

More Praise From Happy ACESA Clients...

"As a new graduate from a Registered Nurse First Assistant Program, I am very happy that I decided to attend your Surgical Skill Lab. I found it to be very informative in all aspects of Surgical Assistance. I have learned a lot in these 6 days. I knew the basics but now I feel more comfortable assisting in all types of surgery. My suturing and tying techniques have greatly improved. I think that you should consider getting on the approved list for the Competency and Credentials Institute (CCI) for Registered Nurse First Assistant Certification. You have a very good program which would attract a lot of nurses who want to become first assistants. Thank you for all your help."

Maria Colon-Bloschock, RN, CNOR, RNFA
Columbus Hospital, Newark, NJ

Regarding SurgiNet Distance Learning, the Complications During Surgery module:

"I think this module hit on all levels of the learning continuum. This is a good review of the emergent situations we should be aware of, but more importantly, provided the assistant with recognizable signs to help assess the patient."

Cory Green, CST
Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Portsmouth, NH

Regarding SurgiNet Distance Learning, the Laminectomy module:

"As always, ACESA provided excellent study materials, making unfamiliar subjects interesting and comprehensible to the novice."

Jayne Eck, RN
Redland Community Hospital, Redlands, CA

"ACESA is a very strong resource for the beginning allied health professional. I was very impressed with the program's curriculum, including the Surgical SkillLab and Clinical Internship. I definitely enjoyed the lab setup and Dan has obviously put some time into creating the simulators. I felt they were very accurate in anatomy and an excellent way to learn suturing and tying. This is an absolute must for the beginning allied health professional. Dan instills correct technique and works with you one-on-one to ensure that your technique is acceptable for your clinical internship. The anatomy and the simulators are so real that it is impossible to not learn the techniques."

Jason Wild, ST
Gunnison Valley Hospital, Gunnison, CO

"Very good technical lab. Tying techniques made simple. Simulators were as real as can be had. The small group setting allowed for exceptional help from Dan. Also, it was easy to get to know the others in the class. I have figured out stitches and tying that frankly was a mystery before this class. If you want to succeed in the technical aspects of surgical assisting, then this lab was exceptional. The didactic portion is advanced enough to give someone with extensive anatomical and diagnostic knowledge even more information."

David Bertsch, ST
St. Anthony's Hospital, Westminster, CO

"I feel that ACESA is a great company who provides lots of opportunities. I enjoyed the positive reinforcement that is given and displayed. I benefited most by learning the steps to different methods (tying, procedures, etc.). I can now explain what and why I'm doing something. I feel that this program was a God send for me. As a non-certified surgical tech, you may face some put downs. Here at ACESA, the world is different. You are encouraged to excel and do well for yourself so you can make more money with greater opportunity for yourself and your family."

Karee Kitchen, ST
Eastside Surgery Center, Houston, TX

"ACESA provides a valuable service to healthcare workers across a broad spectrum. The one-on-one training reinforced the anatomy and skills learned in this course. Specifically, working on the simulators was very helpful. Learning the trade secrets of surgical assisting – especially wound closure techniques – will help me to be more valuable to my employer. I will be able to apply these skills to various clinical situations outside of surgery as well. I highly recommend this course to any healthcare worker who desires to increase their knowledge or all that relates to surgical assisting, suturing, and tying. Not only will you become more proficient at technique and skills, but also at knowing the background anatomy and career knowledge."

Stephanie Ross, Advanced Practice Nurse, Certified Nurse Midwife
Advanced Women's Care Center, Elk Grove Village, IL

"ACESA is very professional and helpful. At the lab, I really benefited from a better understanding of anatomy and ways it impacts assisting and also the time saving techniques. To assist effectively and safely in surgery, one needs training in a controlled atmosphere. This course gives an excellent base knowledge from which to start in the Operating Room with the patient receiving quality, safe care from day one."

Angela Daniels, RN, CNOR, RNFA
Centegra, McHenry, IL

"I often wondered how the surgeons knew to stay in a 'safety zone.' I now feel confident with patient safety. This program is the most knowledge laden learning experience. The fog is lifting. I am feeling more comfortable and what I am learning each day is very helpful in my goal of becoming a great Surgical Assistant. I understand that I am not just 'two extra hands.' I am vital to the success of the surgery. Mr. Bump showed us that he really cared about our success. His caring came throughout the entire six days. I would recommend this program to anyone who wants to have an exciting career."

Larry Villarreal, CST
HMA Mesquite Hospital, Mesquite, TX

"ACESA is a company that is compassionate about the career advancement of their students. Friendly, helpful, and concerned are a few words that describe this wonderful company. One major benefit I have gained from the lab is self-confidence beyond what I expected. The knowledge gained opens your eyes and makes surgery and your part in it more rewarding."

Daniel Willis, CST
River Oaks Hospital, Flowood, MS

"I will recommend this program to anybody that wants to further their skills. From the start to finish, it is very interesting, exciting, and educational."

Roger Guardiola, ST
Methodist Healthcare, San Antonio, TX

"ACESA is professional, informative, and full of personal experience. Having a small class was awesome! Dan was available for much one-on-one training with the tying and procedures. One of the great benefits for me was applying knowledge of human anatomy to surgical assisting. Makes me more aware of my responsibility to know structures of the body to assist effectively. The ACESA skills lab was a once in a lifetime experience for me as a surgical nurse. I never knew the possibilities open to me and my future. Dan Bump gave information, experience, and a desire to study and practice and learn in order to be the best I can be."

Antoinette Varner, RN, BSN
Saint Anthony's Health Center, Alton, IL

"The course has provided a tremendous level of simulated hands-on experience in advanced technique for the Surgical Assistant. I thought prior to taking this course I had a strong background for anatomy and physiology, but after a few lessons I was studying on the PA level with a much better understanding of A&P as well as surgical technique and why surgeons do things the way they do."

Robert McKinstry, RN
East Cooper Regional Medical Center, Mt. Pleasant, SC

"ACESA has given me the skills and knowledge I need to conquer the world of first assisting! My initial contact with ACESA was very pleasant and informative. They made me feel confident about their help and support through their program. One benefit I got is realizing that first assisting is more than just closing an incision. I highly recommend this program to anyone seeking to become the best surgical first assistant they can be. The program is very detailed and the anatomy lecture was the best. You will have a high confidence level when you finish with the program."

Kendra Pipkin, CST
North Hills Hospital, North Richland Hills, TX

"I think ACESA is a highly professional organization that is making a great contribution to surgical technology. The last day of the course was significant for me. Even though Mr. Bump had spent more than enough one-on-one, I still wasn't confident, but it all came together on the Transverse Colon Resection/Anastomosis. The thing I am happiest with about this program is the self-confidence I gained in tying suture. This has always been a struggle for me. Most classes do not spend the time to ensure all of the students leave knowing how to tie correctly. At ACESA the learning is enhanced because of the size of the group – which leaves plenty of time for Mr. Bump to make sure all of his students are doing things correctly from handling instruments to tying suture."

David Edwards, CST
Heartland Regional Medical Center, Saint Joseph, MO

"ACESA is a good source of information and knowledge. I really liked the 6 day hands-on training. It can give you the skills to be comfortable on your first assisting job. Then you can refine what you learned and not appear nervous. The one-handed tying is the most valuable to me. If you have the techniques, you can become great at what you do and instill confidence in the Dr. If you are looking for knowledge, then take this course. If you are looking for confidence, then take this course and apply it."

Stewart Sagers, CST
Franklin County Medical Center, Preston, ID

Regarding SurgiNet Distance Learning, the TAH module:

"I enjoyed learning more than the gross anatomy. This block of study was in depth and will turn a very mundane procedure into one in which I can understand the reason for TAH. Also, knowing why some doctors prefer LAVH over TAH is a big help and actually knowing what they are doing will make the experience that much better. Best of all, these modules answer the questions we as techs just never ask or are afraid to."

Cory Green, CST
Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Portsmouth, NH

"I had the best time. Our group brought experience and knowledge to the lab. Everyone was very helpful, understanding, and eager to be there for one another. Our instructor was very knowledgeable. He brought all his experience to the lab and affiliated it with everyday life. I am very appreciative and thankful that I have the opportunity to grow financially while acquiring and using the knowledge that I received. The company is friendly, convenient, and they work with you on everything."

LaTonya Goode, ST
Bon Secours St. Francis Medical Center, Midlothian, VA

"This program gives you all the tools you need to be successful as an assistant. It is a strong foundation as to why we are in such demand and what an asset we are to the surgical community. We get skills that will enable us to have a fantastic career."

Rob Hulings, ST
Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Richmond, VA

"I am very excited about being a part of this course. Dan is so knowledgeable and ready to assist you through your journey to become a surgical first assist. He was willing to discuss many of his own experiences and ready to show you how to not make the mistakes he made early in his career. I always wanted to be able to help with the closings. I was often asked if I knew how. I now feel confident that I can answer "yes" and actually accomplish the task. Thank you for everything."

Celeste Small, CST
Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, NC

"Great learning opportunity! Great financial opportunity! Great career opportunity! Great opportunity!"

