

School of Radiography Technical Standards

The following abilities and characteristics are defined as technical standards, which are established by the faculty and deemed necessary for a student to matriculate, remain in good standing, and achieve the competencies required for graduation from the radiography program. The NM Academy therefore requires applicants to confirm their ability to comply with these standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, as a condition of admission to the radiography program.

Motor skills

- Students must be able to consistently discern a variety of signals on imaging equipment, phones and patient care devices.
- Students must be able to assist patients to and from exam tables, wheelchairs, and stretchers. This requires the ability to exert 25-50 lbs. of force frequently.
- Students must be able to manipulate equipment in both the imaging department and portable x-ray devices. This includes pushing, pulling, raising, lowering, and adjusting equipment to achieve desired outcomes. This requires the ability to exert 25-50 lbs. of force frequently.
- Students must be able to manually position patients of both genders to properly align anatomical structures to the beam. This requires the ability to exert 25-50 lbs. of force frequently.
- Students must be able to stand and walk unassisted for up to eight hours a day.
- Students must be able to perform essential job-related functions including button manipulation on equipment, switches, keyboards, touch screens, and foot pedals.
- Students must be able to perform and monitor patient vital signs including blood pressure, pulse and respiratory rates.
- Students must be able to move independently about the department, hospital, clinical facility, and patient rooms in an expedient manner.
- Students must be able to adhere to universal and transmission-based precautions.

Communication

- Students must be able to respond to patients' needs, communicated in an average tone, from as far away as 15 feet.
- Students must be able to record information accurately and clearly and communicate effectively with other healthcare professionals in a variety of patient settings.
- Students must be able to communicate with patients, doctors, and other personnel clearly and effectively in the English language using appropriate medical terminology.
- Students must be able to understand and respond to verbal and non-verbal methods of communication when interacting with patients and colleagues.

- Students must be able to convey or exchange accurate information in a clear and efficient manner in both oral and written modes.

Cognitive

- Students must be able to read and comprehend technical, and medical information, and interpret patient records in both written and electronic formats.
- Students must be able to visually observe and monitor patients from up to 15 feet away during procedures while assessing patient condition and formulating corrective action plans to accommodate patient limitations and needs.
- Students must be able to prioritize and perform tasks related to patient care and technical procedures in a logical, expedient sequence.
- Students must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and effectively function in an environment of unexpected situations inherent to clinical practice, and rapidly respond to emergency signals and alarms.
- Students must be able to integrate training from several sources to problem solve in a quick, accurate, and highly coordinated manner.
- Students must be able to follow written and oral instructions from physicians and coworkers.
- Students must be able to evaluate images and formulate corrective actions as necessary to improve diagnostic quality and patient positioning.
- Students must be able to multitask and complete tasks and assignments to meet established deadlines.
- Students must be able to differentiate anatomical structures on radiographic images and visually assess image quality.
- Students must be able to process and interpret feedback, both verbal and written, from supervising technologists and use it to modify and improve clinical performance.
- Students must be able to perform calculations in an expedient manner to determine proper exam parameters by applying didactic theory to the clinical environment.

Behavior and Social Attributes

- