

DELGADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Each student in the Surgical Technology Program **must have the ability** to adhere to the following standards:

1. Stand, forward bend, walk, reach, and/or sit for the duration of surgical procedure(s) with minimum of 5 hours without a break.
2. Lift 40–50 pounds of weight to chest level without assistance. Also includes: instruments, special equipment, specimens, and surgical prep of patients extremities.
3. Push/pull and position equipment such as orthopedic beds, hand tables, operating room beds, arm boards, and operating room furniture.
4. Perform directional body movement (flexion, extension, abduction, adduction and rotation) and ability to ambulate/move around without assistive devices.
Able to perform range of motion. Example – the elbow extends to 80 degrees.
5. Assist with position and prep of surgical patient when not assisting during surgical procedure.
6. Move immobile patients from stretcher to operating room table and from operating room table to stretcher with assistance when not assisting during surgical procedure.
7. Refrain from nourishment or restroom breaks for periods not to exceed five hours.
8. Mop floors in the operating room, and wipe down operating room furniture and equipment.
9. Physically scrub hands on a daily basis with bactericidal cleansers. The student also comes in contact with detergents, sanitizers, disinfectants, and sterilization agents.
10. Assist during surgical procedure a maximum of 7 hours per day and/or up to 32 hours per week in the operating room.
11. Retract tissue and body organs for 20-30 minutes at intervals during surgical procedures.
12. Hear and understand muffled communication within 10-15 feet without visualization of the communicator's mouth/lips.
13. Detect strong odors (anesthetic gases, medication solutions and preparations) sufficient to maintain environmental safety and patient needs.
14. Be exposed to anesthetic gases, medication solutions and preparations, strong odors, and radiation via x-ray equipment. The duration of some x-ray procedures may exceed 8 hours or longer.
15. Wear accessory operating attire weighing up to 15 lbs. a minimum of 4 - 6 hours.

16. Visually monitor surgical patient and procedure in dimmed light, also visually monitor patient and surgical procedures via video monitors during surgical procedures.
17. Hear activation /warning signals on equipment.
18. Ability to manually operate and clean steam sterilizer.
19. Place equipment in proper storage areas after completion of surgical procedures.
20. Adhere to standards of aseptic technique.
21. Communicate English in a clear and concise manner to individual(s) in multi-disciplines. Understand and interpret written and verbal instructions.
22. Understand and apply clinical instructions given by program faculty and/or affiliate departmental personnel.
23. Assist and work compatible with hospital staff and surgeons utilizing the team approach.
24. Scrub in ST 1 role independently with minimal supervision at the senior level.
25. Scrub in ST 1 or ST2 role in areas that may be extremely hot or cold.
26. Dispose of trash, clean and soiled linen used in the operating room.
27. Ability to take various written timed Instrument exams.
28. Pass surgical instruments hand to hand quickly and accurately during surgical procedures. Manual dexterity and physical stamina are essential.
29. Be able to stand or sit a minimum of 4 - 5 hours consecutively.
30. Scrub in ST-1 or ST-2 role on all types of surgical procedures, inclusive of patients with contagious and infectious diseases, head/body lice, and blood and body fluids.
31. Have sufficient visual ability enough to load size 0 through 12-0 suture onto needle-holders with/without corrective lenses in addition to wearing safety eyewear during surgical procedure(s).
32. Manipulate surgical instruments, supplies and equipment with speed, dexterity, and good eye-hand coordination.
33. Be free of reportable contagious and infectious diseases and chemical abuse.
34. Demonstrate immunity (natural or artificial) to Measles-Mumps-Rubella-Varicella(MMRV), Tuberculosis, and Hepatitis B, or be vaccinated against these diseases.
35. Know their HIV/HBV/HCV status in order to perform or assist in surgical procedures which may be associated with low visibility, such as in the patient's body cavity where needle tips, sharp instruments, or a highly confined anatomic site that may cause a risk of bacterial transmission.

36. Possess short-term and long-term memory sufficient to perform tasks such as, but not limited to, mentally tracing surgical supplies and performing anticipation skills intra-operatively.
37. Wisely make appropriate judgment decisions as it relates to aseptic technique.
38. Demonstrate the use of positive coping skills under stress.
39. Demonstrate calm and effective responses, especially in emergency situations.
40. Exhibit positive interpersonal skills during patient, staff and faculty interactions.