

Technical Standards/Essential Functions

The following essential, non-academic functions are required to participate in the medical assisting program.

Essential Behavioral Attitudes: Students in the MA program must have the:

1. Ability to engage in activities consistent with safe clinical practice without demonstrated behaviors of addiction to, abuse of, or dependence on alcohol, other drugs, or other non-medically prescribed controlled substances or misuse of prescription drugs, and/or over-the-counter medications or herbs that may alter or impair behavior or judgment.
2. Capacity to demonstrate responsibility and accountability for action as a student in a Health Science program and as a developing Health Care professional, including demonstrating integrity, respect for self and for others, and projecting an image of professionalism.
3. Ability to work under mental and physical stress frequently is required, including ability to concentrate in situations which include multiple distractions and interruptions.
4. Ability to think critically—essential to perform, evaluate, interpret, record and report patient status and diagnostic results.
5. Ability to adapt to changing environment and be able to prioritize tasks.

Physical and Emotional Standards:

Medical Assisting students should possess and be able to demonstrate the following:

Interpersonal Skills – Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with faculty, patients, families, health care professionals and other individuals from a variety of emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.

Communication Skills – Communication abilities sufficient to listen actively and for interaction with others in verbal, non-verbal and written form.

Cognitive Abilities: - Ability to recognize emergency situations and respond appropriately, problem solve and think critically for effective patient care and adhere to policies and procedures.

Mobility – Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk for extensive periods of time, perform CPR without assistance, bend, twist, pull, push, stand, sit, walk, and reach.

Motor Skills - Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide and assist with procedures, medication administration, perform basic secretarial skills and manipulate equipment safely.

Hearing – Auditory ability sufficient to monitor health needs of patients and procedures with auditory signals.

Visual - Visual ability sufficient to read documentation in written and computerized formats, perform medical procedures and for observation skills necessary in Medical Assisting duties.

Tactile - Tactile ability sufficient to manipulate medical tools and equipment, to provide patient intervention, and carry out medical procedures.

Environmental Safety – Ability to use germicides and adhering to PPE precautions.

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