

Simi Institute for Careers and Education: **Surgical Technology Program**

Be what's possible



Aeger primo: The patient first



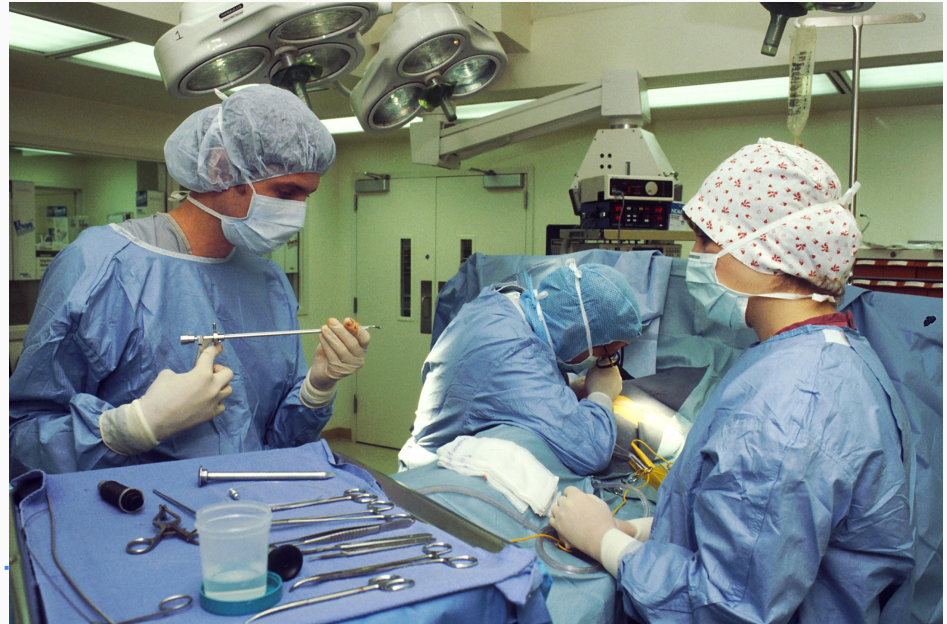
■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



What is a surgical technologist?

Surgical technologists, also known as scrub techs or surgical techs, work as members of the healthcare team.

- Prepare the patient on the OR table
- Prepare the instruments
- Set up the sterile field
- Assist the surgeon by passing instruments and retracting tissue



The surgical department healthcare team



Surgeon

Medical doctor who performs surgery. May be assisted by a surgical PA, a resident physician in training, a surgical scrub nurse or surgical tech



Anesthesiologist

Medical doctor who administers anesthesia to the patient and monitors the patient during the surgery



Registered Nurse

Nurse who circulates in the room, assists the doctors and cares for the patient



Surgical Technologist

Assists the nurse in preparing the patient, sets up/maintains the surgical field, passes instruments to the surgeon



Code of Ethics

To maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and patient care.

To hold in confidence, with respect to the patient's beliefs, all personal matters.

To respect and protect the patient's legal and moral rights to quality patient care.

To not knowingly cause injury or any injustice to those entrusted to our care.

To work with fellow technologists and other professional health groups to promote harmony and unity for better patient care.

To always follow the principles of asepsis.

To maintain a high degree of efficiency through continuing education.

