# Surgical Technologist

## Functional Abilities

| Gross Motor Skills          | • Move within confined spaces  
|                           | • Maintain balance in multiple positions  
|                           | • Reach above shoulders (e.g., adjust overhead lights)  
|                           | • Reach below waist (e.g., plug electrical appliance into wall outlet)  
|                           | • Reach out front  |
| Fine Motor Skills          | • Pick up objects with hands  
|                           | • Grasp small objects with hands firm and slight (ex. surgical instruments, sutures)  
|                           | • Write with pen or pencil  
|                           | • Key/type (e.g., use a computer)  
|                           | • Pinch/pick or otherwise work with fingers (e.g., manipulate a Syringe)  
|                           | • Twist (e.g., turn objects/knobs using hands)  
|                           | • Squeeze with finger (e.g., eye dropper)  
|                           | • Manual dexterity  
|                           | • Finger dexterity  
|                           | • Simultaneous use of hands, wrists, fingers  
|                           | • Coordinate eye-hand and eye-hand foot (e.g., pumping soap dispenser and surgical scrub)  |
| Physical Endurance         | • Stand for long periods of time from 2-4 hours.  
|                           | • Maintain same position for long periods of time  
|                           | • Sustained repetitive movements  
|                           | • Function in a fast-paced work environment for hours  |
| Physical Strength          | • Push and pull 50 pounds (e.g., carry instrument pans, position client move equipment)  
|                           | • Support 50 pounds of weight (e.g., hold arm or leg)  
|                           | • Lift 50 pounds (e.g., pick up a child, transfer client, bend to lift an infant child)  
|                           | • Carry equipment/supplies (e.g., lift instrument pans)  
|                           | • Use upper body strength (e.g., retraction, physically restrain a Client)  
|                           | • Squeeze with hands (e.g., operate fire extinguishers)  |
| Mobility                   | • Stand  
|                           | • Walk  
|                           | • Twist  
|                           | • Turn  
|                           | • Bend  
|                           | • Stoop  
|                           | • Squat  
|                           | • Sit  
|                           | • Climb stairs  
|                           | • Move quickly  |
| Hearing                    | • Hear normal speaking level sounds (e.g. person to person conversation, request for an instrument).  
|                           | • Hear faint voices and body sounds (e.g., heartbeat)  
|                           | • Discriminate speech in presence of background noises.  
|                           | • Hear in situations when not able to see lips (e.g., masks are worn in the operating room)  |
| Vision                     | • See objects up to 20 inches away (e.g., information on monitor screen, identification of small needles)  
<p>|                           | • See objects up to 20 feet away |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use depth perception</th>
<th>Use peripheral vision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinguish color and color intensity (e.g., color codes on supplies)</td>
<td>See in darkened room (e.g., during endoscopic procedures, eye surgery)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tactile**

- Feel vibrations (e.g., palpate pulses)
- Detect temperature (e.g., solutions)
- Feel differences in surface characteristics
- Feel differences in sizes, shapes
- Detect environment temperature

**Environment**

- Tolerate exposure to allergens (e.g., latex gloves, chemical substances)
- Tolerate strong soaps
- Tolerate strong odors
- Exposure and tolerate unpleasant sights and sounds, electrical energy, solvents, grease, oils, slippery or uneven walking surfaces and excessive noises
- Tolerate working in confined spaces for extended periods of time
- Tolerate wearing protective equipment (e.g., mask, gown, gloves, glasses, laser, radiation)
- Tolerate working indoors
- Tolerate working in extreme temperatures

**Reading**

- Read and understand written documents
- Read digital displays

**Math**

- Count, adds, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers.
- Compute fractions and decimals.
- Document numbers in records.
- Tell and measure time.
- Read measurement marks (e.g., rulers, scale)

**Emotional**

- Establish professional relationships
- Adapt to changing environment/stress
- Deal with the unexpected (e.g., client condition, crisis)
- Focus attention on task
- Cope with own emotions
- Perform multiple responsibilities concurrently
- Cope with strong emotions in others (e.g., grief, anger, stress)
- Accept constructive feedback
- Accept responsibility for own actions

**Analytical Thinking**

- Transfer knowledge from one situation to another
- Process and interpret information from multiple sources (written or oral)
- Analyze and interpret abstract and concrete data
- Evaluate outcomes
- Problem solve
- Prioritize tasks (e.g., time management)
- Use long-term memory
- Use short-term memory

**Critical Thinking**

- Identify cause-effect relationships
- Plan/control activities (organizational skills)
- Sequence information
- Make decisions independently
- Adapt decisions based on new information
- Comprehend and follow instructions
- Follow a process from start to finish (e.g., 2 or more step instruction)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interpersonal Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Establish rapport with individuals (e.g., surgeons,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>staff and group members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Respect/value diversity in others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Negotiate interpersonal conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Demonstrate tolerance in working with others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Function as part of a team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Speak English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Write English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Listen/comprehend spoken/written word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Collaborate with others (e.g., health care workers,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Comprehend and exhibit non-verbal communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>