Darrell Stephens, ST
Anne Arundel Medical Center, Annapolis, MD

"The hands-on surgical skills lab was a terrific experience. Dan not only taught us the skills needed to assist, but he taught us the extra steps that can make the surgery run smoothly. I would not only recommend this program to my friends, but to anyone who is interested in becoming a Surgical Assistant. I feel the training I received is top notch. I would not be ashamed to share it with anyone."

Vance Thomas, LPN
North Park Surgery Center, Claremore, OK

"ACESA is a great company that takes pride in itself. The lab really helps you understand why you do what you do throughout the procedure. I have learned many different tying techniques and this means I can use the ones I feel are the most effective for the situation at hand. My experiences with this program were wonderful. The program is excellent in teaching you more specifics in anatomy and how it plays an important role in the Surgical Assistant's duties during a procedure."

Deborah Reed, ST
Brandywine Hospital, Coatsville, PA

"Laparoscopes are becoming commonplace in the OR and sometimes you don't appreciate the training and skill it takes to be coordinated enough to move those laparoscopic instruments. The laparoscopic simulator gave you great hands-on and the hand/eye coordination you need."

Jesse MacGlashing, RN
Wentworth Douglass Hospital, Dover, NH

"ACESA goes the extra mile and is very reliable. I'm very happy with the interaction between the instructor and student. In the middle of the surgery is no place to learn to tie suture or to learn to suture. With the knowledge and hands-on at the lab, there is no problem and there is confidence in suturing and tying. If you want to advance your medical career, this course and 6-day lab is what you need. The hands-on training prepares you for the OR as a Surgical Assistant. ACESA is all about you as a person succeeding as a Surgical Assistant. They are there to help."

Richard Brown, CST, SA
Providence St Vincent's Hospital, Portland, OR

"I was very happy with the help I get when I call the ACESA office. I would strongly recommend this program to anyone who is willing to learn an extension of their trade, make more money, and have more confidence and respect at work."

Karley Hiller, CST
Herman Memorial Northeast Medical Center, Humble, TX

"A great refresher course! Recommended for ORT's who want to become SA's. For hospital or doctor trained SA's, this course will help you brake old habits and use new or good habits."

Jake Jacobs, SA
Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville, VA

"I think ACESA is great. They work with you and don't put too much pressure on you. Dan did a lot of 1 on1 with me and took however much time I needed to get comfortable. This is an excellent program because Dan has been there, understands how it feels, knows all the secrets, and shares them. It is also competitively priced for how much you get out of it. Dan takes his time to help you really understand each situation and what your role is. Everyone learns at different speeds and he that and accommodates it."

Jennifer Lowry, ST
Oregon Surgery Center, Roseburg, OR

"This is an excellent course for the individual who wants to be the best at what they do. I've learned more in six days than I thought was possible. I didn't think I was going to be able to do the tying techniques that were taught in such a short period of time. But I have. I value the finesse I learned from this course. The finesse that I've learned has improved on my technique. It's one thing to know how to do it, but to look smooth and confident is another. I can tell I'm on the road to success with my new found skills and training. This is an excellent course and I'm glad to be part of this class & organization. Dan, you rock! Thanks for not giving up on me & mostly for your encouragement!"

Robert Smith, ST
First Assist, Baltimore, MD

"From my first phone call to ACESA, I could feel the company was behind me 100%. I was very happy with the way Dan encourages people not to give up on themselves and never makes you feel you are less than what you are. I loved being able to actually sew and make incisions. It definitely helped me use the skills that I was learning in class everyday. I believe it will make me a better assistant as well as scrub tech because of all the role playing. The program is educational, professional, and fun! It was so much fun to role play and use our new skills. The simulators were excellent and the instructor Dan was very knowledgeable and has the gift to explain techniques so that everyone understands them. His patience is phenomenal!!"

Mary Lynn Fury, CST
St Clair Hospital, Pittsburg, PA

"ACESA is a very personalized program. You feel like an individual not a number. Everyone in the office was very helpful and the response time was excellent. I received all the information I needed in a timely manner. I enjoyed the hands-on simulation. Dan is a great instructor and breaks everything down so everyone can understand. I would definitely recommend this program to any surgical tech who would like to enhance their skills, grow in the field, and make more money."

Daneal Winstead, ST
Bon Secours St. Francis Medical Center, Midlothian, VA

"I feel this is a well-rounded program that provides me with the skills and knowledge that I need in order to succeed. I enjoyed learning the tricks and tips that you may otherwise gain with experience. I valued meeting other people who love their careers as much as I do. I highly recommend this program due to the fact that you receive a lot of one-on-one attention. Everything is explained in a manner which is not only simple and easy to understand, but is also entertaining."

Carmen Verdugo, CST
Mercy Regional Health Center, Manhattan, KS

"My overall feeling is that ACESA makes it very enjoyable to learn about Surgical Assisting. The experience with ACESA that stands out is that you really get to know how to suture and tie in the time you have. This has me really excited about getting back and showing off my skills. If you need to learn how to be a Surgical Assistant, this is the program for you. I would recommend my friends and co-workers to this program any day."

Robert Davis, ST
Baptist Hospital, Jackson, MS

"I think ACESA can provide anyone the knowledge to step into the OR and start assisting with confidence. The hands-on Skill Lab really challenges you to improve the skills you already possess and create new skills. I feel I can comfortably suture under any situation by utilizing the skills learned in the lab. Dan has taken the time to set up a curriculum that teaches his surgical knowledge and incorporates the knowledge of his students into an understandable format. By taking the attitude of learning, Dan can teach each student as an equal and everyone benefits and grows from the experience."

Jonathan Burkett, TS-C, SA
Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"Even though I assisted before, I didn't always know how to help. Now I feel like I have the knowledge and understanding to better help. The show and tell demonstration followed by the hands-on lab is an exceptional way to 'self-teach.' You and your lab partners have to think through the steps of the procedure and then implement them. I think this program is great for anyone who likes the OR and has plans to succeed there. Dan does a great job of making everyone feel like a part of the group and that they can achieve their goals."

Joelle Hauk, ST
Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines, IA

"The most beneficial part of this program was the confidence building. Secondly, I became more aware of proper technique. I've worked in a small OR for over five years. Many of the skills I've learned here will not only make me a better assistant, but I feel that I can aid my doctors more adequately, from proper instrument usage to tying suture to closing wounds. If you want to open the door to a bright future, this program awaits you."

Cathrine Davis, ST
Central Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS

"ACESA is a professional, no pressure company with highly skilled instructors. I initially contacted ACESA about 24 months ago curious about enrollment. However, I could not attend that particular skill lab because financial reasons. There was no pressure from ACESA. As time went by, however, they kept me informed of various locations across the country. Now I would recommend this program to anyone who wishes to have distinguished techniques in a wide variety of specialty areas."

Joseph (Chris) Anderson, ST
Medical Express, Westminster, CO

"This program (lab) has given me the confidence I need to start my clinical rotation. I feel that the skills I learned I will be able to use the rest of my career. I can't wait to get started on Monday. The ACESA online Surgical Assistant Program is the best economical choice for my busy schedule."

Manuel J. Mier Jr., ST

Methodist Ambulatory Surgery Center, San Antonio, TX

"This course is very in-depth. The best experience is meeting and making new friends from different areas and learning about their work environment and how ACESA will have an impact on them and their careers. I liked learning the reasons why certain procedures are done a certain way. TAH for example, we learned why the surgeon would do each side one step at a time. The wound closure was very beneficial to me. It helped me to improve my technique. I would recommend this program to anyone who has a strong desire to be the best Surgical Assistant that they could be. Even if they have been assisting for years, this course can teach them things that would help them to be better and more aware of the surgeon's needs. I believe *everyone* who has the desire to improve themselves needs this course."

Kim Summar, LPN

Stone Crest Medical Center, Smyrna, TN

"The Surgical Skill Lab was very organized. Very well presented. It demonstrated to me how well I can do in the surgical setting. I definitely learned a lot of techniques that will be very valuable to me. Also the anatomy portion of the lab has great benefit. Also the lab patients (simulated) added to the class. I strongly recommend this program because the benefits are immediately seen at the surgery table."

Lantz Harris, ST

Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"ACESA has been great. The company as a whole has been easy to work with. They are constantly helping improve my experience. They are very easy to contact. Dan Bump was able to cater to my skill level as a beginning SA during the skill lab while in the presence of many veteran SAs. His willingness and patience helped improve my confidence and improve my skill and technique so as not to seem like a beginner. As a Surgical Assistant just beginning his career, I can say that ACESA and the skill lab gave me a jump start by teaching great technique and skills. I feel confident to stand next to SAs that have been doing it for years. ACESA gave me the knowledge, skill, and confidence to take my career to the next level."

Ben Jeter, ST

Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"Thank you Dan for helping me gain confidence in an area that I've wanted to develop. You have given me many tools and trade secrets that will benefit my surgeons and patients. I'm extremely pleased with my progression throughout the week. I'm feeling affirmed in my desire to further my career in surgery. I would not have imagined that my path in life would bring me the Surgical Assistant Program. I'm grateful for the opportunity! You are a fantastic organization and I would highly recommend you to others."