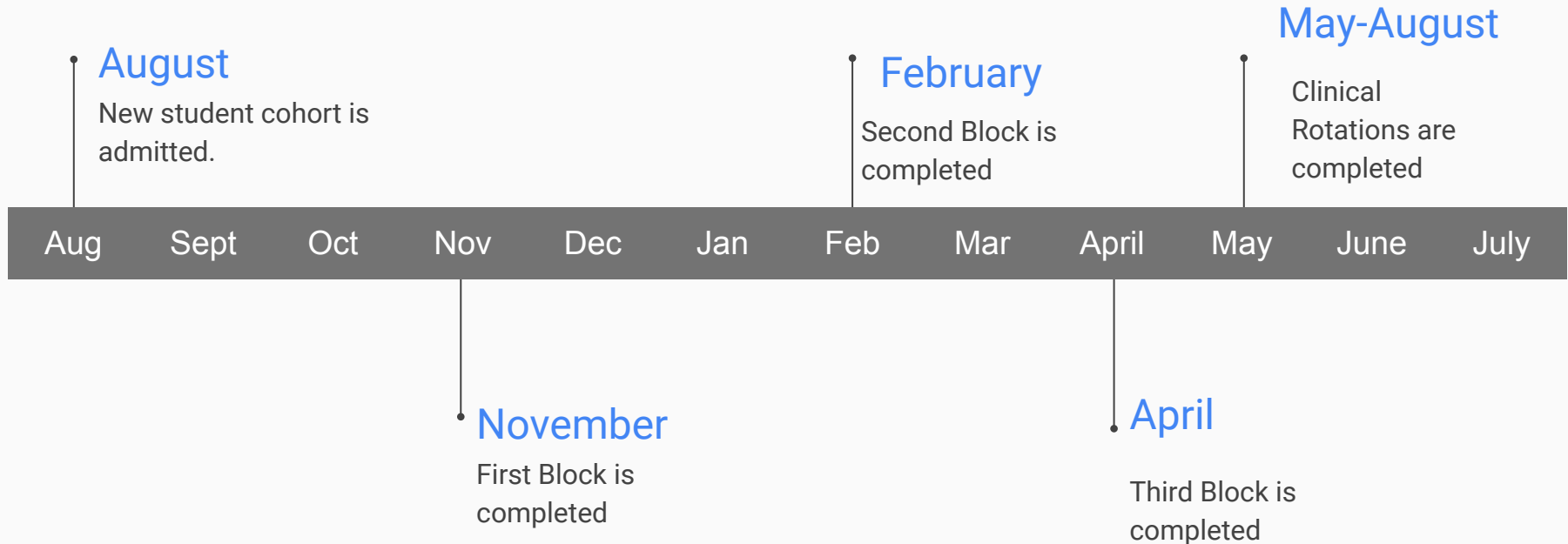
To maintain and practice surgical technology willingly, with pride and dignity.

To report any unethical conduct or practice to the proper authority.

Adhere to this Code of Ethics at all times in relationship to all members of the healthcare team.

Pathway to becoming a surgical tech

SICE is a one-year program divided into academic and clinical blocks composed of modules



Educational Modules

1. Medical Terminology
2. Microbiology & Infection Control
3. Pharmacology
4. Anatomy & Physiology
5. Principles & Practices of Surgical Technology
6. Surgical Techniques: Instrumentation & Equipment
7. Surgical Techniques: Surgical Procedures
8. Lab: Mock Surgery
9. Clinical Rotations at local hospitals

Students must also complete courses in Fire Safety and Basic Life Support for the Healthcare Professional (included in the program tuition)

How to become a certified surgical technician

Step 1

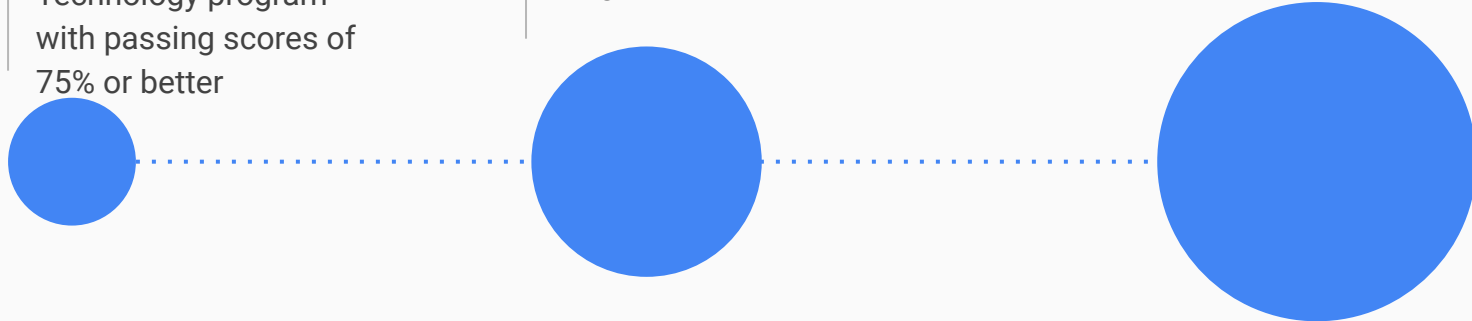
High school graduates complete the accredited 1-year Surgical Technology program with passing scores of 75% or better

