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For the Surgical First Assistant to fulfill this role and to become a safe, competent practitioner it is essential for him/her to understand the theory and principles from which techniques and procedures are developed and have an opportunity to apply and practice these techniques and procedures over an extended period of time.

The students should have an opportunity to learn this knowledge and acquire these skills in situations conducive to learning. Since the primary focus of the Program is learning, students must accept the responsibility for their learning. We believe this can best be accomplished in a community college with a combination of theory and directed clinical practice in the hospital setting.

The Surgical First Assist Program values communication between instructors and students to foster success for each student. The program reserves the right to share any and all information between instructors needed to achieve this success.

The instructor and the students will act with integrity and strive to engage in equitable verbal and nonverbal behavior with respect to differences arising from age, gender, race, disabling conditions and religion.

## SURGICAL FIRST ASSIST CODE OF ETHICS

patient, insurance and health care financing agencies.

## SURGICAL FIRST ASSIST PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of the SCC Surgical First Assist program is to prepare entry-level Surgical First Assistants who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains to enter the profession.

To provide the information necessary for the student to demonstrate the ability to comprehend, apply, and evaluate the information relative to their role as a successful Surgical First Assistant, both in online class and clinical. (Cognitive Domain)

To provide the environment necessary for the student to practice and demonstrate technical proficiency in all skills required to fulfill their role as a successful Surgical First Assistant. (Psychomotor Domain)

To develop surgical first assistants who practice standards in a professional manner in order to meet the expectations of the patient, employer, and surgical team. (Affective Domain)

To prepare students for successful completion of the national certification exam, administered by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA). (Cognitive Domain)

## SURGICAL FIRST ASSIST PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to demonstrate clinical competence through satisfactory surgeon evaluations in the clinical setting.

Students will be able to exhibit the ability to make independent clinical judgements within the limits of the surgical assistants' responsibilities.

Students will be able to demonstrate appropriate critical thinking skills to formulate logical conclusions from the analysis of data.

Students will be able to demonstrate the skills necessary to achieve effective communication, confidentiality, ethical standards and interpersonal relations with classmates, instructors, surgeons, operating room personnel and patients.

The student will be able to demonstrate the skills associated with the unsterile role in the preoperative and postoperative phase.

The student will pass the NBSTSA Certification Exam.

#### **ACCREDITATION STATEMENT**

The Surgical First Assist program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Accrediting Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA).

o www.caahep.org

Notification of absences shall be sent via Canvas message and should be communicated for every class and clinical absence to every instructor for that day. Notification should include the need to attend class remotely.

Emergencies should be communicated through phone call to faculty office phone numbers. Students should expect response to all communication within 24 hours of the next business day. Communication received after 3:30pm will be responded to the next business day. Students should expect items to be graded within 48 business hours. If instructors need additional time to grade items this will be communicated to the student

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

In order to provide safe and effective patient care in the Surgical First Assist Program, the student must be able to demonstrate, with or without reasonable accommodation, physical, cognitive, and behavioral abilities required for satisfactory

## HIPAA/ PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY

Student will adhere to strict patient confidentiality and HIPAA protocol throughout the duration of the program. Any violation from this protocol may result in dismissal from the Surgical First Assist program.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is encouraged in all classes, laboratories, and clinical externships. The program uses an online, asynchronous delivery using a learning management system. Attendance in the learning management system is crucial to the success of this course. Each course syllabus, CID and course outline will reflect the specific course policies regarding the importance of course participation and the success of the course.

Communication with the course instructor should occur related to absences and to receive makeup work.

For clinical externship course attendance, it is the responsibility of the clinical student to establish a set schedule of dates and times that the student plans to be in their clinical site logging clinical hours towards the requirement for each clinical course.

 The two clinical courses require the following number of hours per term. It will be the responsibility of the student to inform their SCC clinical instructor of their planned clinical days for each clinical course.

> Clinical Externship 1 – 135 hours Clinical Externship 2 – 135 hours

- Clinical is an independent course and attendance can be dependent on hospital staffing. If the hospital needs the student to function in another role other than SFA student, it is left to hospital discretion.
- If the student is going to be absent on any clinical days that are included in their routine schedule, it will be the responsibility of the student to contact the clinical site, preceptor and the instructor for the course to inform them of this absence.
  Communication regarding absences is required.