Catherine MacLean-Miller, RN

Redlands Community Hospital, Redlands, CA

"I made the right choice when I picked ACESA to get my training from. The staff was very helpful and knowledgeable, and they want me to succeed. The skill lab was great. I learned things I did not know after scrubbing for 10 years. You gain the knowledge you need to start your clinicals. You are not just thrown to the wolves and told to find a Dr. to teach you. I can not say enough about this program. Even if I never first assist, I know I am a much better scrub nurse for having taken this course. The knowledge I have gained will be immeasurable."

Theresa Walker, CST
Legacy Emanuel Hospital, Portland, OR

Regarding SurgiNet Distance Learning, the anesthesia module:

"Awesome module. Enjoyed this very much. Anesthesia is a great risk. The men and women in this profession have my utmost respect. Although most OR's like to give anesthesia providers a hard time, we know they have an awesome responsibility."

Chris Sweney, LPN
Fayette Memorial Hospital, Connersville, IN

"This class is very informative yet Dan makes it fun and very easy to learn. The program has been a wonderful experience for me. I have learned so much that words do not describe how deeply impacting it has been. Dan makes it so that you feel competent even when you are just fresh out of school. I would love to do another class like this one as a refresher before I graduate. Thank you!"

Tami Schneider, ST
Waverly Health Center, Waverly, IA

"The 6 day surgical lab is a class that every scrub tech or, for that matter, any person working in the operating room could greatly benefit from. You might think that you already know how to do certain things but, more than likely, you are not doing them the correct way. I have learned more attending this class than I ever could in all my years of scrubbing. Dan Bump, the instructor, made the class very interesting, he was very patient, and he covered so much material. This class would definitely be one to recommend to others. You never stop learning. I had a great time."

Terri Brown, LPN, ST
Southside Regional Medical Center, Petersburg, VA

"I think ACESA is an excellent program. It is a great way for techs with a lot of experience but no certification to advance to the first assist roll. Dan is always there to not only tell you what you may be doing wrong but to show you how to do it right. Suture tying was excellent. It looks so easy from a scrub tech's view. When you attempt it, it is a lot harder. With step-by-step demos, it becomes almost natural (with a lot of practice). Suturing technique was very helpful and I will feel confident when I go back to work. I would strongly advise anyone with the ambition to be a first assist to take this program. This will give you the confidence you need to work with the doctors with less intimidation."

Deidre Slater, ST
Highland District Hospital, Hillsboro, OH

“Very educational course. I was able to refine my skills for suturing and tying and review anatomy that I don’t use in my every day experience. The instructor took extreme care in the one-on-one instruction to ensure that all students were confident and competent in all skills. I would recommend this course to anyone working in the surgical profession. Even if they don’t have the ambition to be a Surgical Assistant, it would help them get a much better understanding of what’s happening on the surgical field.”

**Drew Burnett, ST Consultant,
Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC**

“The most beneficial and enjoyable part of the whole lab was the simulations. This gives a complete new look at the surgical process. All of the simulations give me ideas to take to the OR. I feel that this program can be of benefit to all scopes of surgical personnel – from surgical tech to surgeon. I would not be hesitant to recommend this and would like to see more of our techs attend.”

**Isaac Low, RN, OR Manager
Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Big Spring, TX**

“ACESA is an exceptional program. I’m impressed that Dan Bump is so personable and really cares about all the students. When I was enrolling, I had a lot of questions about paperwork (ie certifications, diploma, etc.). I had to make multiple calls. Every time I called, everyone was nice and patient. Exceptional customer service. I really enjoyed the closure of the Pfannenstiel incision. I felt very comfortable doing this. I was enthusiastic in being able to use the newly-learned suturing techniques. This program will definitely suit your needs as a Surgical Assistant. It’s well organized yet not complicated. It’s academically demanding but only to better the Surgical Assistant..”

**Edgar Tarin, ST
Eastern New Mexico Medical Center, Roswell, NM**

“I’m glad that the course is a wonderful training tool for taking the ABSA certification. I’m very happy with all the “tricks of the trade” to make my movements fluid and to be able to work smoothly and efficiently with my surgeon. Our anatomy lessons made SO more sense with Dan. Knot tying – starting slowly and step-by-step with repetition really helps. For anyone who occasionally assists without certification – you need the certification to protect yourself, your surgeon, and your patient. Learn the right way to assist so your surgeon depends on you.”

**Lisa Segar-Ambrus, CST
St Joseph’s Outpatient Surgery Center, Phoenix, AZ**

“The experience has been enjoyable and challenging with ample time to practice new skills. You gain a new appreciation for all aspects of a surgery. Actually performing a procedure from a surgeon’s standpoint gives you a new and wonderful viewpoint. I am more comfortable at working with both hands now than before the skills lab. I was predominantly one handed and discovered I can actually use my non-dominant hand. If you love surgery and want to increase your skills, as well as your knowledge base, then take this course. The step-by-step skills lab and the anatomy lectures are worth the cost alone.”

**Dennis Dingis, RN
Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Big Spring, TX**

"My overall feeling of ACESA is that it is a success promoting program that is greatly informative and learning based. I have been happy with the whole program from Distance Learning to especially the Surgical Lab experience. The ways that you learn from ACESA have helped me. The Surgical SkillLab was fun, educational, and enjoyable."

Dustin McCarver, OT
Medical Arts Clinic of Corsicana, Corsicana, TX

"This is a great program!! My skill level and confidence have increased 100%!! I would and will greatly endorse this program to anyone and everyone interested in surgical assisting."

Jeff Gribben, CST
Erlanger Medical Center, Chattanooga, TN

"I feel ACESA tries very hard to promote technique and confidence in their students. The mock surgeries were the best part. They took the things we learned and tied them all together. I definitely value the suturing and tying. These are the things I am expected to bring to the table with me when I begin my clinicals and it is nice to feel like I know how to do them. Dan is a good instructor who includes class participation instead of straight lecturing... this helps me remember things. I think ACESA instills a sense of confidence and competency in the students. Along with technique, we learned how to refine them. Also, we were sent home with practice tools. I would recommend this program to anyone because I felt the program was very educational. Dan is an excellent teacher, very patient and willing to re-explain if needed. Never one time did he talk down to us or make someone feel "stupid." Thanks for the great experience!"

Kristina Zoss, ST
Yavapai Regional Medical Center, Prescott, AZ

"It was the toughest, most challenging, but most rewarding and fun 6 days, associated with my career, of my life (and I've been doing this for 25 years!). I have a much greater appreciation for the skills and knowledge of our surgeons and their assistants. This program exceeded any expectations I arrived with. It was done professionally, respectfully, and in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. It didn't matter what skill level anyone was at; we were all treated the same. It was very informative and thorough. I left feeling overwhelmed by information, but challenged and excited about continuing to improve."

Jill Schumacher, ST
Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire, WI

"My overall feeling is a positive one. I started thinking that I would only gain a small amount of info. Instead, I have increased my skills 5 fold. I was impressed with the suturing part of this course. It really taught me the art and finesse of suturing and knot tying. I am more competent. Also the anatomy portion of the course has increased and reinforced my understanding of human anatomy. This program will improve individuals, new and experienced, which will advance their careers and their relationships with their physicians."

Brian Robinson, ST
Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire, WI

"This course is beneficial in solidifying the fundamentals of Surgical Assisting. Reviewing the A & P of the vascular system in relation to AAA Repair was very helpful for me. This will go a long way in work in cardiovascular surgery. For anyone interested in the fundamentals and step-by-step in suturing and tying, this is a wonderful program. The hands-on training in the lab along with the constructive criticism is very helpful."

Jeremie Montebone, RN
Mercy Medical Center, Canton, OH

Regarding the SurgiEdge Clinical Internship:

"I worked in Spine Surgery for 15 years as an OR Tech before beginning this course – assisting on numerous cases. This rotation allowed me to better perfect my assisting skills."

Drew Burnett, ST Consultant,
Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

"I think it's a great program for those wanting college credits and a professional career. I appreciate very much that Dan was always eager and willing to give one-on-one assistance and answer all questions. I came here wanting to refine suturing and tying techniques and all the exercises gave us the opportunity to continuously get better. Learning from an experienced assistant like Dan provides many useful tools that make us perform well. This program provides way more information than the tech or nurse might expect. Advanced surgical technique, refined skills, and more confidence are just a few things I took away from this course."

Cory Green, ST
Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Portsmouth, NH

"I have been very happy with the program. I tend to be a bit of a twit and want to be sure about every little detail. No matter how often I call or how many silly questions I have, I have never been made to feel that I am a pest or am bothering anyone – even before I signed up. Having gone through a military (tech) program almost 15 years ago, I did not have a strong didactic background. I feel that both in the course work and the clinical workshop I have been given a much greater understanding, especially of the anatomy and how it relates to everything we do. This course has really broadened my knowledge base and given me confidence to go back to my facility and know that I have something valuable to offer my surgeons."

Jeannie Wasmer, CST
Wuesthoff Medical Center, Rockledge, FL

"It was a great program, very detailed. I was able to practice on the simulators, almost like the real thing as far as anatomy and the ability to do the surgery as if it were real. The techniques that were shown were very precise. Now I can go back and demonstrate these techniques to my surgeons. I really enjoyed every minute of this program. Dan is a very intelligent instructor that takes the time to teach and teach you well. I am so amazed at the techniques that were shown by him. I recommend this class to all my friends and everyone I know!"

