

**Pulaski Technical College
Anesthesia Technology Program
Clinical Preceptors Agreement**

Introduction

The purpose of this agreement is to provide the clinical preceptor information to facilitate their role in the Associate of Applied Science in Allied Health – Anesthesia Technology program. This program is offered in conjunction with Arkansas Children’s Hospital. The goal of the program is to prepare competent entry-level Anesthesia Technologists in cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Anesthesia technology is an allied health profession focused on fundamental and advanced clinical procedures which assist the anesthesia provider in the safe and efficient care of patient’s under anesthesia. The AT works under the direction of an anesthesia provider as a vital member of the anesthesia care team. The AT is proficient in the acquisition, preparation, and application of various types of equipment required for the delivery of anesthesia care. Cognitive abilities involve knowledge of anatomy/physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and principles of anesthesia technology. Independent judgment is required for rapid response to the quickly changing circumstances in the patient care environment. The AT exhibits professionalism in patient and staff interactions.

A preceptor is a person who teaches, counsels, inspires, serves as a role model, and supports the growth and development of an individual for a fixed and limited amount of time with the specific purpose of socializing the novice in a new role.

Preceptors assist students in bridging the gap between academia and clinical practice. An immersion experience with a preceptor provides a one-on-one relationship between a student and expert. The experience provides the student with an opportunity to enhance their learning of the roles and responsibilities of an anesthesia technologist, through role modeling and interactions that encourage student engagement.

Qualifications

Preceptors are employees of the Clinical Facility, which has a current affiliation agreement with Pulaski Technical College. Preceptors shall:

- Be experienced in the area in which they supervise students.
- Possess a degree equal to the degree for which students are being prepared and/or is knowledgeable of the subject matter by virtue of training and experience (minimum one year).
- Be available to the students and the ACH Clinical Coordinator for the agreed upon time.
- Have a desire to be a preceptor to AT students.
- Be recommended by the Clinical Facility as a professional supported in their role.

Preceptor Responsibilities

- Review the course objectives and the clinical skill and behavioral objectives.
- Collaborate with the student regarding revisions of the skill and behavioral objectives.
- Orient the student to the clinical faculty and staff.
- Facilitate and supervise the clinical experience of the student.
- Allow the student to participate in anesthesia care activities, procedures, and treatments with which both are comfortable and which are within the guidelines of the Clinical Facility's policy for students.
- Provide ongoing evaluation of clinical performance to both student and faculty, as needed.
- Act as a liaison between the student and the Clinical Facility.
- Participate in the evaluation process with the student at the completion of the rotation.

Strategies for Precepting AT Students

Before the Rotation

- Read the course syllabus and become familiar with the course and clinical objectives.
- Be familiar with the Clinical Evaluation form.
- Meet with the student and establish a learning commitment, such that:
 - A student's personal objectives are identified.
 - Ideas are discussed on how the preceptor can help the student achieve the objectives.
 - Establish the time and date of clinical activities.
 - Review what the student can expect from the role of the preceptor.

Student's First Day

- Review expectations of punctuality, dress code, and items required at the clinical site.
- Introduce key staff members, location of policy manuals, location of break rooms, and safety procedures.
- Identify break and meal times.
- Allow the student to observe and participate in the preceptor's clinical management.

During Clinical Experience

- Identify things the student is doing well and provide concrete examples.
- Inform the student on things they need to improve.
- Motivate the student with positive comments about how they are doing.

Student Responsibilities

- Dress and behave in a professional manner.

- Be punctual and courteous.
- Know and communicate own learning needs.
- Be familiar with course objectives, skill objectives, behavioral objectives, and the evaluation process.
- Use professional judgment in carefully and accurately performing all duties with guidance from the preceptor.
- Conduct ongoing self evaluation and discuss with preceptor.
- Take responsibility for own learning.
- Adhere to agency policies and procedures.
- Know how to contact agency, preceptor, and faculty.
- Notify agency, preceptor, and faculty in advance of absence or tardiness.

Assessing Performance

Utilizing the Clinical Evaluation forms provided by Pulaski Technical College, the preceptor will assess daily performance with the student, based on the skill and behavioral objectives ascribed in the evaluation. Clinical skill objectives include observation and competency demonstration. Categories, with examples of skills (which should not be limited to those cited), include:

- Anesthesia equipment
 - Ohmeda, monitors, Datex, pulse oximeter, transport monitor, somapetics monitor, hotline, level one, hypo/hyperthermia units, bair hugger, doppler, ultrasound, IV infusion pump, syringe pump, bronchoscope, light source, video tower, camera, nerve stimulator, hemocue, glucometer, iStat, operating room tables, defibrillator, gas deliver systems, BIS monitor, Danmeter
- Anesthesia supplies
 - Anesthesia cart, machine supply drawers, off-site anesthesia carts, off-site sedation carts, regional block cart, difficult airway cart
- Anesthesia medication
 - Volatile inhalation agents, induction agents, muscle relaxants, reversal agents, local anesthetics, antiemetics, volume expanders, diuretics, narcotics
- Decontamination and sterilization
 - Laryngoscope blades, glidescope, magil forceps, LMAs, TEE probe, light wands, bronchoscopes, Doppler probes, steris system, ultrasound probe
- Infection control precautions
 - Aseptic technique, clean technique, universal precautions, airborne precautions, tuberculosis, contact precautions, droplet precautions
- Sterile technique
 - Priming IV set, priming transducer setup, IV or arterial line insertion assistance, sterile filed for central line or epidural, central line or epidural insertion assistance, anesthesiologist gown and glove assistance, gloving, recognizing breaks in sterile technique by self or others
- Room preparation procedures

- Patient positions, operating table, monitoring placement (lead, BP, oximeter), suction
- Room clean up & stocking procedures
 - Anesthesia machine, anesthesia cart, ancillary equipment, closing out room, monthly terminal cleaning, outdates
- Specimen collection
 - Blood gas, blood/main lab, blood component/patient identification
- Emergency situations
 - Calling a code blue, crash cart, calling a code red, laryngospasm, respiratory arrest, hypovolemia, air embolism, anaphylaxis, malignant hyperthermia
- Paperwork/charting
 - Anesthesia charge sheets, occurrence reports

It is expected that a variety of opportunities will be available for the student to experience. Therefore, the preceptor should track and describe each experience; include as many as possible on the evaluation form.

