



**PARKLAND COLLEGE SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

Students matriculating in and graduating from the Parkland College Surgical Technology program must be able to meet the Essential Qualifications of the program and must not pose a threat to the well- being of patients, other students, staff, or themselves. As an incoming Surgical Technology student you will need, at a minimum, the following types of skills and abilities and will need to maintain and demonstrate these abilities throughout the program.

Students are encouraged to discuss their specific academic needs with the course instructor/program director prior to beginning a course of study. Consultation between Accessibility Services, the student and the program director are encouraged in order to address concerns.

Essential Qualifications	Behaviors
Cognitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn and perform quickly without repetition of instructions. • Develop and improve skills in the organization of work and in assisting the surgeon by learning to use economy in time and motion. • Access needed information effectively and efficiently, evaluate information and its sources critically, use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose, understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and access and use information ethically. • Utilize a variety of teaching/learning methods and strategies in both individual and collaborative learning situations. • Engage in decision-making and problem-solve in stressful situations. • Access, evaluate, and use a variety of information resources such as library services, electronic catalogs, databases in an efficient, ethical and legal manner
Affective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional attitudes including but not limited to: excellence, accountability, excellence, initiative, responsibility, service, honor, honesty, integrity, respect for others, compassion.
Psychomotor and Sensory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full range of motion of body joints. • Execute controlled motor movements to provide direct care and emergency treatment to patients, e.g. transferring, lifting, turning patients and providing cardiopulmonary resuscitation. • Stand unassisted for eight (8) continuous hours. • Carry/lift instrument trays and patients weighing up to 50 pounds on a daily basis. • Maintain adequate skin integrity, without the presence of open, weeping lesions. • Peripheral vision to organize own work based on what is happening at the surgical site and the surgeon • Differentiate color. • Distinguish right from left. • Demonstrate fine motor skills and visual acuity in order to accurately manipulate needles and sutures finer than a human hair. • Demonstrate auditory acuity (with correction, if needed) that includes accurately understanding muffled voices (through the mask) with extraneous background noise • Possess impeccable personal hygiene due to surgical site infection risk and the close proximity in which the surgical team works with each other and the patient. • Visual ability and acuity sufficient for observation and assessment necessary during a surgical procedure.
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize the English language to communicate effectively in a rational, coherent manner, both orally, and in writing, with individuals of all professions and social levels.

Occupational Exposures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize that the work environment will include exposure to diseases, blood and body fluids, and toxic substances (sterilants, x-rays, fumes, latex).
Behavioral and Emotional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt effectively to changing environments. • Withstand unusual smells (cauterized tissue). • Maintain composure when subjected to high stress levels. • Maintain consistent mental alertness for a period of up to eight (8) continuous hours. • Respond in an emotionally controlled manner in learning situations, especially those with high tension levels. • Refrain from intoxication or personal misuse of any drugs in such a manner as to adversely affect performance or activities in the classroom, lab or clinical
Professional Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access transportation in order to get to clinical assignments in a timely manner and before 0615. • Maintain punctuality, positive work attitude and respect for others, professionalism and the ability to interact with persons of diverse backgrounds. • Practice with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and uniqueness of every individual, without regard to social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems. • Commitment to the patient, whether an individual, family, group or community • Promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and all rights of the patient. • Follows all Professional standards, ethics and values. Deliver appropriate and compassionate care to all patients, maintaining
Criminal Background Checks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No disqualifying conditions as listed on the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Disqualifying Condition list. • No positive drug screen or clearance by a Medical Review Officer. • Meets all deadlines upon admission and throughout the program.

If you have any concerns regarding these standards, please email healthrecord@parkland.edu.

Updated 10/2021