

WNCC Surgical Technology Technical Standards

Surgical Technologists serve as an integral part of the surgical team providing surgical care to patients. Surgical Technologists work under the supervision of a surgeon to facilitate the safe and effective conduct of surgical procedures. These established technical standards are provided to the prospective student as a guide to the expected level of competency during the completion of the Surgical Technology Program. Graduates of the WNCC Surgical Technology Program must:

1. Demonstrate effective interpretation and expression of ideas through written and oral communication in the operating room. Examples would include questions and discussions with peers and patients regarding care both preoperatively and intraoperatively and effective communication with surgeons and nurses to optimize patient care.
2. Apply knowledge and experience (critical thinking skills) in their identification of variations and analysis of information and/or equipment used during surgical procedures. Examples of critical thinking in the surgical setting include effective prioritization and anticipation skills in the dynamic surgical environment.
3. Demonstrate competence in performing the role of first scrub on all basic general and specialty surgical cases as defined by the Association of Surgical Technologists. Examples include preparation of the sterile field with instruments, supplies, equipment and medication, and passing instruments and supplies to sterile team members.
4. Demonstrate the application of principles of asepsis in a knowledgeable manner that provides for optimal patient care in the operating room. Examples include the identification of proper aseptic technique and recognizing breaks in technique.
5. Demonstrate a Surgical Conscience in all aspects of their professional practice, proficiency and strict adherence to best practice guidelines. Examples include professional accountability and integrity.
6. Demonstrate global patient care by monitoring the surgical environment along with other team members. Examples include effectively communicating with all members of the surgical team, preoperative team, patients and their families.
7. Demonstrate the physical and mental endurance necessary for long-term surgical procedures.