

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Technical Standards

Our program technical standards have been developed to help students understand nonacademic standards, skills, and performance requirements expected of a student in order to complete this particular curriculum. The Associate degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) signifies that the graduate is prepared for an entry-level position into the practice of Ultrasound. Therefore, the graduate must have both the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of situations and to render a wide spectrum of health-related services. Students should possess the following minimal physical requirements to adequately perform DMS responsibilities. If an accommodation and/or academic adjustment is necessary to participate in the program, it is imperative to identify a reasonable accommodation and/or academic adjustment to those students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonableness is determined by Student Accessibility Services and the program on a case-by-case basis utilizing the program technical standards. The accommodation and/or academic adjustment needs to be in place prior to the start of the program, or it may delay your ability to start the program. It is the student's responsibility to contact Student Accessibility Services and request an accommodation and/or academic adjustment each semester.

OBSERVATION STANDARD

- Observe sonographers demonstrating scanning skills and patient manipulations.
- Observe patients both near and far in an environment with limited lighting.
- Have the visual ability to read electronic and paper charts, evaluate images, and observe the condition of the patient.
- Adequately view sonograms, have the ability to perceive small details as well as discriminate subtle differences.

COMMUNICATION STANDARD

- Communicate in English (verbally and in writing) to patients and other interprofessional healthcare workers.
- Hear and communicate instructions and explanations to patients in a clear and compassionate manner, and be able to perceive nonverbal communication.
- Recognize and respond to an urgent or emergency situation.
- Read and analyze patient chart and exam requisition for pertinent information.

COGNITIVE STANDARD

- Implement critical thinking skills in clinical and lab settings.
- Demonstrate problem-solving skills by recognizing problems, instituting solutions, and assessing outcomes.
- Integrate, analyze, and compare images.
- Comprehend multidimensional and spatial relationships of anatomy.

BEHAVIORAL STANDARD

- Be organized and perform protocols in a specific sequence.
- Learn by a variety of methods which includes, classroom, lab, groups, individual, and computer.
- Display professional behaviors in all interactions with patients, students, interprofessional healthcare workers, and instructors in the clinical, lab, and college settings.
- Adapt to changing environments.
- Accept constructive feedback from others and implement change learned from feedback.
- Understand the implication of noncompliance with the legal standards.
- Maintain good judgment to complete responsibilities as required.

MOTOR STANDARD

- Be able to bend or stoop for equipment manipulation repetitively.
- Be able to lift 50 lbs. routinely.

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- Stand for long periods of time, up to 80%.
- Push or pull large pieces of equipment.
- Have full use of hands, wrists and shoulders for scanning and equipment manipulation.
- Manipulate equipment controls in various increments to create diagnostic images.
- Bend at the waist.
- Reach equipment keyboard, controls, and screen.
- Maintain arm and hand positions for periods of time for various scanning protocols.
- Have good hand and eye coordination to correctly examine organs and document images.

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