Step 2

Complete the clinical rotations with 120 surgical cases

Step 3

Pass the Certified Surgical Technology Exam (CST) given by the National Board of Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting



Qualities of a surgical tech

To be successful in the operating room requires specific training and also special characteristics.

It is a physically demanding job where patients' lives are in the hands of a healthcare team that works well together and follows all the rules of asepsis, confidentiality and standard of care.

Detail-Oriented

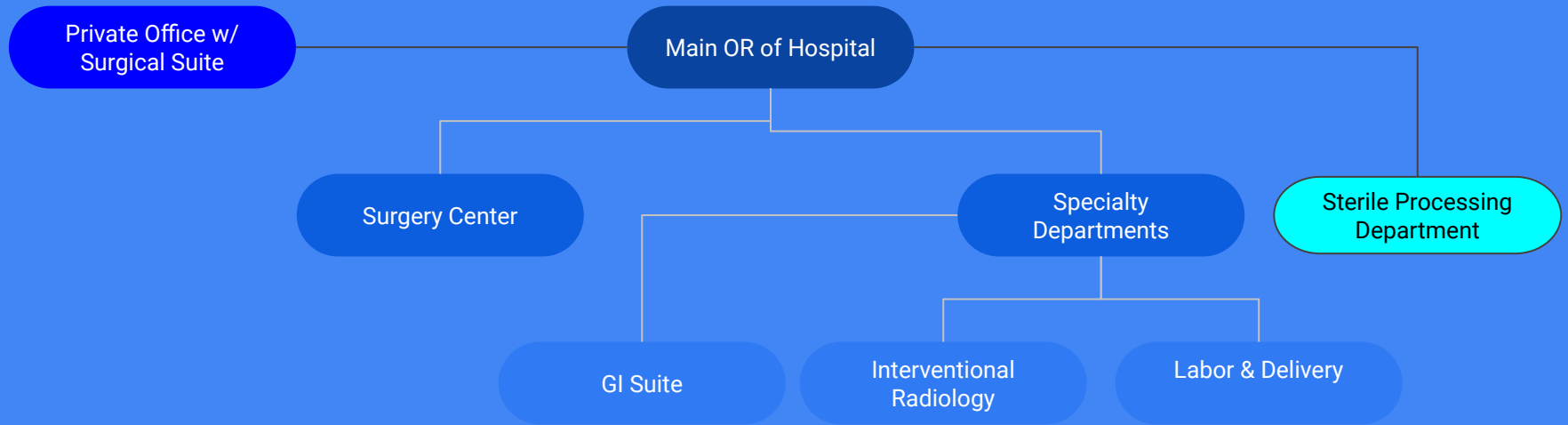
Dexterity

Integrity

Physical Stamina

Stress Management
Skills

Work Environment



Life Style

WORK SCHEDULE

Most surgical technologists work full time. Nights, weekends, and holidays are required, along with being on call. Shifts may last longer than 8 hours.

WORK ATMOSPHERE

At times, techs are exposed to communicable diseases and unpleasant sights and odors. Almost daily they work with toxic substances and hazardous materials such as radiation, lasers and smoke plumes.

WORK PHYSICAL CHALLENGES

Surgical technologists often wear lead aprons under head-to-toe sterile covering, standing still for long periods. They also may need to help move patients or equipment and lift 25-pound trays of medical supplies.