In the event of inclement weather, outside of the Lincoln area, follow the hospital's policy for snow-days. If inclement weather is on lab days, consult the program chair for lab cancellations. The college has provided a telephone number for cancellations message by 5:00 a.m. of the day in question. The number is 402-437-2405. This information will also be available on the Hub. Students are encouraged to sign up to receive notifications related to emergency/School cancellations through Regroup on the Hub.

Leave of absence requests will be granted for the students who want to recycle into the program at a later time. To return, the student will be required to:

- o contact the Program Director to check on status for returning during leave.
- be admitted to the next cohort if space permits
- demonstrate skill competencies necessary to continue in the Program (See Recycle guidelines).

## DRESS CODE

The student must be neat in appearance and display clean personal hygiene.

It is suggested the students wear scrub clothes to lab activities, and are expected to dress in a professional manner.

Academic integrity is expected by all students when taking exams. No notes/books/handouts/electronic devices/other students etc. should be used to assist in answering exam questions. All activity of the student when in the exam can be tracked by the course instructors.

Students are expected to not share information related to the exam with one another/discuss exam questions.

Any perceived/suspected cheating/academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving a 0 for the exam grade with no discussion or justification allowed. Following this type of situation, a student will then be required to have every additional exam for the remainder of the program proctored at their own expense.

All Midterm and Final exams will be proctored via Zoom by the instructor. More information will be provided in each course regarding date and times.

When the student is not able to take the exam within the assigned time frame, the student should contact the instructor to take the test on the following day or five percentage points will be deducted from the exam for each day thereafter.

o If the student knows they will be absent on an exam day, they should inform the

- o Falsification of records and reports
- o Unsatisfactory classroom performance

Not meeting Surgical First Assist behavioral outcomes Attendance abuse

Unacceptable and/or unethical behavior (against College rules)

o Unsatisfactory and unsafe clinical performance (student may be subject to immediate termination without a verbal warning if their clinical performance is deemed unsafe toct to imm

# **NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAM**

The National CSFA Certification Examination will be offered prior to graduation for all students who can travel to Lincoln to test on campus. For students who live a distance away the program will assist in scheduling the exam individually.

Upon verification of graduation from the Program Director, each student passing the National Certification Examination will receive the official certification certificate from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) awarding them with the CSFA credential.

# SMOKING, ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES OR SMOKELESS TOBACCO USE POLICY

For the health and safety of all, smoking and the use of electronic cigarette devices or smokeless tobacco is not permitted in the classroom, laboratory, office, or clinical sites.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA STATEMENT**

# **APPENDIX A**

# **Surgical First Assist Program Essential Functions**

Performance essentials or essential functions are defined as those physical, mental, and psycho-social characteristics that are necessary to meet the demands of the Health Science Division Programs and eventual therapeutic care of patients and all tasks associated with that function.

Becoming a healthcare professional requires the completion of a technical education program that is both intellectually and physically challenging. The purpose of this statement is to articulate the demands of the Health Science Division Programs in a way that allows students to compare their own capabilities against these demands.

There are times when reasonable accommodations can be made in order to assist a student with a disability. Reasonable accommodation does not mean that students with disabilities will be exempt from certain tasks; it does mean that we will work with students with disabilities to determine whether there are ways that we can assist the student toward completion of the tasks.

A student with a disability who wishes reasonable accommodation must request it through the Disability Services provider on campus.

### **Motor Skills**

Physical strength to lift, carry, pull, and guide weights up to 50 pounds

Ability to move about freely and maneuver in small spaces

Tolerate bending, stooping, twisting, sitting, kneeling, standing, squatting or walking for extended (8-12 hour shift) periods of time

Possess fine motor skills

Maintain balance

Agility to respond in an emergency situation

## **Communication Skills**

Process, comprehend and communicate information (verbal and written) effectively, legibly, in a timely manner, in the English language, and with individuals from various social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.

#### Cognitive/Critical Thinking Skills

Collect, measure, calculate, analyze, interpret, and apply information Exercise good judgment in a variety of settings

# **APPENDIX B**

# **Current Su**

# **APPENDIX C**

# **Surgical First Assist Program Special Fees**

# **APPENDIX D**

# Complete 2023 PAC Attendee List

