

2022 REVISED CORE CURRICULUM FOR SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY
7th edition
SURGICAL ROTATION CASE REQUIREMENTS

Goal Statement:

The goal of the Surgical Rotation Case Requirements is to contribute to the development of a well-rounded, competent, entry-level surgical technologist. As stated in the CAAHEP Standard II, Program Goals and Minimum Expectations, the program will prepare entry-level surgical technologists who are competent in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains to enter the profession."

Objectives:

The surgical technology program is required to verify, through the use of surgical rotation documentation, student progression in the scrub role demonstrating increased complexity while moving toward entry-level graduate competency.

To meet the surgical rotation case participation requirement, students must complete a minimum of 120 cases as delineated below.

1. General Surgery
 - a. Complete a minimum of 30 cases:
 - i. 20 must be performed in the first scrub role.
 - ii. The remaining 10 cases may be performed in either the first or second scrub role.
2. Specialty Surgery
 - a. Complete a minimum of 90 cases in various surgical specialties, excluding General Surgery:
 - i. 60 must be performed in the first scrub role.
 - A minimum of 10 cases in four different specialties must be complete in the first scrub role (40 total cases).
 - The additional 20 cases in the first scrub role may be distributed amongst any one surgical specialty or multiple surgical specialties.
 - ii. The additional 30 cases may be performed in either the first or second scrub role.

Counting and Documenting Cases

1. Cases will be counted according to surgical specialty as defined in the core curriculum. Required documentation must include all of the following:
 - a. case performed
 - b. role performed
 - c. performance evaluations
 - d. verification by program director

Role Definitions

1. First Scrub Role (FS)
 - a. The student surgical technologist shall perform the following duties during any given surgical procedure with proficiency:
 - Verify supplies and equipment needed for the surgical procedure
 - Set up the sterile field with instruments, medications, and supplies
 - Perform operative counts according to the AST guidelines and facility policy
 - Pass instruments and supplies, and anticipate the needs of the surgical team
 - Maintain sterile technique, recognize breaks in technique, and document as needed

2. Second Scrub Role (SS)
 - a. The second scrub role is defined as a student who has not met all criteria for the FS role, but actively participates in the surgical procedure in its entirety by completing any of the following:
 - Assistance with diagnostic endoscopy
 - Assistance with vaginal delivery
 - Cutting suture
 - Providing camera assistance
 - Retracting
 - Sponging
 - Suctioning

3. Observation Role (O)
 - a. The observation role is defined as a student who has not met the FS or SS criteria. The students is observing a case in either the sterile or nonsterile role. Observation cases cannot be applied to the required 120 case count, but must be documented.

Diagram A: Surgical Case Requirements
The numbers shown below reflect the minimum case requirements and surgical specialties.

