

UW HEALTH JOB DESCRIPTION

Student Surgical Technologist

Job Code: 540098	FLSA Status: Non Exempt	Mgt. Approval: A. Dopp	Date: March 2024
Department : 3040280 Surg/OR - Operating Room		HR Approval: D. Ripp	Date: March 2024

JOB SUMMARY

The Student Surgical Technologist (SST) works under the direct, immediate, and on-premises supervision of a Surgical Technologist (ST) or an RN that is trained to scrub and functions as a member of the surgical team. The incumbent prepares the operating room prior to surgery, promotes the safety of and cares for the patient during surgery, aids the practicing surgeon, and cares for the instruments and supplies used in surgery. The Student Surgical Technologist has obtained basic didactic and hands on instruction from their concurrent ST program and possesses the knowledge and skills required to assist in effectively caring for patients of all age groups (neonate, pediatric, adolescent, adult, and geriatric).

SSTs must be actively enrolled and completing coursework in an accredited Surgical Technology program.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent performs the following job responsibilities in the Operating Room under direct supervision of a Surgical Technologist:

- Performs technical skill duties in all operating room specialty service areas, ensuring that proper technical practices are employed according to accepted standards of process.
- Provides proper maintenance, assembly, handling, and sterilization techniques of specialty instrumentation.
- Follows aseptic technique. Proactively identifies contamination and/or breaks in aseptic technique and implements corrective actions.
- Performs surgical counts. Follows policies and procedures for incorrect counts and reports discrepancies appropriately.
- Labels drugs and solutions; monitors quantities used.
- Assists in the proper identification, preparation, handling, and labeling of surgical specimens.
- Actively participates in the planning and set up of instruments, supplies, and surgical drapes in an organized manner to provide optimal accessibility during the procedure.
- Assists the surgeon, demonstrating an understanding of the patient's anatomy and abnormalities which affect the surgical procedure.
- Assists in picking cases and planning of instrument needs.
- Recognizes and modifies scrubbing procedures based on pertinent information to develop modifications to standard approaches to care and communicates with the surgical team. Responds to surgical emergencies and follows hospital-wide emergency management plans.
- Inventories, receives, and stores supplies under the direction of Surgical Services leadership.
- Identifies and reports defective instruments, supplies, and equipment. Assists with restocking operating/procedure rooms and sub-sterile areas.
- Assists the registered nurse during the intraoperative implementation phase of nursing practice.
- Operates complex equipment and other resources in the operating room, troubleshooting as necessary.
- Other Duties as Assigned.

ALL DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE PERFORMED CONSISTENT WITH THE UW HEALTH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Education	Minimum	Currently enrolled and actively completing coursework in an accredited surgical technologist program
	Preferred	
Work Experience	Minimum	
	Preferred	Provision of care with patients
Licenses & Certifications	Minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Life Support (BLS) provider meeting AHA standards
	Preferred	
Required Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong communication and guest relation skills • Strong skills in the use of written and oral language (grammar, spelling, format, etc.) • Demonstrated flexibility and adaptability to change • Basic use of computers as appropriate to practice • Ability to function effectively under direct supervision and as a team player • Excellent organization and priority setting skills • Understanding of correct dosage of drugs and solutions used on the surgical field

AGE SPECIFIC COMPETENCY (Clinical jobs only)

Identify age-specific competencies for direct and indirect patient care providers who regularly assess, manage and treat patients.

Instructions: Indicate the age groups of patients served either by direct or indirect patient care by checking the appropriate boxes below. Next,

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Infants (Birth – 11 months)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Adolescent (13 – 19 years)
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x	Toddlers (1 – 3 years)	x	Young Adult (20 – 40 years)
x	Preschool (4 – 5 years)	x	Middle Adult (41 – 65 years)
x	School Age (6 – 12 years)	x	Older Adult (Over 65 years)

JOB FUNCTIONS

Review the employee's job description and identify each essential function that is performed differently based on the age group of the patient.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Indicate the appropriate physical requirements of this job in the course of a shift. *Note: reasonable accommodations may be made available for individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.*

Physical Demand Level		Occasional Up to 33% of the time	Frequent 34%-66% of the time	Constant 67%-100% of the time
	Sedentary: Ability to lift up to 10 pounds maximum and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as dockets, ledgers and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one, which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required only occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.	Up to 10#	Negligible	Negligible
	Light: Ability to lift up to 20 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Even though the weight lifted may only be a negligible amount, a job is in this category when it requires walking or standing to a significant degree.	Up to 20#	Up to 10# or requires significant walking or standing, or requires pushing/pulling of arm/leg controls	Negligible or constant push/pull of items of negligible weight
x	Medium: Ability to lift up to 50 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing up to 25 pounds.	20-50#	10-25#	Negligible-10#
	Heavy: Ability to lift up to 100 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds.	50-100#	25-50#	10-20#
	Very Heavy: Ability to lift over 100 pounds with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing over 50 pounds.	Over 100#	Over 50#	Over 20#
List any other physical requirements or bona fide occupational qualifications:				

Note: The purpose of this document is to describe the general nature and level of work performed by personnel so classified; it is not intended to serve as an inclusive list of all responsibilities associated with this position.