The behavior objectives include:

- Attitude
- Flexibility
- Professional communication skills
- Respect
- Teamwork
- Responsibility

It is helpful to write brief summaries of each day and identify strengths, areas for improvements, and goals for the next day. This information can be used when completing the Clinical Evaluation form.

On a weekly basis, the preceptor will complete the Clinical Evaluation form and review it with the student. Both student and preceptor will sign the form, and the preceptor will return it directly to the ACH Clinical Coordinator.

Clinical Procedures I Objectives

- Demonstrate clinical application of basic skills acquired from previous didactic coursework in the patient care setting.
- Progress to independently set-up, and/or assess efficacy of equipment, medications, and technique.
- Maintain vigilance and patient safety throughout the perianesthetic continuum, by actively protecting patients from iatrogenic complications, and utilizes appropriate precautions in infection control.
- Collaborates with the anesthesia multi-disciplinary care team in the development of an anesthesia plan of care for patients in areas to which they are assigned,

and subsequently assists the anesthesia provider in a variety of current anesthesia techniques and use of equipment for providing anesthesia. Provides support for anesthesia services to all patients and types of anesthesia, including trauma and emergency cases.

- Conducts a comprehensive and appropriate equipment check. Identifies and takes appropriate action when confronted with anesthetic equipment-related malfunctions and maintains service records.
- In collaboration with the anesthesia provider recognizes and appropriately responds to anesthetic complications that occur during the perioperative period. Describes the relationship of fluid management and the equipment required.
- Functions as a student anesthesia technologist within appropriate professional standards, ethical and legal requirements, accepts responsibility and accountability while assisting with the delivery of patient care.
- Demonstrates personal and professional integrity and has the ability to communicate, on a professional level verbally and non-verbally, regarding the delivery of perianesthetic care. Shows respect for human dignity to patients, peers, and organizations.
- Positively influences health care policy decisions and participates in activities, which enhance anesthesia technologist roles in improved patient care and is an advocate for patients, families and communities. Understands the various needs of diverse multi-cultural and complex client populations in the delivery of culturally competent care.

Clinical Procedures II Objectives

- Students will evaluate the circumstance of the patient, consult with the Anesthesia provider and assist in the care of the patient.
- In the patient care setting, the student will progressively demonstrate their ability to function as a member of the Anesthesia Care Team.
- Student will complete a capstone project that will include:
 - Student will discuss clinical scenarios and form patient care plans
 - Possess critical thinking skills in caring for the anesthesia patient
 - Possess ability to effectively collaborate with the anesthesia care team
 - Review anesthesia technologist career opportunities
 - Prepare for the national technologist credential exam
- Maintain vigilance and patient safety throughout the perianesthetic continuum, by actively protecting patients from iatrogenic complications, and utilizes appropriate precautions in infection control.
- Collaborates with the anesthesia multi-disciplinary care team in the development of an anesthesia plan of care for patients in areas to which they are assigned, and subsequently assists the anesthesia provider in a variety of current anesthesia techniques and use of equipment for providing anesthesia. Provides support for anesthesia services to all patients and types of anesthesia, including trauma and emergency cases.

- Conducts a comprehensive and appropriate equipment check. Identifies and takes appropriate action when confronted with anesthetic equipment-related malfunctions and maintains service records.
- Uses critical thinking skills in assisting the anesthesia provider with patients of all types, ages and physical conditions for a variety of surgical and medically related procedures.
- In collaboration with the anesthesia provider recognizes and appropriately responds to anesthetic complications that occur during the perioperative period. Describes the relationship of fluid management and the equipment required.
- Functions as a resource person for the acquisition, preparation and application of warming, airway and ventilator equipment.
- Serves as a member of the cardiopulmonary resuscitation team, possesses BLS, and ACLS.
- Participates in quality management activities, and operates within budget limits and cost effectiveness.
- Functions as a student anesthesia technologist within appropriate professional standards, ethical, and legal requirements, accepts responsibility and accountability while assisting with the delivery of patient care.
- Demonstrates personal and professional integrity and has the ability to communicate, on a professional level verbally and non-verbally, regarding the delivery of perianesthetic care. Shows respect for human dignity to patients, peers and organizations.
- Positively influences health care policy decisions and participates in activities, which enhance anesthesia technologist roles in improved patient care and is an advocate for patients, families and communities. Understands the various needs of diverse multi-cultural and complex client populations in the delivery of culturally competent care.

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**Pulaski Technical College
Anesthesia Technology Program**

Preceptor Agreement

Name: _____

Education
Degree(s): _____

Certifications: _____

Years of Experience: _____

Clinical Facility: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

I, _____, have read and agree to the qualifications, responsibilities, and strategies of being a Preceptor for the Pulaski Technical College Anesthesia Technology program.

Preceptor Signature Date

Clinical Coordinator Date
Signature