

**PCC Surgical Technology Program  
Clinical - Surgical Rotation Case Requirements**

Surgical Specialty	Total # of Cases Required	Minimum # of <i>First Scrub</i> <i>Cases</i> Required	Maximum # of <i>Second Scrub Cases</i> that can be applied toward 120 Cases Required
General Surgery	30	20	10
Surgical Specialties	90	60	30
Totals	120	80	40

- The total minimum number of cases each student should complete is 120.
- Students are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) cases in General Surgery. Twenty (2) of those cases should be in the First Scrub Role.
- Student are required to complete a minimum of ninety (90) cases in various surgical specialties. Sixty (60) of those cases should be in the First Scrub Role and evenly, but not necessarily equally distributed between a minimum of at least five (5) surgical Specialties. However, fifteen (15) First or Second Scrub cases is the maximum number of cases that can be counted in any one surgical specialty.
- The surgical technology program is required to verify through the surgical rotation documentation the student's progress in First and Second Scrubbing surgical procedures of increased complexity as he/she moves toward entry-level graduate abilities.
- Diagnostic endoscopy cases and vaginal delivery cases are not mandatory. But up to ten (10) diagnostic endoscopic cases and five (5) vaginal delivery cases can be counted towards the maximum number of Second Scrub Role cases. Diagnostic endoscopy cases include endoscopy cases that are strictly diagnostic in nature – Cystoscopy, Laryngoscopy, and Colonoscopy. Endoscopy cases with enhancements, such as Cystoscopy with Bladder Biopsy or Stent Placement and Colonoscopy with Polypectomy are considered surgical procedures and can be performed in the second scrub and/or first scrub roles, provided they perform all skills listed under the applicable role.
- Observation cases should be documented but do not count towards the 120 required cases.
- Cases performed across multiple specialties should be counted under the surgeon of record's specialty. (Thyroidectomy performed by an ENT surgeon – ENT, Thyroidectomy performed by a General surgeon – General).
- Counting cases: Cases should be counted according to surgical specialty.
  - Example: Trauma patient requires a Splenectomy and repair of a LeForte I fracture – Two (2) cases can be counted and documented since the Splenectomy is a general surgery specialty and the Repair of LaForte I is an Oral-Maxillofacial surgical specialty.
  - Example: Patient requires a Breast Biopsy followed by a Mastectomy. It is one (1) pathology, breast cancer and the specialty is General Surgery; therefore, it is counted and documented as one (1) procedure – one (1) case.
  - Example: Scope cases that convert to an open case (laparoscopic cholecystectomy converted to an Open Cholecystectomy) are counted and documented as one (1) procedure – one (1) case.

**First Scrub Role:**

The student surgical technologist shall perform the following duties during any given surgical procedure with proficiency. A student not meeting the five criteria below cannot count the case in the first scrub role and the case must be documented in the second scrub role or observation role.

1. Verify supplies and equipment needed for the surgical procedure
2. Set up the sterile field with instruments, supplies, equipment, medication(s), and solutions needed for the procedure
3. Perform counts with the circulator prior to the procedure, before the incision is closed and before the final skin layer is closed
4. Pass instruments and supplies to the sterile surgical team members during the procedure
5. Maintain sterile technique as measured by recognized breaks in technique and demonstrate knowledge of how to correct with appropriate technique

**Second Scrub Role:**

The student surgical technologist who is at the sterile field and has not met all criteria for the first scrub role, but actively participates in the surgical procedure in its entirety by completing any of the following:

1. Sponging
2. Suctioning
3. Cutting suture
4. Holding retractors
5. Manipulating endoscopic camera.

**Observation Role:**

The student surgical technologist who is in the operating room performing roles that do not meet the criteria for the first or second scrub role are “observers”. These observation cases are not to be included in the required minimum case count, but must be documented by the program.

***Student Work Policy***

*All student activities associated with the Surgical Technology curriculum, especially while students are completing his or her clinical rotations, will be educational in nature. Students will not be substituted for hired staff personnel within the clinical institution, in the capacity of a surgical technologist.*