Donna Denise Medina, ST
Christus Spohn Hospital, Alice, TX

"It is a very good program. I am very happy I learned to one-hand and two-hand tie. The fear of assisting has lessened. Now I will be able to help the patient and department more effectively. I would recommend this program to anyone needing advanced surgical assisting training."

Charlene Kahl-Bunner, LPN
Mercy Medical Center, Canton, OH

"Dan – you made knot tying seem easy. Excellent – especially the anatomy part. Very inventive teaching. Really appreciate the time spent on these techniques. Great class. Thanks for sharing your expertise and allowing me to feel more confident. Highly recommend this class to anyone."

Candice Gorbenko, RN
Ukiah Valley Medical Center, Ukiah, CA

"The surgical skill lab was overwhelming at times but in the end it was well worth every minute of it. I feel a lot better about my new skills on day 6 than I did on day 1. I would highly recommend ACESA to anyone looking to move up in the professional level. Thanks for everything."

Tommy Hammerbeck, ST
Kane Community Hospital, Kane, PA

"A very informative, useful, and hands-on program. I enjoyed the anatomy presentations which were greatly useful mixed with the chance to work hands-on with the training apparatus. The ACESA program is geared towards the healthcare professional who wants to increase skill level and make positive steps toward their career goal. This program gets 'straight to the point' whilst offering clear understandable information."

Carl Davies, CST
Chandler Regional Hospital, Chandler, AZ

Regarding the SurgiEdge Clinical Internship:

"Having always wanted to be formally trained as a Surgical Assistant, rather than being used in emergencies as a 'pair of hands'. I am thoroughly enjoying the practical aspect of my surgical assistant program and am very grateful to my clinical sponsors for all their support, help, and encouragement. Having undertaken the ACESA skills lab at the beginning of this program, I feel it enabled me to begin assisting well prepared for the surgeons' expectations of me, with an excellent grounding in the basic principles involved, with knowledge of suturing and tying techniques, and feeling comfortable with my own abilities. I would strongly recommend this program for anyone considering becoming a Surgical Assistant – great support and tuition – I am thoroughly enjoying my training."

Jayne Eck, RN
Redland Community Hospital, Redlands, CA

"I feel that ACESA is a worthwhile course for anyone from novice to a seasoned veteran. Anyone in need of certification or just wanting to elevate their skills would be well advised to take this course. While being a serious class with lots of hands-on experience, it is presented in a very fun and interesting way."

Jonathan Litton, LPN
Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"Its one of the best hands-on I think out there. I was very happy with the labs. This program is the best – it was great lecturing and great labs. It was also great knowing all the job possibilities. This program has opened up my eyes to more opportunities than ever before. This has been a wonderful experience. I'll be back for refreshers."

Alisha Honeyman, CST
Wayne Hospital, Greenville, OH

"I especially appreciated the opportunity to network, as well as the information on career opportunities. The techniques on suturing and tying were informative and helpful. The lab provided a hands-on way to immediately put my newly acquired knowledge to work, as well as practice my skills. The opportunity to role play surgeon, assistant, and scrub exposed me to all facets of the procedure. Your coaching skills are A-1! The individual attention we all received was greatly appreciated. Dan, you demonstrate extreme patience, knowledge, ability and humor. Thank you."

Judith A. Leslie, RN
Palmerton Hospital, Palmerton, PA

"The ACESA program is a course that helps you become not just an Assistant, but an expert in surgical technique and anatomy. I got a lot out of the anatomy lessons and the surgical simulations. I gained confidence in my suturing skills and an understanding of the reasons for the procedures. I feel that once I complete the course, I will be able to step into any OR and be a great Assistant. It will open a new door for a better life."

Dalton Hall, ST
Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

"This program is an excellent one. You really learn what perspective the surgeons are coming from. I was happy to learn how to suture and tie with grace and ease. Now I can do so just like a surgeon. I endorse this program because it taught me the key elements to making my job in the OR a secure one. Now I can help cut back the surgeon's time by using what I know from this program."

Georgia Folds, ST
North Georgia Medical Center, Ellijay, GA

"I feel that this program helps surgical techs broaden their skills. The whole program is enlightening. Every hospital should request that their techs go through this training to better enable their surgeons."

Carlene Black, CST
Winter Haven Hospital, Winter Haven, FL

Regarding SurgiNet Distance Learning, the pharmacology module:

"Since I am a nurse and have worked in the OR, I was fairly familiar with these drugs. This was a good module to brush up on all of the things that you sometimes take for granted."

Chris Sweney, LPN
Fayette Memorial Hospital, Connersville, IN

"Unbelievable! I never thought the program was this in-depth and informative. I loved when we got to use the patient box (surgical simulator) and interact with each other. Dan can really make anatomy relevant and seem easier to understand. I never thought this course would be this much fun and informative at the same time."

Rob Liming, ST
Brookville Hospital, Brookville, PA

"This is a great program that gives you knowledge of surgical anatomy and makes you want to learn more about what you are doing. If you are unsure of how something needs to be done (at the lab), they take the time to explain what is needed to complete the program and make you feel good about it. It is a great program that makes you do a better job than you ever thought you could. It makes you take pride in doing a good job for the patient and the surgeon. It is an excellent program and I recommend it to both nurses and techs."

Linda Vincent, CST
George Washington Hospital, Washington, DC

"I'd like to say thanks to Dan Bump. He was the best teacher I have ever had. All the good qualities: patience, knowledge, good sense of humor, and the ability to make us feel relaxed. I'd recommend this class to all my friends and colleagues that want to be assistants. It really helped us to learn in-depth the information we need and techniques needed to best assist and help our surgeons. Thanks a lot!"

Eliane Marks, RN
Redlands Community Hospital, Redlands, CA

"This SkillLab made me feel confident assisting our surgeons. The instructions on how to do suturing, tying, and thinking ahead made me feel like a professional. Besides learning, it was a fun and friendly environment. I value the way I was able to understand how to place my hand and how to position my suture to have a smooth tie. When I first started this course, I didn't know much about what a Surgical Assistant is supposed to do. For the whole week I learned so much and I learned the possibilities as to how Surgical Assisting can change my life and career."

John Navata, ST
Norwegian American Hospital, Chicago, IL

"I think ACESA is great for sharing this with us. I am happy with the unique things you can do to control your wound closure. The needle control is great because it speeds up your closure. Different tying methods also help your speed. I think Dan Bump does a great job; he is very patient. I admire his generosity for sharing his knowledge. Most people would keep their skills to themselves, but Dan wants to share with everyone. Thank you."

Jose Garza, CST
MacArthur Surgery Center, Irving, TX

"This was an unexpected week. At first I was nervous and unsure of what to expect and uncomfortable and then moved quickly to feeling challenged and comfortable. The teacher was attentive to your individual needs. I now feel confident, ready to go out and nail it, proud."

Ingrid Guzaski, RN
St James Olympia Fields, Olympia Fields, IL

"I feel ACESA is a great opportunity and I would recommend this program to whoever is interested in becoming a first assistant. I was happy with the instructor's way of showing us proper technique and the way he took his time one-on-one to perfect certain aspects of specific techniques. I feel more positive and comfortable with the new things I've learned and I will value this every time I step into the operating room."

David Gutierrez, ST
Christus Spohn Hospital, Alice, TX

"I think this is an excellent program for anyone working in surgery. The hands-on is a great learning experience. I have gotten a lot out of the anatomy lessons, so much that I feel confident enough to assist when I get back. This is such a great program that I would recommend it to all in the OR."

Andy Meadows, ST
Memorial North Park Hospital, Hixon, TN

"You really get knowledgeable training and hands-on. Dan gives all his students one-on-one help and will take the time to show you how by using a step-by-step method. I have learned, not just how to become a surgical assist, but why it is so important to make myself and the surgeon look good as a team. This program has helped me."

Mary Smoke, ST
Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI

"I have learned a lot in these 6 days. I am excited to get going in this new career. ACESA has definitely helped me a lot. I am happy with learning tricks that maybe some who knew them wouldn't necessarily tell you. These tricks and considerations have taught me to be able to take a hard task and make it easy. This has been such a positive experience. Learning new techniques and Dan's enthusiasm to help me (us) has given me confidence that I can be successful. I feel that the knowledge I have gained during these 6 days would have taken me a long time and maybe some failure in real surgery had I not come to this course."

Grace Marquez, ST
Tech Group Inc., Spokane, WA

"The skills and knowledge of the course are very well presented. The people I spent time with in this short time were enjoyable to be around and work with. The hands-on time with the simulators was my favorite. I recommend this to any tech to further their careers."

Charles Wakefield, ST
National Park Medical Center, Hot Springs, AR

"Dan made it fun. The program has helped me realize that I will always be learning. I have been doing this for 30 years or more. I have found the course to be very helpful in finding new ways of assisting in surgery. Thank you Dan!"

Jim Holloway, SA
Hutcheson Medical Center, Fort Oglethorpe, GA

"This was a very good experience. I did not know I could learn so much in so little time. Dan is very good at explaining things and is able to make you understand why you are doing it wrong so you can correct it. ACESA will help me achieve my goals in becoming a great First Assistant. The lab experience has been very valuable and will help me with my future FA experience. I feel that ACESA is a great program and they will help anyone looking to better themselves as an FA."

