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December 16, 2015

Nebraska DHHS
407 Committee for Surgical Technology Credentialing
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Ne. 68508

Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide information about our Surgical Technology program here at WNCC and participate in this vital credentialing process.

We have requested and initiated the initial accreditation process through the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in collaboration with the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA). Through this process, we will submit our self study packet to ARC/STSA in mid March and then participate in an onsite review by the ARC/STSA in early July. It is our intent to have initial accreditation granted to the program by CAAHEP next fall, thus ensuring that the current cohort of students may sit for the national certifying exam in Surgical Technology prior to graduation in December of 2016.

Currently the program of study is only available here on campus via traditional class and lab facilitation and at clinical sites within the Panhandle. However it is the strategic goal of the program to facilitate online and accelerated delivery models as soon as practicable, after initial accreditation of the program is achieved. These methods, particularly the accelerated delivery model, will be crucial in supporting the credentialing proposal before the committee relative to those individuals within the state who are currently working in the role of a surgical technologist, but do not possess of, or hold the appropriate education or credential.

Current approximate costs of the program are as follows;

Tuition and Fees: \$7085.00
Books and Materials: \$800.00
Other fees/expenses: \$500.00

I have included as an attachment two course curricula. The one designated “current” is the present curriculum that will be accredited through the initial process and is what is listed in the current catalog. The one designated “2016” will be deployed for the incoming cohort in Fall 2016. These changes were deemed necessary by me to ensure that the clinical experience goals of the students and the core curriculum could be more effectively met, while at the same time

providing both the student and the various clinical sites with a more stable, reliable, and quality environment in which to learn and succeed. This change has been supported by both the institution and ARC/STSA, at whose direction we will be submitting a “substantial change” for approval once initial accreditation is granted.

Thank you again for allowing WNCC to submit information regarding our program here in Western Nebraska. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Rob Frey, CST/CSFA, BS, MBA