

**Ivy Tech Community College
Health Services Division
Surgical Technology Program
ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS REQUIRED FOR
THE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

Qualified applicants are expected to meet all admission criteria and students are expected to meet all progression criteria, as well as these essential abilities with reasonable accommodations. Students requesting accommodations to meet these criteria must inform the Program Chair in writing of the need for accommodations at the time of admission to the program.

A Surgical Technologist must have specific physical and mental requirements. Please review the requirements listed below. To provide a minimum standard of patient care, the Surgical Technology student must be able to demonstrate the following occupational skills:

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
Motor	Physical health, ability, and stamina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presents the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ head-to-toe physical examination ✓ rubella screen ✓ tuberculosis testing ✓ weight lifting ability (Lift and carry 50 pounds) ✓ tetanus immunization ✓ hepatitis B immunization or declination form ✓ Laser eye exam ✓ CPR certification • demonstrates visual acuity (with correction if needed) within normal range, including peripheral and color vision with ability to read fine print and function visually in semi-dark room • demonstrates auditory acuity (with correction if necessary) with ability to hear muffle voices (through masks) with extraneous background noise • possess stamina for long periods of standing • ability to wear sterile surgical attire, including personal protective equipment • ability to withstand exposure to irritating soaps and solutions • ability to withstand unusual smells such as cauterized, infected or necrotic tissue • demonstrates ability to focus intently on the task at hand without distraction
	Gross motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to bend, reach, pull, push, stand, stoop and walk during all aspects of the educational experience • ability to lift, position and move patients and heavy equipment • fastens masks and protective gowns • responds quickly to surgeon's request for instrumentation • scrubs all aspects of fingers, hands and arms • visually identifies differences between instruments • regulates equipment, including electrocautery, Lasers, endoscopy • performs patient assessment
	Fine motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possesses eye-hand coordination, both hands • manipulates needles, blades, sutures, and instrumentation with both hands • evaluates size of suture by feel

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES
Behavioral/Social	Emotional stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accepts responsibility for total patient care • possesses stable temperament, is responsible, organized and patient • responds in an emotionally controlled manner in emergency situations
	Flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adapts to rigorous clinical attendance requirements, irregular working hours, and emergency call schedule
	Functions effectively under stress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilizes acceptable coping mechanisms in a high stress environment • accepts criticism without retaliation , particularly regarding sterile techniques, assignments, shift and unit/clinical rotation • plans and implements execution of duties independently • avoids demonstrating personal stress or frustration when interacting with clients, significant others, and health care team members • avoids use of drugs or alcohol in or before clinical or class setting
	Demonstrates caring behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interacts with client and significant other in a positive manner without demonstrating personal stress or frustration • provides emotional support to surgical team members and the patient • interacts professionally with clients, significant others and health care team members and organizations
Intellectual/ Conceptual/ Judgmental	Problem solving ability; critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • calculates dosages to prepare and mix medications correctly • anticipates the needs of the surgical team for instrumentation and supplies in routine and unexpected situations • demonstrates ability to respond quickly and prioritize the surgeon’s needs in routine and emergency situations • analyzes situations involving a potential break in aseptic technique • recognizes and initiates interventions for client status changes • prepares in advance for clinical and integrates general information to specific tasks and procedures
	Recognizes hazards and assumes responsibility for safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • awareness of exposure to toxic substances such as Laser, sterilants, x-ray, fumes, blood, etc. • takes appropriate safety precautions to prevent injury to self or others
Communication	Interaction and therapeutic communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speaks effectively with patients, families, and health care team members • identifies and interprets non-verbal communication • demonstrates knowledge of items and events that must be documented such as counts, implants, equipment use, etc. • accurately, objectively, concisely and legibly documents information on the patient’s chart, specimens and other written documentation • reads surgeon’s preference cards, medication labels, orders (typed and handwritten), policies, procedures, and instructions • ability to communicate in a rational and coherent manner both orally and in writing • maintains professionalism and minimizes social interaction

_____ (student’s name) does not have any condition(s) that would prevent him/her from performing these essential functions.

Physician’s Signature

Comments _____
