

those with whom the student may apply for employment. Students must also **give permission for required clinical documentation such as but not limited to the following: immunizations, Tb skin test, CPR, and criminal background checks to be released to the clinical agencies as requested.**

Occupational Risks

The nature of healthcare education is such that one may be exposed to potential health and/or safety hazards while participating in clinical rotations. Southern Union State Community College, its employees, officials, agents, and representatives are not responsible for any injury, loss, damage, or death that may result or arise from student experiences in the clinical agency. If a student is injured at a clinical agency while participating in clinical activities, the clinical agency is not responsible for providing workman's compensation benefits.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has standards to protect the safety of healthcare workers and patients. Some occupational hazards for surgical technologists include:

- · Exposure to blood, bodily fluids, and infectious materials
- · Exposure to infectious diseases
- · Sharps injuries
- · Blood-borne pathogens and biological hazards
- · Chemical and drug exposure
- · Laser Hazards
- · Ergonomic hazards from standing, lifting, sitting, and repetitive tasks
- · Latex allergies
- · Falls
- · Stress

The curriculum of the SUSCC Surgical Technology program includes the hazards that may be faced by students and practitioners while attending clinic or on the job, as well as policies and protocols that are in place to ensure a workplace culture that prioritizes safety

If you are injured during clinical experiences (needle stick, back injury, etc.), you should:

1. Notify your clinical instructor or course faculty immediately.
2. Report to the nearest hospital's Emergency Department to be evaluated by a healthcare provider.
3. Complete an appropriate incident report/or variance report required by the agency.

Students who incur a needle stick or any other type of direct risk exposure with a patient may be advised by the clinical agency to begin immediate treatment for HIV. For the most effective results, treatment must be started within a few hours of exposure. The cost for laboratory tests and medications (until test results are obtained) may be as high as \$1000.00.

The student is financially responsible for any illness or injury occurring during clinical

rotations; therefore, it is required that students have health, hospitalization, and accident insurance. During clinical rotations, students are not employees of the clinical agency or the college. If injured during clinical rotations, students are not entitled, and will not receive, workman's compensation from either the institution or the health care facility.

SAFETY-Potential Health and/or Safety Hazards: The nature of a healthcare education is such that one may be exposed to potential health and/or safety hazards while participating in clinical rotations. With that knowledge and understanding, and on behalf of myself, my heirs, and administrators, I hereby release Southern Union State Community College, its employees, officials, agents, and representatives from any claim of liability for injury, loss, damage, or death that may result or arise from my experience as a student in the clinical agency. I further understand that, if injured at a clinical agency while participating in clinical activities, the clinical agency is not responsible for providing workman's compensation benefits.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

In the event of an unanticipated interruption in academic delivery the program will follow the emergency preparedness plan when applicable.

- All students will report online via CANVAS or designated synchronous streaming software at assigned times of the course
- All students will attend all online meetings as assigned by the course instructor
- Students will attend synchronous lectures and attendance will be taken
- Students will complete all online assignments and in person skills will be recorded and uploaded
- Upon the return to campus, skills, evaluations, and check offs will resume
- Clinic will resume when students are allowed to return to the clinical facility

STUDENT CLINICAL REQUIREMENT

Students are required to keep a copy of their clinical health requirements. The school does not keep copies on file. **Therefore, the school will not provide copies to clinical agencies after the student graduates.** The student is responsible for keeping copies of clinical requirements as part of the portfolio for career to work.

CLINICAL PAPERWORK

Requirements for satisfactory completion of clinical paperwork vary with each Health Sciences course. See each course syllabus for requirements. Clinical paperwork is to be submitted on the determined due date. Paperwork that is not submitted by the due date may be considered unsatisfactory.

CLINICAL ABSENCES

All college laboratory and clinical experiences are considered clinical. It is expected that the student will assume responsibility for punctual and regular clinical attendance. When it is impossible for the student to attend a clinical session, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor or the assigned unit at least 30- 60 minutes prior **to the beginning of the clinical experience.** Contact must be done via text/telephone message to the faculty. If the student is to