



DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

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| Division: EAST FLORIDA |
| Classification: CERTIFIED SURGICAL FIRST ASSISTANT |
| Applicant Name: |

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| <p>Certified Surgical First Assistant: The Certified Surgical First Assistant must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by facility job description.</p> |
| <p>Definition of Care or Service: The Certified Surgical First Assistant is a specifically trained individual who provides assisting services for the surgeon in both the preparation for and performance of surgery. These services include, but are not limited to, tissue handling, wound retraction/exposure, positioning, providing hemostasis and suturing of tissue, as directed.</p> <p>Scope of Service may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists the surgeon by providing retraction and aiding exposure of the operative site. • Anticipates the moves of the surgeon and assists in the safe and efficient completion of the surgical procedure • Facilitates hemostasis of the surgical site by performing suction, irrigation and sponging the operative site during a surgical procedure • Assists with skin or external suturing and stapling • Assists with securing drainage systems and dressings • Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA Healthcare conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians. |
| <p>Setting(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgical services areas including but not limited to hospitals and outpatient surgery centers |
| <p>Supervision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct supervision by surgeon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indirect supervision by surgery department director, site manager or designee <p>Evaluator: Surgeon/supervising physician in conjunction with surgery department director or designee</p> <p>Tier Level: 3</p> <p>eSAF Access Required: YES</p> |
| <p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School diploma / GED or higher • Proof of training with <u>one</u> of the below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Graduation from a school of surgical technology and completion of a First Assistant Program ○ US military-trained in surgical assisting • Current certification by one of the following national boards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CST- Certified Surgical Technologist through the National Board for Surgical Technology (NBSTSA) ○ TS-C- Tech in surgery, Certified through the National Center for Competency Testing (NCCT) ○ SA-C- Surgical Assistant, Certified through the American Board of Surgical Assistants (ABSA) |



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- **CSA- Certified Surgical Assistant** through the National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA)
- **CSFA- Certified Surgical First Assistant** through the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA)
- American Heart Association health care provider BLS Certification

Preferred Experience:

- Preferred - Approved by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) or approved by the Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologists (LCC-ST) or approved by the National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA)

NOTE: ALL EDUCATION and TRAINING MUST BE VERIFIED BY A THIRD PARTY FOR THE U.S. AND OUTSIDE THE U.S.
NOTE: Where education may not be defined in qualifications area of the Scope, HCA requires the highest level of education completed (not training or courses) confirmed on your background check.

State Requirements:

- N/A

Experience:

- Two years of experience as a Certified Surgical First Assistant.

Competencies:

The Certified Surgical First Assistant will demonstrate:

- Safe environment for patients
 - Participates in the pre-procedure process to verify the correct procedure, for the correct patient, at the correct site / side and involves the patient in the verification process when possible.
 - Participates in a time-out immediately before the start of an invasive procedure
 - Labels containers used for blood and specimens in the presence of the patient
 - Labels all medications and solutions on and off the sterile field in perioperative and procedural settings
- Surgical First Assistant Skills
 - Assist with positioning, prepping, draping of patient
 - Provide visualization of the operative field by the use of retraction, scissors, or electrocautery, as directed by the surgeon
- Assists the surgeon at the completion of the procedure by:
 - Affixing and stabilizing drains
 - Cleansing the wound and applying the dressing
 - Assist with application of cast, splints, and other devices
 - Inserts and removes urinary catheter
 - Harvests and prepares graft tissues (in cardiac surgery only)
- Infection Prevention
 - Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Required immunizations per Division requirements
 - Complies with Isolation precautions
 - Maintains sterile field

References:

The ABSA is a privately held for profit company that issues the SA-C certification
 The NBSTSA is an NCCA accredited certifying body that issues a CST certificate for surgical technologists and the CSFA certificate to surgical assistants.



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The NSAA, through its certifying board, the NCCSA, which is in the process of NCCA accreditation, issues the CSA certificate to surgical assistants.

Association of periOperative Room Nurses (AORN) (2009). *Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices 2009 Edition*. AORN, Inc.: Denver.

Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2009). *Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Surgical Assisting: Job Description: Surgical Assistant*. Retrieved from www.AST.org.

Association of Surgical Technologists (AST) (2001). *Role Definitions and Qualifications for the Certified Surgical Technologist and Certified First Assistant*. Retrieved from www.AST.org.

Cairns, Carol. (2007). *Solving the AHP Conundrum: How to Comply with HR Standards Related to Non-privileged Practitioners (Figure A.13)*. HCPro, Inc.: Marblehead, MA, 97-102.

Credentialing Resource Center (2006). *Clinical Privilege White Paper: Surgical First Assistant (Practice area 180). A supplement to Briefings on Credentialing*. Opus communications: Marblehead, MA.

Rothrock, Jane C. (2009). *Assisting in Surgery: Patient-Centered Care*. Competency & Credentialing Institute.

NBSTSA CSFA Verification <https://www.nbstsa.org/verify-credentials>

NCCT Verification <https://www.ncctinc.com/general/VerifyCertification.aspx>

NSAA Verification <https://www.nsaa.net/csa-finder/>

Document Control:

- Content updates 3/12/2018
- Cosmetic updates 9/9/2020

Your signature confirms you will be able to comply with the Qualifications and Competencies listed within this Scope of Service and that you will confirm education via your background check.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____