

ANESTHESIA TECHNICIAN I

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under the supervision of the Anesthesia Technician II and of an anesthesiologist, an incumbent of this class is responsible for assisting the professional surgical staff by setting up, calibrating, sterilizing, operating and checking all anesthesia equipment to be used on patients being prepared for surgery. This is the staff level position, wherein incumbents are required to have previous hospital experience and a general understanding of basic asepsis and sterile techniques used in an operating room in order to operate and maintain equipment and supplies. Work schedules are subject to shift assignment and rotating assignments for night and weekend coverage. Supervision is not a requirement of this class. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Cleans, sterilizes and sets up all types of anesthesia equipment and their components including blood gas equipment, anesthesia machines, venous and arterial pressure lines, endotracheal tubes, nasopharyngeal tubes, vaporizers, ventilators, EKG monitors, blood warmers, infusion pumps, Bair huggers, etc.;

Checks, cleans and maintains anesthesia machines on a daily basis, refilling vaporizers with anesthetic agents, changing the sodalime, changing the nitrous, oxygen and air cylinders as needed, and checking for leakages, etc.;

Performs blood gas analyses using blood gas analyzing and centrifuge equipment to determine and monitor the pH, carbon dioxide, oxygen, hemoglobin, hematocrit, sodium, potassium, calcium, and oxygen saturation levels in the blood of patients;

Perform quality control tests on the blood-gas analyzers on a daily basis;

Reports blood-gas test results to anesthesiologist and enters information in patients' chart;

Calibrates Space Lab and Anesthesia machine monitors to appropriate settings for each case;

Ensures adequate inventory of all equipment and supplies related to anesthesia machines, ventilators, monitoring equipment, pressure transducers, endotracheal tubes, spinal and block trays, non-narcotic medications, etc.;

Troubleshoots malfunctioning equipment and effects repairs by replacing various system components to isolate the problem, or replaces equipment;

Ensures that operating rooms are properly stocked with bottles of plasmalyte, albumin and nitroglycerin, as required;

Ensures that medications, drugs and anesthetics are properly stored and refrigerated, and properly disposed of when unusable;

Assists anesthesiologists as needed during surgery;

Places orders to insure adequate inventory and follows up with appropriate sources to ensure their delivery;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Cont'd)

Takes daily humidity readings and makes notations in appropriate chart;

Sets up and clears anesthesia carts before and after surgery;

Ensures that tank room in the Operating Room is properly equipped with various required types of gases and places new orders with Respiratory Therapy Staff;

Carries out policies and procedures set by the Infection Control Unit to insure compliance;

Performs related duties and assignments as required to insure the smooth and effective operation of the Anesthesia Department;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

Accesses protected health information (PHI) in accordance with departmental assignments and guidelines defining levels of access (i.e. incidental vs. extensive);

May assist with training residents in the use of the anesthesia machines and related equipment;

May act in a lead capacity over Patient Care Technicians or other Anesthesia Techs, as needed;

May perform other incidental tasks, as needed. .

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Knowledge of anesthesia equipment and its functions; Knowledge of basic asepsis and sterile techniques; general mechanical skill; ability to understand medical terminology and relate it to the equipment and supplies used in the administration of anesthetics; ability to withstand physical stress; ability and willingness to be trained and to learn; ability to work well with others in stressful situations; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments; ability to read, write, speak, understand, and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential duties of the position; initiative; resourcefulness; good judgment; motor coordination and manual dexterity; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: High school or equivalency diploma three years of experience where the primary function of the position was maintaining or repairing medical, mechanical, or electronic equipment, one year of which must have been in a hospital operating room preparing and maintaining anesthesia equipment and supplies.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: (Cont'd)

SUBSTITUTION: Satisfactory completion of 30 credits* in either Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Surgical/Medical Technology, or Health Sciences may be substituted on a year for year basis for up to two years of the required experience. Certification as an Anesthesia Technician (CAT) by American Society of Anesthesia Technologists and Technicians (ASATT) may be substituted for the one year of specialized hospital experience.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.

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J. C.: Non-competitive†
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Job Class Code: C2318
Job Group: VIII