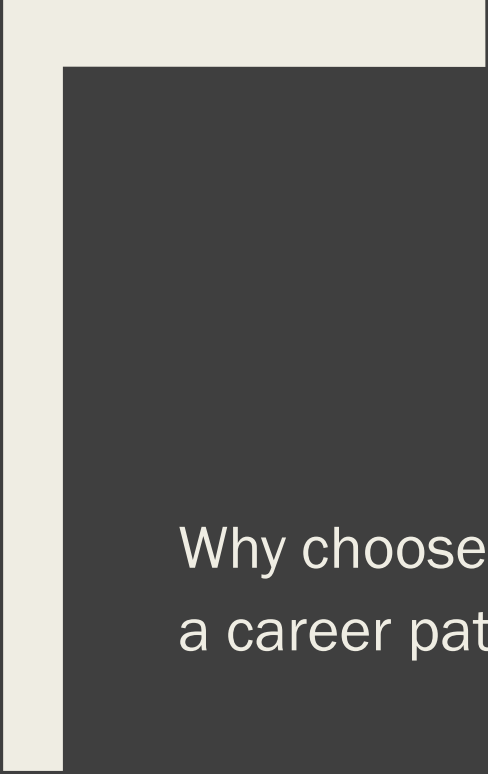



SURGICAL SERVICES



Why choose us for
a career path



First of all- Who am I:

My name is Karen Geittmann

I am the system surgical services
education manager for SIH

I have been a nurse for over 38 years and
have been employed at SIH since 2014

I have worked in surgical services in
several roles since 2001

I have a masters degree in nursing

Why am I here?



I'm here to tell you that there are lots of job opportunities in the healthcare field, and that there are going to be even more jobs in the future.

For example, employment for surgical technologists is projected to grow 7 percent in the next 10 years, faster than the average for all occupations.

Advances in medical technology have made surgery safer, and more operations are being done to treat a variety of illnesses and injuries.

That means a whole lot of new jobs



Diversity:

So, we are talking about many different kinds of jobs, something to appeal to every person, no matter what your interests are.

Some of these jobs, like being a physician, require a lot of schooling; others can be had with a 2-year associate's degree or even less time spent in a certificate training program.

Something else that is important to know is there is always room for further education- for example if you start out as a Certified nurse assistant you could work while going to school to become a nurse if you wanted to.

Why surgical services?

- Surgical services has so many different roles to offer.
- We have so many different positions within our department it would be really hard to highlight them all in 30 minutes.
- I am going to try to do a brief overview of most of them.



Let's start here:

- Patient family liaison:-
- This person assists in keeping track of where the patients are once they are registered and are in our unit. They also keep the families updated once the patient goes to surgery. They may assist in the transport of patients and keep the unit running smoothly. This person checks the patient in at the desk, They also make sure the family is put in a private space to talk to the surgeon after the procedure is completed.

Office Coordinator

This person helps make things run smooth in the unit

They call patients, set up interviews and organize meetings

Surgical services has these in various parts of the department

They have different duties depending on where they are assigned.

Other surgical services roles:



Transporter

- Transporters go get patients that are already in the hospital and bring them to same day surgery.
- They help in the other areas of the department in any way that they can.



Materials Management

- They order supplies and equipment that we need throughout the department
- They put supplies away and help get items ready for procedures for us.

More surgical services roles:



Sterile Processing Department

- This department cleans and sterilizes the instruments that we use in surgery.
- They make sure all items are clean prior to assembling them for us.



Registered Nurse First Assist,(RNFA) or Surgical Technologist First Assist (STFA)

- They assist the surgeon during surgery.
- This requires specialized schooling above and beyond RN and Surgical Technology.

What other positions does surgical services have:

- Endoscopy technician- assists the procedure physician in the endoscopy procedure room, cleans and processes flexible scopes used for procedures. This is an on- the- job training position.

Some of you may have heard about our new program:

OR surgical technician

- We started our first class in October in 2023. We are currently interviewing for our next class which we plan to start in May.
- Requirements for this are BLS,(basic life support) and a high school diploma
- This is a very in-depth on the job training externship that means you are a paid student with our SIH benefits. Students are in the program for 6-9 months until they graduate and then they are under contract to work at an assigned facility for 18 months.