Marvin Hall, ST
St Joseph East, Lexington, KY

"I enjoyed this lab and would recommend that all surgical techs and interns take it. The program is good. I really feel I gained a lot of knowledge."

Yolanda Pope, ST
Resurrection Hospital, Chicago, IL

"ACESA helped me get an overall understanding of what an assistant really is in the operating room. I was happy with our instructor, the anatomy and physiology, and being able to participate in the lab procedures. This will help me excel as an assistant. This program is great for anyone who is interested in advancing their career. This is a great opportunity to start your own practice and get a new start."

Johnny Staton, ST
Baylor Medical Center, Dallas, TX

"Even though I have 20 years experience as an assistant, Dan brought a huge amount of insight and expertise to the skills lab that enlightened me well beyond my present knowledge base. I would highly recommend ACESA to, not only those individuals starting a career in Surgical Assisting, but those that would like to add an official title after their name and be in control of where they want their career to go. Thanks for the opportunities!"

Daniel Johnson, LPN
St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, MN

"I feel that ACESA has helped me have more confidence in being able to assist the proper way. I was very happy with the one-on-one that the instructor gave me with the suturing and tying at the surgical skill lab. One benefit I have received was the strength to be able to walk up to the table and know more about the anatomy of the procedure and assist the surgeon better with more knowledge. I would recommend the course to anyone with the ability to be a Surgical Assistant. It gave the in-depth detail of the anatomy and it also gives the student the courage to be able to do his or her best to assist in these procedures. Thank you."

James Shirley, ST
National Park Medical Center, Hot Springs, AR

"The skills lab was very helpful. I really learned a lot. I learned how to suture and tie knots. I did not know how to do this before this class. It has been a very beneficial learning experience for my career as an ST."

Margaret Pruett, ST
East Cooper Regional Medical Center, Mount Pleasant, SC

"I will tell all of my friends about this program and how it will help them to become a Surgical Assistant. I want to personally thank you Mr. Dan Bump for teaching me how to tie and close wounds. I am improving more and more every day."

Joe Pope, SA
John Randolph Medical Center, Hopewell, VA

"Everything is already great! Excellent job Mr. Dan Bump. I never thought this class would be so much fun and a very good learning experience. I can't wait to put all the things I have learned into practice."

Sheila Segismundo, RN, BSN
Cibola General Hospital, Grants, NM

"I felt so much more comfortable today! The skill labs are excellent. I don't know how to explain the confidence I have gained in only 5 days. Words can't explain! I think this lab would help as a refresher. The anatomy lessons are well broken down in ways that make them easy to remember. The labs are so helpful and well thought out. There is a lot to learn but this program and the skill lab is so well put together that everything falls right in step. Your questions are answered in the most understandable ways that you only feel encouragement. The anatomy part of this course alone is worth millions. The complete course is just put together so well it's wonderful! The lectures also are very helpful in getting ready for the testing involved with the program. I highly recommend the program to anyone in the surgery field. This program would even be very helpful for people other than first assistants. Thank you so much!"

Heather Shepherd, ST
Harrison Memorial Hospital,ynthiana, KY

"ACESA is an excellent opportunity to enhance your surgical skills and help build your career as a successful Surgical Assistant. I feel very comfortable with assisting because my suturing and tying skills are not a liability anymore but an asset to the surgeon. I now feel like I can close a wound without the surgeon being present. ACESA is a thorough course on Surgical Assisting skills. By participating, Surgical Assistants will be well prepared to take on various types of surgical procedures."

Lance Pace, CST
Parker Adventist Hospital, Parker, CO

"Great job! Lots of information that you will be able to use right away. I'm very excited about branching away to a new and exciting career as a first assist. This course gave me the skills and tools to do so."

Ralph Buck, ST
Martha's Vineyard Hospital, Oak Bluffs, MA

"The instructor is very sympathetic to our needs and concerns. Everything was explained very clear. The instructor was very happy to coach one-on-one. I feel more confident about myself. I know I still have a long way to go. It has opened a new horizon for me. I would recommend this program to my peers because it will help others become stronger in their field. It was an educational adventure – very enjoyable."

Patricia Balderas, ST
Dimmit County Memorial Hospital, Carrizo Springs, TX

"It's a great program where you can work at your own pace. The SkillLab itself is wonderful because of the smaller class size for more one-on-one instruction. I was able to refresh on some of the anatomy and do the hands-on portion with confidence that I will be able to apply the learned skills on my patients. I feel that this is a great course."

Melody Lopez, ST
Cibola General Hospital, Grants, NM

"In addition to leading down the path to first assisting, this course has also made me a better tech. I was intimidated before I got here. I thought I didn't know enough to start going through an assisting course. With Dan's course I feel I will have all the knowledge I need to get in there and practice. I value some of the pearls of wisdom that Dan has shared from his many years as an assistant. Yes you can succeed in the ACESA program. Dan and his readily available staff are willing to get you where you want to be by taking you through all the steps from the very basic to the complex and explain the why to's. Dan has made me believe that I can do it."

Karrie Johnson, CST
Rapid City Regional Hospital, Rapid City, ND

"I feel ACESA is a great program to help further careers and knowledge. I was really happy with the instruction. The whole skills lab was a great experience. ACESA has given me strong skills that I can use in surgery to help the surgeon and as a result help the patient. The program has expanded my knowledge in anatomy and showed me good technique with instruments."

Gabriel Lucero, ST
Eastern New Mexico Medical Center, Roswell, NM

"What a great experience to gain so much knowledge and obtain so many techniques in such a short period of time. The skills lab was not only informative but also necessary in order to correct improper mechanics learned throughout the years while in the OR. Dan Bump is truly a great teacher and a master at surgical assisting with his ability to apply finesse to instrument handling as well as suture placement and tying. Although there are other programs available, it is my opinion that ACESA is the perfect fit for me or anyone who is seriously interested in advancing their surgical assisting career. The lab simulators give you precise feel and accurate depiction of vessels and important structures. I certainly was not expecting the vast amount of information which I received in only one week's time. This course has given me the confidence to work with advanced skills and move forward in the Surgical Assistant Program. If one is truly interested in succeeding as a Surgical Assistant, it is my opinion, as I'm sure you'll agree, this program is a must."

David Flores, CST
Rio Grande Regional Hospital, McAllen, TX

"This program was an eye-opener educationally and technically for me. The knowledge and technique that Dan Bump showed us is priceless. I was specifically impressed with Dan Bump's knowledge and humbleness and his overall gracefulness in his profession. If anyone wanted to perfect their skills and to gain more knowledge, this is the course that will challenge you technically and mentally to become the best you can be. I for one was so impressed and will be forever grateful. I highly recommend it for anyone who wants to advance in their professions. Thank you so very much! God bless you."

Jesse Alcalá, ST
Southwest General Hospital, San Antonio, TX

"I learned an extreme amount of different ways to assist the surgeon. Very informative program. I am happy to leave this program with confidence and be able to go prepared into a case and assist the surgeon so he will be relaxed with you."

Eileen Seeley, ST
St John Hospital, Harrison, MI

"I enjoyed the class. I feel better about performing as a first assist. ACESA is truly concerned about teaching the best methods of suturing and tying and assisting surgeons as well as teaching important anatomy. I am impressed by the in-depth teaching and the quality of each surgical simulation. The tricks of the trade were nice to learn. This is a great program if you really want to expand and hone your skills in Surgical Assisting. Thank you for all that you have done. It has been very helpful."

Amy Dykema, CST
Gerber Memorial Health Services, Fremont, MI

"I feel anyone who works in the OR would benefit from this experience; whether they go ahead and start their own business or just for their own personal goals and accomplishment. I felt it was very beneficial. I never realized how many ways there are to accomplish tying, sewing, closing, etc. It was a little mind boggling, but it gave me an appreciation of those who do this every day and how much practice it takes to refine skills. The role playing gives you a good and new perspective on what the surgeon does."

Jill Schumacher, ST
Sacred Heart Hospital, Eau Claire, WI

"The hands-on training simulates what surgeons already know and allows me to go back to my facility with seamless technique. The networking opportunities will allow me a vast experience after certification with ABSA. This is an enormous, affordable tool for reaching my professional goals."

Morgan Taylor, OT-SC
Silverton Hospital, Silverton, OR

"The microsurgery part gave you a great opportunity to use loupes and handle micro instruments. It also gave you a better handle on instrument tying."

Jesse MacGlashing, RN
Wentworth Douglass Hospital, Dover, NH

"ACESA is highly professional, geared for extreme preparation to enter surgery as a competent Surgical Assistant. My confidence in assisting and knowledge of relevant anatomy has hugely broadened. For me, this course completed the full circle of knowledge in the OR. I can now associate all of the things I could not see before (in the operative site).

Taking this course will give you the skill and confidence to perform at the highest level, rivaling that of a surgeon."

David Gerard Gaudet, ST
Bon Secours, Richmond, VA

"I believe ACESA truly wants to train you to succeed. The whole experience really is a lot of fun. Even though it's a lot of info crammed into such a short time, you leave with a new confidence and a smile from all the great times we had together. I really love the simulators. Actually being able to practice the suturing and the whole surgery makes you visualize it better and puts it in a more realistic perspective.

