



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

San Manuel Gateway College

Surgical Technology A.S. Degree

Technical Standards for Surgical Technology Program and Profession

To successfully complete the Surgical Technology A.S. Degree and enter the profession, students must meet the following minimum technical standards:

Physical Abilities

Students must be able to:

- Stand continuously for up to 6 hours and remain alert.
- Lift and carry at least 25 pounds; assist in patient positioning and transfers.
- Bend, stretch, twist, and reach with arms and body.
- Demonstrate fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination for manipulating instruments.
- Wear and tolerate PPE (e.g., masks, gloves, lead aprons) for extended periods.
- Move and manipulate surgical equipment and furniture (e.g., OR tables, carts).

Sensory Abilities

Students must possess:

- Visual acuity to observe the sterile field, instruments, and patient conditions.
- Auditory perception to hear verbal instructions, alarms, and equipment signals.
- Tactile ability to detect temperature, surface characteristics, and anatomical variances.
- Olfactory ability to detect unusual or hazardous odors.

Communication Skills

Students must be able to:

- Communicate effectively in English (spoken, written, and non-verbal).
- Interact respectfully and professionally with patients, peers, and healthcare teams.

- Discuss procedures and respond appropriately in high-pressure situations.
- Use information technology for documentation and communication.

Cognitive and Emotional Competencies

Students must demonstrate:

- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills in surgical contexts.
- Ability to synthesize and apply classroom knowledge in clinical settings.
- Emotional stability and adaptability to stressful environments.
- Professional judgment and decision-making under pressure.

Safety and Infection Control

Students must:

- Adhere to safety protocols and aseptic techniques.
- Recognize and respond to hazardous conditions.
- Maintain immunization and health requirements.
- Operate equipment safely and follow emergency procedures.

Professionalism and Interpersonal Skills

Students must:

- Exhibit integrity, ethical behavior, and concern for others.
- Respect diversity in culture, religion, orientation, and ability.
- Demonstrate teamwork, impulse control, and maturity.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries and professional rapport.

Accommodations

Students must meet these standards with or without reasonable accommodations.

Requests for accommodations should follow Loma Linda University policies published in the LLU Student Handbook.