What do OR
technicians
do?

They prepare operating rooms for surgery and assist during operations.

The average salary in Illinois for OR techs is \$73,673

There is a nation- wide shortage for them and that is why we started our own program.

LPN

Licensed Practical Nurses can function as OR technicians with on-the-job training.

We have an education program for this as well.

Why do people choose these jobs?

A lot of people choose these types of jobs while they are working on further certifications or degrees.

For example- if someone works in sterile processing they could be working on a certification in this role

Another example, I have is we had an endoscopy tech who went to school to become an LPN, and then RN- we worked around her schedule to help her succeed with this process.

SIH is very supportive of furthering education. They have loan forgiveness, scholarships, and tuition reimbursement program. They also increase pay for certain certifications and credentials.

So, let's talk about surgical services nurses' roles for a minute;

- What departments do we have nurses in?
 1. Pre-anesthesia- This department has RNs who call patients and go over the patients' history, do patient teaching about the procedure and make sure the patient is as ready as possible for the procedure
 2. Same day surgery- the nurses here get the patients' ready the day of the procedure. They also take care of them after they are released from the recovery room and discharge them home.
 3. Recovery room or (PACU-post anesthesia care unit)- These nurses take care of the patient immediately after the surgery is complete and they come out of the operating room

Continued:

- OR circulator- These nurses take care of the patient while they are in the OR. They make sure the surgeon, tech and assist have everything they need during the procedure. They make sure things run safely and smoothly for the patient
- CRNA-certified registered nurse anesthetist- This is registered nurse who has specialized training in anesthesia. They administer anesthesia for procedures and surgeries. They are considered advanced practice nurses. They are educated at a masters or doctoral level. They have worked as an RN previously to this specialized training for at least one year in critical care and they have graduated from a nurse anesthesia program which is a minimum of three years in length.

Procedure nurses:

- These nurses can be endoscopy nurses who work in endoscopy(endo). They would get patients ready for the procedure, take care of them during the procedure, and take care of them until they were either transferred to the unit room they came from or the PACU or discharged home.
- Interventional radiology procedure nurses. These nurses work in interventional radiology (IR). They get the patients ready for the procedure, take care of them during the procedure and take care of them until they are either transferred to the unit room they came from, SDS to be discharged or they take care of them and discharge them.
- So, as you can see nurses wear many hats in our department

In the pre-anesthesia department

Nurse Practitioner- These are advanced practice nurses.



Nurse Practitioner

- Sees patients before surgery to help the anesthesia department
- Orders tests and labs

What do you need to work in our department?

Your high school diploma

Some positions require you to get basic life support- if applying for one of those, our HR department will let you know you need it if you are accepted.

A caring and positive attitude. We care about our patients that's why we work there.



Roles:



There are many roles in surgical services: There's one waiting for you here in the future.

Specialty organizations

- Surgical services also has some specialty organizations that have many things to offer
- SGNA-Society of gastroenterology nurses and associates
- ASPAN-American society of PeriAnesthesia nurses
- AORN-Association of perioperative Registered Nurses
- *All of these organizations offer education with membership.

AORN

- Association of perioperative Registered Nurses
- I have been involved in our local chapter for 10 years.
- AORN provides evidence- based recommendations for safe perioperative patient care and workplace safety.
- Our local chapter holds fund raising events to award scholarships to healthcare workers and HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS who are going into healthcare related fields-

How do I apply for the scholarship?



The QR code:

- Takes you to a form to fill out
- You will need a short essay not to exceed 500 words telling us what/who inspired you to pursue your chosen career path
- There are a couple of other sections we ask you to fill out
- The scholarship is for \$500.00
- The deadline for this is **April 18**

If you are interested in this scholarship

- I am leaving a copy of the QR code here
- I am also leaving a copy of the application here for anyone to make a copy of.
- The deadline on the copy I am leaving says March 31st- we extended it to April 18th so anyone here could apply after my presentation.
- I am also leaving some pamphlets about our surgical tech program

Questions?