

Surgical Assistant



Occupational Description

As defined by the American College of Surgeons, the surgical assistant provides aid in exposure, hemostasis, closure, and other intraoperative technical functions that help the surgeon carry out a safe operation with optimal results for the patient. In addition to intraoperative duties, the surgical assistant also performs preoperative and postoperative duties to better facilitate proper patient care. The surgical assistant to the surgeon during the operation does so under the direction and supervision of that surgeon and in accordance with hospital policy and appropriate laws and regulations.



Credentialing

The Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist (LCC-ST) offers the Certified Surgical Technologist/Certified First Assistant (CST/CFA) credential and the National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA) offers a Certified Surgical Assistant (CSA) credential. To be eligible for LCC-ST testing, individuals must be graduates of a CAAHEP accredited surgical assistant program or a CST with current certification who meets a number of other eligibility requirements.



Inquiries

Careers/Curriculum

National Surgical Assistant Association
740 B2 E Flynn Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85014-1031
888 633-0479

Certification/Registration

Certification

Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist
128 S Tejon St, #394
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
800 707-0057

National Surgical Assistant Association

740 B2 E Flynn Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85014-1031
888 633-0479

Program Accreditation

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in collaboration with:
Subcommittee on Accreditation for Surgical Assisting
7108 C South Alton Way
Centennial, CO 80112-2106
303 694-9262
303 741-3655 Fax
E-mail: stcoa@ast.org