

Surgery Technology Program Clinical Placement Requirements

Students must meet the following clinical partner agency requirements in order to be eligible for placement in a clinical rotation. The clinical requirement placement process begins after acceptance into the Surgery Technology Program.

American DataBank (Bellinghamtechcompliance.com)

Students will be required to create an account with Bellinghamtechcompliance.com. Information on how to create your account will be emailed to you by the Surgery Technology Program. The cost will be approximately \$120. Students will use Complio for their background check, UA, physical exam, and immunization tracking for the duration of the Surgery Technology Program. Students will need to upload all their clinical documentation to the website and keep their clinical placement requirements current through Bellinghamtechcompliance.com.

Criminal History Background Inquiry & Urine Drug Screening

Students must pass a criminal history background check and provide a negative 10-panel urine drug test. Information on the background check process and disqualifying crimes can be found on the Criminal History Background Check Info Sheet. Students with pending and/or disqualifying crimes are not eligible for clinical rotations. Dilute UA samples require rescreening within five business days at an additional cost and a second dilute sample is considered a positive. If your final drug test results are positive, you will be ineligible to participate in the program for one year. *Instructions for initiating the process and creating an account will be emailed to you from the Surgery Technology Program.*

Physical Exam

All students must show evidence of satisfactory health status by physical examination within 6 months prior to starting clinical rotations (**Get your physical exam after July 4th**). The examination may be conducted by a physician or mid-level provider (PA, ARNP) and the provider must sign off that you have met the **Essential Qualifications of Surgery Technology Students** and whether or not there are any health problems or limitations that may interfere with your ability to complete clinical rotations while enrolled in the Surgery Technology program.

CPR Certification

Students are required to be **American Heart Association (AHA) BLS Provider** (Healthcare Provider) CPR certified. Courses sponsored by the American Red Cross or any other agency are not acceptable. Several sections of AHA 201 Healthcare Provider CPR are offered at BTC. Go to www.btc.edu/TakeClasses to find course offerings. The course must include an in-person hands-on skills check. Online courses that do not include in-person hands-on skills are not acceptable.

Health Insurance

You must submit proof of current health insurance coverage. Student Injury-only insurance is acceptable and information on how to enroll is available on the BTC website. Your health insurance must be current throughout the duration of the program and you must notify the Surgery Technology program of changes to your health insurance.

Tuberculous Screening (TB test)

Note: COVID-19 vaccines can cause a false positive on a TB screening. You must wait four weeks after receiving the a COVID-19 vaccination to complete TB screening.

One of the following methods of TB screening is required to show proof of negative TB status:

- **2-Step Skin Test (TST):** A two-step is an initial injection that is then read by your nurse or doctor within 48-72 hours. The test must be repeated (second step) no earlier than one week from the 1st reading. A typical schedule is as follows:
 1. Initial appointment – first test (injection) is placed
 2. Second appointment – 48-72 hours after receiving the first test, it is read (measured)
Wait – 1 to 3 weeks after reading of the first TB test
 3. Third appointment – second test (injection) is placed
 4. Fourth appointment – 48-72 hours after receiving the second test, it is read (measured)*If you have had a two-step TB (TST) screening in the past, you only need to have a one-step screening done each year. If more than a year has passed since your last TST, you must start over with the two-step process.*
- **IGRA QuantiFERON or T-Spot:** is a blood test that is ordered by your healthcare provider, you go to a lab to have your blood drawn and then you receive the results.
- **Chest x-ray and annual symptom review:** is usually done only for people who have tested positive for TB from either the TB skin test or blood test. Students who were born outside the United States may have received a vaccination that

now shows up as a positive result on the skin test. Proof of a negative chest x-ray is required, but students do not need to get an x-ray every year. To maintain current with this type of screening students need to have their healthcare provider complete an annual symptom review.

Immunizations

Surgery Technology students must have proof of all the required immunizations on file with the Surgery Technology Program before they can attend clinical. If you need to update your immunizations you may submit partial proof initially and then complete the process after the quarter starts **but before** beginning clinical rotations.

- **MMR (Measles-Mumps-Rubella):** proof of 2 MMR vaccinations in your lifetime or positive titer indicating immunity to Measles, Mumps and Rubella is acceptable.
- **Tdap:** you must have proof of having received one Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) booster immunization *since 2006*. Students are encouraged to be up to date on their tetanus vaccination as well but it is not required.
- **Varicella:** proof of 2 varicella vaccinations in your lifetime or positive titer indicating immunity to varicella. The vaccination or titer may be waived (*for varicella only*) if your healthcare provider signs off stating the date (m/d/y) that you had the disease (chicken pox).
- **Hepatitis B (Hep B):** proof of a positive titer indicating immunity to Hepatitis B or proof of having completed the Hep B vaccination series. The Hep B vaccination series consists of 3 immunizations.
- **Influenza:** you will be required to obtain an influenza vaccine during flu season. Proof of vaccination must include current season, the date of vaccination, and practitioner/location where your vaccination was administered. Only medical exemptions are accepted in place of yearly influenza vaccination. Contact the program manager for information about the medical exemption.
- **COVID-19:** you will be required to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. To be considered fully vaccinated, two weeks must have passed since the date of the second dose or first dose for the one-dose vaccine. Proof of vaccination must include the vaccine you received and the date(s) of vaccination(s). Medical, religious or philosophical exemptions cannot be accepted for clinical placement.

Next Steps- Once you have registered for first quarter program core courses

1. The clinical placement requirements process begins after you have registered for SURG 120 & SURG 125.
2. You may begin by gathering your immunization records. If you are unsure of your current vaccinations the WA DOH offers online access to the vaccine registry at <https://wa.myir.net/>. You will need to register and create an account. Next you can make an appointment with your healthcare provider for a physical exam but be aware that the ***physical exam must be completed no earlier than 6 months prior to the start of clinical.*** You will need to download the Physical Exam form from Complio.
3. You will receive an email from the program with deadlines for completing clinical requirements, instructions for creating an account and submitting documentation to Bellinghamtechcompliance.com.
4. Complete the urine drug screen (UA) and background check by the deadline. Creating your Complio account and paying for the services initiate the background check process.
You are responsible for scheduling your UA appointment at the designated collection site. Negative results will be available within 3 business days from collection. If the test is non-negative it will transmit to a Medical Review Officer (MRO) for review. The MRO will contact you by phone with next steps. If your sample is dilute you will need to retest at additional cost. *BTC staff cannot be involved in the drug testing process in any way.*
5. Complete AHA BLS Provider CPR class only if you have not completed beforehand.
6. Start the 2-step TB skin test process as it can take three or more weeks to complete.
7. Upload your clinical requirements documentation and Physical Exam form to Complio and electronically sign the required clinical placement forms.

For questions about the clinical placement requirement process, please contact Allied Health Programs Program Office Coordinator Tracy Weber at tweber@btc.edu or 360-752-8423.