TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

Students accepted and progressing in the Surgical Technology program must be physically capable of successfully performing the following standards related to the occupation safely, accurately, and expeditiously. Any physical limitations incurred by a student that may restrict or interfere with satisfactory performance of any of the standards listed below may result in inability to comply with course objectives.

1) Visual Acuity
    a) Distinguish between small objects within the sterile field and outside of the sterile field.
    b) Perform necessary procedures involving assembling equipment, instruments, drills, and other necessary items.
    c) Be able to load needle holders with small sutures and needles.
    d) Read surgeon's preference cards and instruction manuals.
    e) Perform data entry tasks using computer terminals.
    f) Help during insertion of needles or catheters into small anatomical structures.
2) Hearing Acuity
    a) Hearing must be sufficient to communicate with others.
    b) Hear and retain instruction from surgeon, OR personnel, and instructor.
    c) Hear and retain information to relay to others.
    d) Hearing must be sufficient to answer telephones and intercoms in the operating room and department.
3) Speaking Ability
    a) Speak clearly and loudly enough to be understood by a person in the operating room or on the phone and intercom.
    b) Converse with surgeons, operating room personnel, classmates, and instructor using good communication skills.
4) Manual Dexterity
    a) Must be able to grasp and manipulate small objects required to perform job function.
    b) Must be able to hold and maintain instrumentation in one position for long periods of time.
    c) Must be able to turn hands palm-up and palm-down.
5) Physical Stamina
    a) Must be able to stand for the majority of a normal workday.
    b) Lift instrument sets weighing 20 to 25 lbs.
    c) Push or pull surgical equipment, furniture, supply carts.
    d) Help transport and transfer patients to the OR table.
    e) Help with positioning patients for surgical procedures.
    f) Maintain balance while performing job functions.
    g) Must be able to move freely and feel comfortable in confined areas.
    h) Must not have any open wounds conditions on hands and/or arms
    i) Must be able to function without eating for periods of 6-7 hours.
    j) Must be able to function with full personal protective equipment (PPE). May include, but not limited to; hat, mask (surgical/N95 respirator), eye protection, shoe covers, lead aprons and thyroid shield, sterile gown and gloves.
6) Adaptive Ability
    a) Complete required tasks/function under stressful conditions.
    b) Must be flexible to changes in assignments or tasks.
    c) Perform independently and safely with minimal supervision
    d) Interact appropriately with diverse personalities.
    e) Be able to multi-task and remain focused.
    f) Must be able to remain calm under stressful conditions