

ESTABLISHING CLINICAL CONTRACTS SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Evaluating Clinical Sites

- What is the quality of learning that occurs at the clinical site?
- Are students treated with kindness and respect?
- What type of environment exists at the facility?
- Does the facility provide excellent role models/preceptors?
- Will students receive the appropriate experiences and surgical procedures/specialties?
- Location of clinical site
- Previous formal affiliate agreement with the facility
- Are any program graduates employed at the facility?
- Seek advice from school administration and legal counsel for the school or college

Considerations

- Duration of agreement
- Student access to facilities such as cafeteria, library, lockers, parking
- Problem-solving procedures and channels
- Policies and procedures that will impact the student
- Student role and status
- Costs
- Communication channels
- Schedule (daily and annual)
- Liability and insurance
- Health policies that will impact the student
- Involvement of hospital personnel in educational activities
- Preceptors or mentors
- Chain of command
- Student orientation to the facility
- Maintain current affiliation agreements on file
- Clearly communicate expectations and objectives of program, student, facility, and preceptor
- Provide affiliate facility with appropriate policies and procedures for students
- Provide affiliate facility with current calendar and faculty communication information
- Establish how often clinical site visits will occur

Reference:

Association of Surgical Technologists. *Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology* (5th ed.).