

Skyline College Surgical Technology Clinical Case Rotation Requirements

Course – SURG 443: Clinical Practice for Surgical Technology

10.0 Units (480 – 540 Contact Hours)

In the final semester of the Surgical Technology Associates Degree Program, students meeting all program requirements and successfully passing the final skills assessment, will be placed at an SMCCCD approved clinical site while enrolled in SURG 443.

Program Goal

The goal of the Surgical Clinical 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 [Surgical Technology] 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

At the conclusion of the course and clinical experience, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose of the observation role
2. Develop professional competency by performing in the scrub role during an arranged clinical experience.
3. Evaluate the development of professionalism throughout clinical experiences using various methods.
4. Utilize sufficient documentation for verifying cases and roles performed.
5. Demonstrate procedural proficiency by completing a minimum of 120 surgical cases.

Clinical Role Definitions

1. First Scrub Role (FS) - To document a case in the FS role, the student shall perform the following duties during any given surgical procedure with proficiency:
 - a. Verify supplies and equipment
 - b. Set up the sterile field
 - 1) Instruments
 - 2) Medication
 - 3) Supplies

- c. Perform required operative counts
 - 1) AST guidelines¹
 - 2) Facility policy
 - d. Pass instruments and supplies
 - 1) Anticipate needs
 - e. Maintain sterile technique
 - 1) Recognize sterility breaks
 - 2) Correct sterility breaks
 - 3) Document as needed
2. Second Scrub Role (SS) - The SS 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:
- a. Assistance with diagnostic endoscopy
 - b. Assistance with vaginal delivery
 - c. Cutting suture
 - d. Providing camera assistance
 - e. Retracting
 - f. Sponging
 - g. Suctioning
3. Observation Role (O) - The O role is defined as a student who has not met the FS or SS criteria. The student 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.

Clinical Case Requirements

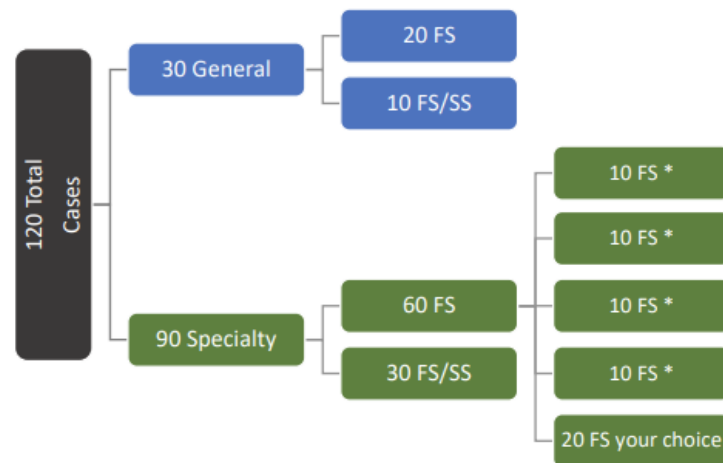
A student must complete a minimum of 120 clinical cases as described below:

- 1. General surgery
 - a. A student must complete a minimum of 30 cases in General Surgery.
 - 1) 20 of these cases must be performed in the FS role
 - 2) The remaining 10 cases may be performed in either the FS or SS role
- 2. Specialty surgery
 - a. A student must complete a minimum of 90 cases in various surgical specialties, excluding General Surgery.
 - 1) A minimum of 60 cases must be performed in the FS role and distributed amongst a minimum of four surgical specialties.

- a) A minimum of ten cases in four different specialties must be completed in the FS role (40 cases total)
- b) The additional 20 cases in the FS role may be distributed amongst any one surgical specialty or multiple surgical specialties.
- c) The remaining 30 cases may be performed in any surgical specialty in either the FS or SS role.

Diagram A: Surgical Case Requirements

The numbers shown below reflect the minimum case requirements and surgical specialties.



Possible Surgical Specialties (excluding General Surgery)

1. Cardiothoracic
2. Genitourinary
3. Neurologic
4. Obstetric and gynecologic
5. Orthopedic
6. Otorhinolaryngologic
7. Ophthalmologic
8. Oral Maxillofacial
9. Peripheral vascular
10. Plastics and reconstructive
11. Procurement and transplant

Counting Clinical Cases

Cases may be counted according to surgical specialty as defined in the core curriculum.

1. One pathology is counted as one procedure.
2. Diagnostic vs. operative endoscopy cases
 - a. An endoscopy classified as a semi-critical procedure is considered a diagnostic case.
 - b. An endoscopy classified as a critical procedure is considered an operative case.
 - c. Diagnostic and operative cases will be counted according to specialty.
 - d. Diagnostic cases are counted in the SS role up to a total of ten of the required 120 cases.

Clinical Case Documentation

In the clinical case tracker, the following must be documented:

1. Case performed
2. Role performed
3. Performance evaluations
4. Verification by program director

Each student receives [a link to an individual clinical case tracker](#) to utilize as their formative case log.

At the conclusion of the clinical requirements, the Summative Clinical Case log is created based on the clinical case tracker and reviewed, verified, and signed off by the Clinical Coordinator, Program Director, and Student.