It's amazing the amount of knowledge you gain in just 6 days. You leave feeling like you could go out and succeed. The surgeons will be impressed with the techniques we've learned and our new abilities to help them. Thanks for everything. It was more fun than Disneyland!!"

Andrea Potter, CST
Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital, Elkin, VA

"The skills lab I think was terrific. Very informative and a lot of valuable techniques are taught. I think this is a great program. I like that you can do it online, which means that you don't have to quit your work schedule. You do it at your own pace.

I really enjoyed the micro and laparoscopy labs. I learned a lot during the colon resection and look forward to using the techniques I learned at this lab back home. AAA Repair was very interesting for me. The spear technique was very cool. I learned more than I actually thought I would with this procedure. I will highly recommend this program to anyone in this field."

Mary Fernandez, ST
Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, TX

"The six day lab taught me skills I never imagined possessing. ACESA is a program that promotes exceeding each individual's potential. Dan's experience & knowledge comes through during the 6-day lab. He was a wealth of knowledge that increased my own knowledge scope and made learning easy. The micro section was my overall favorite – totally enjoyed the simulation. Thanks Dan – had a wonderful week!"

Ann Nelson, ST
Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"The course was wonderful. I felt overwhelmed at first but Dan is such a great teacher that, by the end of the day, I had confidence. Thank you."

Heidi Trice, ST
Frye Regional Medical Center, Hickory, NC

"Remarks by the instructor were all handled in a constructive manner and with a great deal of humor. Definitely practical for something I will face on a regular basis! Thanks for the great opportunity. I would love to re-experience this class one year down the road after I have the opportunity to work with the mass quantities of information I have received."

Launa Janssen, SA

Dwayne Hansen, MD, St. Anthony, ID

"I have a new appreciation for what my surgeons are doing. I will be more conscious of how to help them now. One of the benefits I enjoyed most was that I gained great closure skills. I see this as one of my main jobs back home. The techniques I learned will help me be not only proficient but excel.

I feel that the whole experience has been great. The staff is easy to contact, prompt in attention to my needs, and courteous. Online classes are flexible and providing a skills lab within driving distance was perfect. Skills are learned in a professional yet fun and enjoyable manner. I would highly recommend this program to all my colleagues at the hospital and friends in other areas as well."

S. Bryan Dunkle, LPN

Athens Regional Medical Center, Athens, TN

"The ACESA people are truly committed to teaching proper technique. They encourage you to continue your education in order to excel in this profession. I was pleased with the one-on-one coaching during our suturing lessons. I came in not knowing anything, being brand new to surgical assisting. Now, I leave knowing how to close wounds using various techniques and I can tie left and right handed.

The six day lab is worth the trip. I feel as though I have come away with the knowledge and ability to be able to assist on just about any procedure because I now understand technique. I have a better understanding of why things are done. I have an even stronger urge to pursue perfecting everything I was taught here."

Brian Mullin, CST

Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN

"I have had an excellent experience all week. I was kind of hesitant at first because, 'What is there to know that I don't already know?' I've been a CST for 14 years not including my experience in Germany. I thought I knew it all. But taking this class made me realize that there is a lot I don't know. I have learned a lot. I do recommend this class to anybody that would like to be a first assist. Thank you, Dan."

Rose Loverin, CST

Portsmouth Regional Hospital, Portsmouth, VA

"I was very happy at the time and effort you put into the people who needed extra help. You have incredible patience. Yes, I would recommend this program to people. You (Dan Bump) have the ability to teach and to make it look so easy. You don't get upset or frustrated with people who are all thumbs. Another thing I found impressive, you really listen."

Stephanie McKee, CST

Elliot Hospital, Manchester, NH

"I've been a surgical technician for 11 years. I've known the 'how' to do several aspects of the procedures. Now I know the 'why' finally!"

Nikki Hall, STII
Decatur General Hospital, Decatur, AL

"This training helped me realize what I really lacked and how to improve on my SA skills. I have recommended this program to multiple people in various aspects of the program. Thanks Dan!"

Thomas Palmer, CST/SA
Roger Althoff MD Facilities, Butler, PA

"It is good to know how and why we do what we do. This is Great! I am grateful for the skills and techniques that have been taught! WOW!! I hope to apply everything."

Trevor O'Neil, ST
Ashley Valley Medical Center, Vernal, UT

"I am completely delighted with this program. I am amazed. It has far exceeded my expectations. Dan is so effective at explaining information that it sticks with us. I haven't memorized anything, I have learned it. I feel I am going back a new person. Not only do I feel I can endorse this program, I have endorsed it to several people and will continue to do so in the future."

Cynthia Clark-McMellon, ST
Boca Raton Community Hospital, Boca Raton, FL

"I would tell my co-workers about this course. It is a great course even if you just wanted to remain a surgical tech. He can help make a surgical tech a better tech, because you can better follow the case that the surgeon is performing. I would recommend all Navy surgical techs take this course to become better quality techs. Knowledge is power. Thanks for giving me the power."

Zina Singletary, ST, US Navy
Naval Hospital Cherry Point, Cherry Point, NC

"The ACESA program is excellent. It is definitely above all the rest. I have gained a better understanding and appreciation for anatomy. Words can't describe the appreciation that I have for this program and the way that Dan Bump has presented it. I would highly recommend it to anyone interested in becoming a surgical assistant. Thanks a lot!"

Arthur Howard, CST
Prince George's Hospital Center, Cheverly, MD

"I learned a lot. I will put all this knowledge into practice. This hands-on has been the best training I ever received. Thanks a lot! Great surgery we practiced and thank god no bleeding. Thanks a million times for giving me this training. This 6 day class really went fast. Thanks again and keep helping more students. I will recommend this program to all my fellows in the OR and in other states that I have worked in as a traveler."

Jose A. Ramirez Jr., CST
Darnall Army Community Hospital, Fort, Hood, TX

"I came in thinking I couldn't do this. Due to the great teaching skills with the great coaching during the procedures, I excelled and enjoyed every part of the procedure. These first two days of the course have gone great. The one-on-one attention with suturing and tying has made the whole process easier to understand and perfect. I couldn't imagine having to do this at home, in front of the TV (with video taped instruction), by myself. This has eased my mind with the clinicals ahead."

Jesse MacGlashing, RN
Wentworth Douglass Hospital, Dover, NH

"Once I was here, I was comfortable with the group. The suturing and assisting was the most beneficial. Great job with the simulators. I appreciate the hands on lab! I would recommend to my peers."

Christine B. West, ST
Jennersville Regional Hospital, West Grove, PA

"I am so impressed with this program and I made the right decision to come to ACESA. Dan is remarkable! His knowledge of anatomy far surpasses my expectations in an instructor and his surgical technique is truly beyond compare. Thank you for being there for those of us who want only the best for our practices, our patients, and our surgeons! Thanks to all of you at ACESA for compiling a superb program."

Cynthia Clark-McMellon, ST
Boca Raton Community Hospital, Boca Raton, FL

"This class had various levels of people doing suturing. I happen to be one of the slower individuals. Dan has the patience of Job. He took extra time to help me one-on-one. Dan seems to have a way of explaining and hands-on teaching to make it a lot easier."

Nancy Fraser, ST
Elliot Hospital, Manchester, NH

"My overall experience about ACESA has been great. The online classes have been really helpful and easy to understand where to go for information. Your staff is great and very helpful. I am a hands-on learner and the labs really helped me improve my skills and use them in a correct manner. I value the suture and tying and the anatomy lessons most. I think knowing your anatomy is a huge part of the job. I sure feel strongly about recommending this course to others. The teaching has been great and you feel more confident when you finish your skill lab. Thanks Dan for building my confidence in a career I want to excel in."

David Barraza, ST
SW Orthopedic Surgery Specialists, Tucson, AZ

"Many skills actually learned in this 6 day period. I am feeling a little overwhelmed at this moment but know in due time and practice that... I will still feel overwhelmed. Ha Ha. Thanks for your time and sincere effort!"

Diana Kimmell, RN
Redlands Community Hospital, Redlands, CA

"For me it has been a really great experience. You get an excellent support system both technical and surgical. The skills lab was very helpful in putting things into perspective. You might know it but the question one might ask is it the right way? The lab clarifies this and much more. I feel more confident in assisting now than I did before. The instructor was very helpful and also encouraging during the skills lab."

Jigna Chokshi, CST

St Michael's Medical Center, Newark, NJ

"Great educational class with lots of fun. Dan made our learning curve so comfortable that very hard techniques were made so easy. This class has given me lots of knowledge and all the skills that we have learned during this 6-day class were so amazing. I personally so much appreciate this surgical skill lab. I can see and feel a huge difference in myself. Thank you so much Dan for your input in my life."

Chitra Patel, ST

Albany General Hospital, Albany, OR

"I believe this program is top notch and I am looking forward to putting these practices to use. The memory aids are such a help because the verbal cue creates a visual cue in your mind. The surgical simulators were a huge help. The most helpful part of the course was the fact that Dan was able to give us unlimited one-on-one attention. I feel that Dan is very knowledgeable about many different aspects of surgery. This helps a great deal when asking many questions about different topics. Dan's knowledge and teaching methods are what make this skill lab both fun and informative."

