

CREDENTIALING CRITERIA

Private First Assistant
RN, LPN, Surgical Technologist

I. CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION

- A. Licensure and/or Certification (provide copy)
 - 1. Current RN license in state of West Virginia
 - 2. LPN/ Surgical Technologist
 - a. Current LPN license in the state of West Virginia
 - b. Current Surgical Technologist (CST) certification and First Assistant (CFA) certification by the Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist (LCC-ST)
- B. Completion and submission of the requirements delineated by credentialing service per requested position.
- C. Two (2) years of experience in peri-operative nursing (RN) or the certified First Assistant (CST/CFA) role within the last three (3) years (provide documentation).
- D. ACLS desired but not required (provide copy)
- E. A written statement of need from the sponsoring physician (who must be a member of the Medical and Dental Staff) for privileges which includes delineation of tasks, roles, and functions, and assertion of competency in the specified surgical area(s).

NOTE: If applying for expanded intraoperative procedures as described in Section II.C. below, applicant must also submit documentation (degree or certificate) of completion of a formal education program from an institution which meets:

- 1. **the AORN standards for RNFA programs addressing all of the content areas in the AORN Core Curriculum for the RN First Assistant;**
- 2. **the Core Curriculum for Surgical Technology and Core Curriculum for Surgical First Assisting accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (LPN CST/CFA and CST/CFA).**
- 3. **Documentation of competency in the specified surgical area(s). (See I.E. above.)**

II. PRIVILEGES TO BE CREDENTIALIED

- A. Preoperatively
 - 1. Assessment of patient and family needs
 - 2. Evaluating the needs of the patient and of the surgical team on a continuum throughout the surgical encounter.
 - 3. Participating in preoperative patient teaching.

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B. Intraoperatively

1. Assisting with patient positioning, skin preparation, and draping.
2. Providing wound exposure.
3. Handling tissue.
4. Using and manipulating surgical instruments.
5. Providing hemostasis by clamping blood vessels, coagulating, ligation, and by other means.

C. EXPANDED INTRAOPERATIVE PRIVILEGE

1. Wound closure limited to the subcutaneous and skin layers performed under the direct supervision of the sponsoring physician. Direct supervision shall be defined as the sponsoring physician's presence in the operating room at all times when the RN First Assistant or CST/CFA is exercising this expanded intraoperative privilege. **Failure to comply with the direct supervision requirement shall be grounds for revocation of the applicant's expanded intraoperative privilege.**
2. The expanded intraoperative privilege shall only be granted to those applicants submitting documentation of either:
 - a. Registered Nurse
 - (i) A formal RN First Assistant program which includes specific training in wound closure as part of its curriculum. Such documentation shall include proof of successful completion of the formal RN First Assistant program as well as a statement from the program director or faculty member which indicates that the applicant is qualified to exercise this expanded intraoperative privilege without further training.
 - (ii) After a three (3) year interval following completion of the above-stated program, RNFA certification (CRNFA)
 - b. LPN Surgical Technologist/Surgical Technologist
 - (i) Certification for Surgical Technologist and certification for First Assistant (CST/CFA) programs. The First Assistant program shall include specific training in wound closure as part of the curriculum.
 - (ii) Two recommendation letters from physicians by whom the applicant is not currently employed which specifically address the applicant's proficiency in wound closure.

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D. Postoperatively

1. Assisting in the safe delivery of the patient to PACU/floor.
2. Communicating to appropriate health care personnel and family members.
3. Performing follow-up care to evaluate the patient's condition including dressing changes and removal of sutures.
4. Participating in discharge planning and post-operative patient/ family teaching.

E. Documentation (RNFA only)

1. Access to medical records.
2. Document all assessment, planning, and interventions performed in the Nurses' Progress Notes which shall not replace the progress notes which physicians customarily make.
3. Write routine orders after consultation with the supervising physician in the operating room. These orders will be written as verbal orders, to be co-signed by the physician within 24 hours.

III. PRIVILEGES NOT TO BE CREDENTIALALED

The privileges to be granted are limited to only those described above and for the specific surgical area requested. Any other privileges, including but not limited to the administration of medications, will not be granted.

IV. RENEWAL OF PRIVILEGES

Renewal of privileges is on an annual basis and requires the following:

- A. Current license (provide copy)
- B. Completion and submission of the requirements delineated by credentialing service per requested position.
- C. Current ACLS certification, (preferred)
- D. Proof of continued employment

V. TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGES

Privileges will be terminated for any of the following reasons:

- A. Failure to renew within 60 days of expiration date of current privileges (reapplication may be made after such termination)
- B. Misconduct or non-compliance with hospital policies and procedures or failure to function within the limitations of the privileges granted.
- C. Failure to comply with Section II.C.1. above.
- D. Change in employment status

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