

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. I have been asked to host a visitor – what steps are needed to facilitate this request?

- Determine the role of the person wanting to observe, (student, physician, staff member, etc.)
- Reach out to the appropriate contact (See table above)
- Periop Education to be contacted by the department responsible for scheduling observation

### 2. Is there any training required prior to observing in the OR?

- Periop Education provides a Periop Basics class before observers are allowed in OR
- This is a 45-minute virtual, online, interactive, instructor-led class and is held every Friday morning at 7am (CST)
- It is an expectation that cameras will be on during the class
- The following content is reviewed during the Periop Basics class:
  - Surgical attire
  - Review the Periop Dress Code
  - ID Badges
  - PPEs
  - Review of surgical zones
  - Standard precautions
  - Hand hygiene
  - Overview of emergency safety systems
  - Overview of the surgical suite and OR team member roles
  - OR Etiquette
  - Introducing yourself to the team and explaining your role
  - Movement around the sterile field
  - Maintaining proper boundaries - Must be at least 12 inches away from the sterile field if un-scrubbed
  - Surgical conscience
- **This class is not optional** – our patients' safety is our priority and anyone who enters the OR should have a baseline knowledge of the surgical environment as well as expectations
- **Plan ahead – Periop Education cannot accommodate last minute requests**

### 3. Who must attend the Periop Basics class, how often is it held and how do I sign up?

- Anyone who observes, shadows, visits the Adult OR must attend a Periop Basics class provided by Perioperative Education **prior** to their observation
- Once your OR observation has been approved, you will be sent a link to register for the online training class which is held every Friday morning at 7:00am CST
- Class should be attended close to your observation day in the OR – not months in advance
- To sign up for the class, scan the QR Code or click the survey link below and enter the code



Go to this web address:

<https://redcap.link/Observationrequest>

Then enter this code: **HXEX7C3XX**

- Once the class has been completed, the observer will be sent a post class survey
- Observers will not be permitted to observe unless the post class survey has been completed

**4. Can I scrub into cases after taking the class?**

- No – this class does not train the visitor to scrub into cases
- Visitors who go through VOE are not permitted to scrub into cases
- VOE permits visitors to observe in the OR for a **one time, 8-hour observational experience only** – No hands on allowed

**5. I am a visiting medical student and have not gone through VOE - Can I scrub into cases?**

- Visiting Medical Students are not permitted to scrub into cases unless the sponsoring surgeon requests them to do so, and notifies Perioperative Education in advance of their rotation  
[periopeducation@vumc.org](mailto:periopeducation@vumc.org)
- If a student, (visiting medical student) is being asked by a Surgeon to scrub into a case, proof of scrub training from the students' home institution must be provided to Perioperative Education or the student will not be permitted to scrub into cases
- If such proof cannot be provided, the student will not be permitted to scrub in unless they attend a Scrub Training class by Perioperative Education
- These scrub classes are scheduled well in advance
- Last minute classes **will not** be provided to accommodate lack of planning or notification of the need for you to scrub in

**6. How can I enroll in scrub training provided by Periop Education?**

- Once it has been determined that scrubbing is a **necessary** part of your OR experience, Periop Education will send you a date for the next training class
- Last minute training classes will not be accommodated – plan ahead

**7. How do OR staff verify completion of Periop scrub training?**

- You will be given a scrub sticker to place on the back of your ID badge as proof of your attendance and completion of the training (see image below)
- Our staff are trained to verify the visitor scrubbing in has had scrub training
- Without this sticker, you will not be allowed to scrub
- For visitors without a sticker, OR staff contacts Periop Education for verification of training



**8. I am an internal employee – why do I have to go through VOE and take a Periop Basics class?**

- VOE is the vetting process to ensure that all required documentation, confidentiality agreement, and safety quiz are completed
- Again - Anyone who observes, shadows, visits the Adult OR must attend a Periop Basics class
- Our patients' safety is our priority and anyone who enters the OR should have a baseline knowledge of the surgical environment as well as expectations