Chris Sweney, LPN, ST

Fayette Memorial Hospital, Connersville, IN

"Dan understands the role of the Surgical Assistant. He has a very warm and comfortable manner in his approach to teaching. What I appreciated most was the one-on-one training. He is very patient and informative. This has been a very enjoyable experience. I really enjoyed Colon Resection. It helped me to better understand my role as a Surgical Assistant and to see how very important it is for the surgeon and the assistant to work together so the patient will receive the very best surgical procedure. I have already recommended several RNs and techs to your program and, if I may say, this course is much more user friendly due to the smaller class size. It allows the instructor to do much more hands-on, one-on-one teaching. The student becomes more comfortable with the environment and his role as the Surgical Assistant. Also, your course gives a great deal of information but by the end of the course, it is very effective. I highly recommend your course and would take it again myself."

Vasco V. Garnett, CST/Clinical Specialist

Counterpulsations, Inc., Framingham, MA

"Very good seminar. Love the hands-on and your patience! Hopefully with practice I will be as comfortable with suturing and tying as you are! You make it look so easy. I learned a lot of new information. This course has definitely helped me on improving my tying and suturing skills! I am looking forward to trying out my new skills in the OR. This course gave a more realistic "feel" to doing surgery. It was absolutely great. Thanks!"

Dawn Strickland, LPN/ CST

Fulton County Medical Center, McConnellsburg, PA

"Dan is an excellent instructor with great knowledge and understanding of the intra-op surgical techniques and anatomy. I would recommend others to participate in this training session."

Mary Whitfield, LPN
Atlas Ortho, Indianapolis, IN

"I learned so much in this 6 day workshop. It was great. I feel very confident in going back to work and applying my newly learn surgical skills."

Trisha Proud, ST
Phoenix Surgicenter, Phoenix, AZ

"I would like to thank you for sharing your expertise with us. You are a great instructor and easy to follow. The step-by-step process. I would definitely recommend this class to future SAs. Keep up the good work. Thank you very much!!"

Jolene Heckenlaible, CST
Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital, Yankton, SD

"I thoroughly enjoyed my experience here during the 6 day workshop. I feel I am leaving with so many newfound skills that will help me tremendously on embarking on my surgical assisting career! I feel much more confident that I will be appreciated while assisting my surgeons. Dan is a wonderful public speaker and an excellent teacher. He really cares about each student by helping them 1-on-1. Thank you Dan for everything."

Anne Stevens, CST
Samaritan Surgicenter, Phoenix, AZ

"Dan's knowledge is very extensive and very helpful. I have to say I really learned a lot! I can't believe the week is over already! The one-on-one teaching was the best training tool for me. Dan is so educated and is a good educator! Keep up the good work!"

Jennifer Graham, ST
Alleghany Regional Hospital, Low Moore, VA

"ACESA provides a service that goes so far beyond what one would expect from a school. I can't say enough about these guys. All of the teaching aids were helpful. The program was well thought out and planned. The curriculum was designed to quickly give us an advanced understanding of assisting.

During our hysterectomy procedure we all struggled. It was like pulling teeth. Yet through it all, Dan was there correcting us, providing encouragement, and calmly giving instruction in terms easily understood.

I was at the top of the field in being a surgical tech and was reluctant to transition into a role that I would struggle in at first. The instruction Dan gave at the skills lab dissipated that fear and now I can't wait to show the docs what I can do. Thanks Dan!!"

Alexis Caparas, ST
The Queen's Medical Center, Honolulu, HI

"I was very amazed at the one-on-one coaching at the Surgical Skill Lab. At the college classes I took for Surgical Tech we did not receive that. So I felt the one-on-one coaching made the skills stand out to me more. I felt that working with the simulators was a great way to see how assisting the surgeon was compared to being the surgeon yourself.

I would definitely recommend this program to any of my friends. I went into the surgical skill lab with no knowledge of how to tie, suture, hold instruments the proper way and came out knowing a whole lot more than even that. It was a great experience."

Erica Hamilka, ST
Belmont Community Hospital, Bellaire, OH

"ACESA is an excellent company! Well organized & knowledgeable. My admission process was smooth and easy. Everything, pricing and all details were presented up front. All of the staff, when you call ACESA, are very friendly & helpful!

The most important benefit for me would be gaining the confidence that I can do this! The skills that I was taught during the skill lab & Dan's encouragement gave me this confidence! ACESA came highly recommended to me from a co-worker who already went through the program & I can definitely see why! The online education portion of the program keeps you organized and is very user friendly. It also allows me to continue to work and spend time with my family. The surgical skill lab was exceptional!"

Rebecca Milliron, LPN

"Dan you are very relaxed and easy going which puts me at ease. You are encouraging even when I am not sure, quick to praise which builds confidence. I think the class is interesting and fun, time goes by so fast. I am thankful for the chance to better myself as a scrub and learn new skills to become a great assistant. A lot of fun, hands on learning. I would recommend this class. I have learned a lot and had a lot of fun doing it. I love your constructive criticism. You are very encouraging and constant. I have a new appreciation for the role of a surgeon. I know this course has made me a better surgical assistant. I really enjoyed the experience."

Ronda Gray, Surgical Scrub
Kings Daughters Hospital, Madison, IN

"The tying lab was a good lab to have to block out all those bad habits that are obtained through all the years. Overall the program was productive for me. I was able to practice many different techniques throughout the week."

Justin Steullet, CST/SA
Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA

"I have really enjoyed working with you. My overall experience with this class was a great experience. I have learned a lot during the 6 day course. Mr. Dan Bump was really patient and encouraging to us. I feel like I can go to surgery and do what ever case I can."

Ella Hardison, ORT
Delta Regional Medical Center, Greenville, MS

"I would most definitely recommend this program. It is informative and gives you a lot of skill to use in the OR. This program should be a part of a Surgical Technologist class to make you more proficient as a scrub tech. The lab was very exciting! I learned more than I imagined. I cannot wait to put everything into practice."

Joyce Zolađz, CST
Harrison Community Hospital, Cadiz, OH

"I really enjoyed the surgical demonstration and the role playing. Dan did an excellent job in demonstrating surgical skill and taking the extra one-on-one skill to individuals. Thanks Dan."

Jay P. Cook, RN
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield, IL

"I found this course very informative, a great resource for networking, and very enjoyable. I highly recommend this class. I had a great time. Thanks!"

Violet Holman, CST
Columbia Memorial Hospital, Astoria, OR

"Thanks so much for this beneficial and informative program. I am truly looking forward to experiencing a whole new feeling in the OR – being a CONFIDENT and much more KNOWLEDGEABLE SA. I wish I would have signed up for the program years ago."

Sean Stec, ST
St. Lukes Hospital, Maumee, OH

"I feel that this course was comfortable in learning to assist. There was no pressure. Dan just made me feel like I had nothing to worry about. I started this course not knowing much and left with ideas and techniques that I could use comfortably with my surgeon. Thank you very much for the time and dedication."

Andy Siordia, ST
Condell Medical Center, Libertyville, IL

"The first two days have been the most fun filled. Learning to tie is so much fun, but confusing at first. Dan has been very helpful. He watches us as we learn each new thing and is quick to help us as needed. I can't wait to start the surgical labs! I have learned a lot of what it takes to assist. The anatomy presentations were excellent as was the multi media. I would recommend this class to anyone desiring to become a first assistant!"

Kathy Kidwell, LPN/ST
The Kings Daughters Hospital, Madison, IN

"The techniques taught are clearly demonstrated so that they can be mastered in a short period. They are reinforced by application each day. Dan is a masterful instructor."

Ross McDonald, ST
The Ambulatory Surgical Center at Flagstaff Medical Center, Flagstaff, AZ

"I appreciate how easy Dan is to understand and also a great refresher course for anatomy. Dan is definitely a big help with surgical anatomy and is good in keeping my interest in class. He's a great source of information. Thanks so much for giving me insight to something I have wondered about for years of scrubbing. It was a very good experience."

Timothy Seal, CST

Innovative Placements, Rapid City Regional Hospital, Rapid City, SD

"I have learned so many skills this week and I am eager to put them into practice. Dan has the patience of Job and a great sense of humor. He made us feel at ease while practicing our newly learned skills. I would recommend this course to anyone seeking a first assistant position."

Beth Finicle, LPN/ORT

Sahara Surgery Center, Las Vegas, NV

"You do a nice job with teaching. The experience with the loops and magnifier was excellent. Not only did you get a feel for what the surgeon goes through but also how the assist can help. I appreciate the one-on-one time to assist with better technique and making sure that we are doing it correctly. It was very informative and definitely increased my knowledge of surgical assisting. I recommend this program to my peers."

Carleen Post, CST

St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford, IL

"Dan does a great job at teaching. He has helped me out on some things I had been struggling with. I was having a problem with my buried knot suture. He helped me overcome this. I really enjoyed the overall experience. Anatomy and all presentation was a good learning experience. He took his time with all students and would answer all questions. He is very knowledgeable. I am glad I was able to attend the skills lab at my hospital. I would recommend this program to anyone."

Dawn Ingram, CST

Morris Hospital, Morris, IL

"Dan, the week was a blast. Your instruction was fun, informative, and relevant. I can be effective as a first assistant and refer others to your excellent program. Keep up the good work."

Henry Molloy, ST

Chowan Hospital, Edenton, NC

"The overall class was great. I learned a lot. The knowledge I will bring back will be greatly appreciated by me, staff members, and surgeons. I would recommend this program to anyone. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend."

