appropriate measures to insure integrity of sterile field & maintenance of sterile techniques. Initiates corrective action for any break in technique.
 - Avoids contamination of sterile drapes, personnel, & instruments
 - o Communicates any witnessed or suspected contamination to surgical team
- Consistently assists in maintaining a safe environment to facilitate a safe patient outcome.
 - Any equipment to assist with positioning (fracture table, Jackson table, Wilson frame, positioning devices etc.)
 - o Basic OR equipment (lights, suction, 02)
 - o Powered equipment
 - o Minimally invasive equipment (light sources, endoscopes, insufflation devices)
 - Radiation safety
 - Laser safety
 - Electrosurgical safety
 - Surgical counts
 - o Fire Safety
 - o MHS Time-Out & universal protocol
 - Safe handling of specimens
- Infection Prevention
 - o Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - o Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) when required
 - o Required immunizations per Division requirements
 - o Complies with Isolation precautions
 - o Maintains sterile field

References:

Association of periOperative Room Nurses (AORN) (2009). Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices 2009 Edition. AORN, Inc.: Denver.

Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2009). Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Surgical Assisting: Job Description: Surgical Technologist. Retrieved from www.AST.org



Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2001). Role Definitions and Qualifications for the Certified Surgical Technologist and Certified First Assistant. Retrieved from www.AST.org

Cairns, Carol. (2007). Solving the AHP Conundrum: How to Comply with HR Standards Related to Non- privileged Practitioners (Appendix C). HCPro, Inc.: Marblehead, MA, 217-226.

Nursing Crib The Fastest Growing Nursing Community (2011): Duties of a Scrub Nurse; Retrieved from http://nursingcrib.com/nursing-notes-reviewer/role-of-scrub-nurse/

United States Department of Labor U.S. Bureau of Statistics (2011) Surgical Technician; Retrieved from www.bls.gov

CAAHEP Find A Program: https://www.caahep.org/Students/Find-a-Program.aspx

Association of Surgical Technologists: https://www.ast.org/

National Board Surgical Technician and Surgical Assistant: https://www.nbstsa.org/cst-certification

Association of Surgical Technologists definition of CST:

http://www.ast.org/uploadedFiles/Main_Site/Content/About_Us/CertifiedSurgicalTechnologistDefinition.pdf

Document Control:

- Previously named SAN-Surgical Technician
- Content updates 7/29/2019
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Your signature confirms you will be able to comply with the Qualifications and Competencies listed within this Scope of Service and that you will confirm education via your background check.