

Section Five

Content Outline

CSFA REFERENCE LIST

The Certification Examination Reference Lists contain the texts used to develop the questions for the certification examinations. The CSFA Examination Review Committee uses the most current edition of each text listed for reference when creating examination questions.

New editions of each text may be published after the Candidate Handbook is printed. Candidates need to be sure they utilize the most recent edition of each text. Candidates may find the texts at libraries, bookstores or on the internet.

CSFA EXAMINATION RECOMMENDED REFERENCES

The most current editions of the books listed below are used for reference by the NBSTSA and the CSFA-ERC.

SURGERY

- Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery, 2022, 17th Edition, Jane C. Rothrock, ISBN# 9780323776806
- Kirk's Basic Surgical Techniques, 2024, 8th Edition, Fiona Myint, ISBN# 9780443113673
- Berry & Kohn's Operating Room Technique, 2024, 15th Edition, Hornacky & Phillips, ISBN# 9780443105234
- Schwartz's Principles of Surgery, 11th Edition, Brunicaudi, ISBN# 9781259835353
- Surgical Technology: Principles and Practice, 2021, 8th Edition, Joanna Kotcher, ISBN# 9780323680189

A&P

- Principles of Anatomy and Physiology, 2020, 16th Edition, Tortora & Derrickson, ISBN# 9781119662792

PHARMACOLOGY

- Pharmacology for the Surgical Technologist, 2023, 6th Edition, Howe & Burton, ISBN# 9780443109096

REFERENCE

- Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, 2021, 24th Edition, Venes, ISBN# 9781719642859

MISC/INSTRUMENTATION

- The Ethicon Knot Tying Manual
www.ruralareavet.org/PDF/Surgery-Knot_Tying.pdf
- AST Guidelines for Best Practices in Surgical Technology
www.ast.org/AboutUs/Position_Statements
- American Heart Association – CPR Guidelines
www.heart.org

STUDY TIPS

- 1. Learn about the examination by reviewing your candidate handbook:** This candidate handbook contains a content area outline, recommended reference list and sample questions.
- 2. Examination content area outline:** Familiarize yourself with each subject listed in the outline – all of these items may appear on the examination.
- 3. Recommended reference list:** These references were used to create the examination questions. Cross reference the content outline with these materials.
- 4. Practice:** The NBSTSA offers Practice Examinations online at nbstsa.org. Candidates can print this to continue to study from and will receive analysis of individual questions and overall performance.
- 5. Evaluate:** Complete the Examination Study Evaluation on nbstsa.org to find out what areas of the examination you need to focus your study attention.
- 6. Connect:** Like us on Facebook and connect with other candidates and CSFAs and find out what did and didn't work for them when taking the examination. Find people in your area and create a study group!