Basic physician assistant-surgical assistant (PASA) duties. The physician assistant-surgical assistant (PASA) who is not eligible to take the NCCPA certifying exam shall:

1. Function only in the operating room as approved by the commission;

2. Only be allowed to close skin and subcutaneous tissue, placing suture ligatures, clamping, tying and clipping of blood vessels, and cauterizing for hemostasis under direct supervision;

3. Only be allowed to assist the operating surgeon. The PASA may not perform any independent surgical procedures, even under direct supervision;

4. Have no prescriptive authority; and

5. Only write operative notes. The PASA may not write any progress notes or order(s) on hospitalized patients.