



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION  
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### Interpretive Guidelines

**SUBJECT:** Surgical Technologist scope in Health Care Facilities

**DATE:** March 25, 2026

**POLICY:** Any surgical technologist that is delegated tasks while in a licensed health care facility shall do so in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Board of Medical Examiners, Board of Osteopathic Examiners, Board of Physician Assistants, and Board of Nursing.

Before a task is delegated to a surgical technologist, the facility must:

- 1) Determine whether the task is delegable;
- 2) Determine whether the surgical technologist is properly trained to perform the delegable task; and
- 3) Ensure proper supervision while the delegated task is being performed.

If the delegable task requires specialized training, i.e. instrument exchanges during robotic surgery, proof of the training should be maintained by the facility for inspection by Commission surveyors.

This interpretive guidance will remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Commission.

APPROVED and EFFECTIVE: DATE