Nicole Cotrell, ORT

OSF St. Anthony's Hospital, Rockford, IL

"The instructor is very knowledgeable in all areas. Excellent instruction. He's very patient and he knows how to teach so we can remember procedure. Excellent anatomy class. You've taught me skills that I can use to make my job and the surgeons job easier. I would strongly recommend this class to anyone who scrubs and first assists in surgery. The techniques Dan teaches are very effective and efficient for assistants in surgery. He gives you basic skills that make your assisting smoother. I feel more confident with my assisting skills and am more qualified to assist in surgery. The techniques Dan taught will improve my skills immensely. Thanks Dan!"

Helen Pietrykowski, LPN
Kings Daughters Hospital, Madison, IN

"I learned a lot. Dan did a great job of explaining anatomy, was very helpful with questions, willing to help out. I had fun! What I learned this week is something that I will always use and remember."

Rachel Gilliland, ST
Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines, IA

"I have learned to appreciate the skills an assistant must have to make vascular surgery run so smoothly and make it better healing for the patient. I came to this class not really knowing what to expect. I've been put in assisting roles before without really understanding techniques. Now I understand the logic and reason for each move. The skill labs have been outstanding. This course is one of the best I've ever had. Dan was more than happy to show me correct techniques with no waste of time and energy. The skill lab was very enjoyable and the atmosphere made it so you would want to learn more."

Arnold Crawford, CST
Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk, NC

"I have used tying techniques that I didn't feel comfortable with in the past. After the hands-on training with Dan, I feel more comfortable and confident with these techniques. Each day builds upon the last with the techniques taught. I feel more confident to use the techniques that I have been taught. Excellent program, very informative."

Rob Chaplin, CST
Morris Hospital, Morris, IL

"Had a good time, learned a lot. It was a pleasure to learn from you and to gain some of your knowledge. I can tell you have worked hard to get where you are today. It was a truly good learning experience. Thanks for all your help! "

Daniel Harris, ST
Harris Regional Hospital, Sylvania, NC

"The one-on-one teaching is the most helpful in refining your skills and remembering. It really helped me improve on some of the skills I already had and taught me a lot of new skills. I will feel more comfortable in the assistant position with a lot of confidence. Thanks for everything. "

Bill Faught, ST
Chippenham Medical Center, Richmond, VA

"This lab is very helpful. I appreciate the fact that Dan is so patient with his instructions. He is not willing to let me fail. He has a way of correcting me and not making me feel stupid. He always finds something positive about what I am doing. He made the class a lot of fun. I would like to be able to work with him some day. The week was very special for me. "

Carol Elliot, CST
Carson City Hospital, Carson City, MI

"I enjoyed myself this past week. Dan was a good teacher to me. The sutures I learned were great. I can take the knowledge that I know from Dan and pass it on at work. Thank you for coming out and letting me into your program. "

Kevin Harper, ORT
Southern Maryland Hospital, Clinton, MD

"I appreciate the discussion of the anatomy and the excellent demonstration of the surgical procedure Dan performed. I also appreciate Dan's patience and interest. He does an outstanding job. I am amazed at how much is involved in surgical assisting that I didn't even realize. I would highly recommend this program, especially the skills lab to anyone. It has taught and helped me improve my skills tremendously. Thank you so much! "

Sheila McNeely, CST
St. Mary's Medical Center of Campbell County, LaFollette, TN

"This class was extremely helpful. I have learned a lot and feel confident about suturing and tying. "

Deborah Rentzell, CST
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Rockville, MD

"After the first day I was looking forward to coming back. Dan Bump made this experience a very enjoyable one! I was really amazed with his creativity, knowledge and personality. He kept us interested. "

Arkina Taylor, ST
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Rockville, MD

"This has been a great week working and learning from Dan. I enjoyed all the knowledge you shared with me. I had plenty of SA skills when I started this lab, but now I feel that I have so much more. I look forward to putting these refined skills you have taught me to practice. I think that you are a great teacher. Thanks a lot. "

Rose Robinson, CST
Prince Georges Hospital Center, Cherley, MD

"You have made this a very enjoyable learning experience. Thank you for all of your calm help. It's a great learning environment. "

Sheila Rhinehart, CST
Sebastian River Medical Center, Sebastian, FL

"I really like the way you teach anatomy. It was really constructive and helped a lot. It was a great lab with all the equipment you brought us. Thank you very much for your effort in helping us understand these procedures. Thank you for your patience. "

Adriana M. Torres, ST
RLM Services, Washington, DC

"I had a great time. I have learned so much. Thanks for your time and knowledge. "

Jayson E. Stevens, ST
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, Rockville, MD

"The lab was unbelievable. All SA's must attend. Dan Bump is the best! "

Francis A. Perez, ST
Washington Hospital, Washington, DC

"Excellent program. I cannot wait to put the skills I learned into use. "

Bradley Dauzat, LPN
Rapides Regional Medical Center, Alexandria, LA

"This was a great way to learn what we need to know! It's a great feeling to be able to have those techniques to go home and show my physicians. Thank you also very much for the warm and easy learning environment. It does make a huge difference. "

Kellie Bobadilla, ST
Grandview Surgical , Sun City West, AZ

"Mr. Bump was great in the lab. He exhibited a great concern when a student became frustrated. His calm manner and 'one-on-one' technique saw us through. ACESA made this a most favorable experience. The labs were ideal learning models and the instructor was very attentive. My trepidations were relieved."

Gail-Disharoon-Gray, LPN
Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Salisbury, MD

"If you are interested in advancing your career inside the surgical setting, then this is the course for you. You work at your own pace, and help is just a phone call away. This course has given me the motivation to succeed and further my medical career. Dan is a terrific instructor who is well rounded. Thank you very much for this opportunity. The six day seminar was a boost to my confidence in the OR. "

Javier Ruiz, CST
South Lake Hospital, Clermont, FL

"The six day training course was very motivating. It empowered and polished my confidence and skill as a future surgical assistant. "

Rebecca M. Rabish, CST
Jewish Hospital, Louisville, KY

"Very good class. I was happy with the hands-on training ranging from basic knot tying to bowel anastomosis, to microvascular, to laparoscopy. I recommend this program to all techs and nurses. Even if you don't become an assistant, it gives you knowledge or anatomy to what a surgeon goes through to do their job. "

Todd Nieskes, CST

Yavapa Regional Medical Center, Prescott, AZ

"Very informative. The demonstrations and return demonstrations with one-on-one coaching was a great way to learn. Dan was very patient with students learning new skills. Playing the role of a surgeon in the simulated surgeries was the most educational experience I've had in my surgical career. I feel confident now in closing wounds on real patients. I plan on going back home and impressing the surgeons I work with. This week felt like an accelerated program with many skills and much information crammed into a short amount of time. At first I was feeling overwhelmed. Now I wish we could go another week! "

Scott E. Griffith, ST

Star Valley Medical Center, Afton, WY

"Very well structured and detailed. Organized with a great amount of information in a short amount of time. I benefited from the suturing and tying techniques and using the instruments in the proper way while doing surgery. I feel now I can assist without questioning my technique. I feel this course has made me a great asset to my future surgical team. I also see my improvement and difference from the past to the present. Not only surgical technique but also anatomy that pertains to the case was illustrated in full detail. Loved it! "

Larry Santiago, RN

Parkview Community Hospital, Riverside, CA

"The class was a lot more in depth than I thought it would be. It was great! I was pleased with the simulators being able to practice what we learned. I have learned more in one day about AAA's than in 3½ years of OR experience. We do not have a vascular surgeon in our area, but in an emergent case our general surgeon has performed this case. It has been a very informative experience. Mr. Bump is an excellent teacher, very knowledgeable, and great sense of humor. I was quite surprised to have him here to instruct. "

Rebecca Straw, ST

Star Valley Medical Center, Afton, WY

"This program gave me the opportunity to further my education and prepare for a career as a Surgical Assistant. I thoroughly enjoyed the laparoscopy lab. I feel this is a great learning tool and it gave me a way to further strengthen my skills. I have benefited from the suture and tying. It has reinforced my abilities. I also enjoyed the micro and vascular portion of the lab. It has given me a new appreciation for vascular and micro surgeons. I thoroughly enjoyed the program. I feel it has prepared me immensely to begin a career as a Surgical Assistant. It has also allowed me to begin a network of associates throughout the country. I would absolutely recommend the program to anyone who is serious about starting a career in surgical assisting. "

Jill Drummond Tift, CST

East Bay Surgery Center, Swansea, MA

"I recommend this program to anyone who wants to advance themselves, make themselves more marketable, and gain more knowledge from an assistants point of view."

Gregory Hatcher, ST
Penninsula Regional Medical Center, Salisbury, MD

"I feel overwhelmed by the whole process, but meeting Dan has helped me to put a face on ACESA and let me relax a little, knowing someone really is there if I have questions or problems. I learn by seeing. Having the teaching aides has been great for me. Getting to share experiences with others in the program is very helpful. Even though I am just beginning the program, meeting Dan and hearing his philosophies and stories make me think I can do this. The program was obviously designed to give me success – now it's what I do with it. "

Dixie Huenink, ST
Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney, NE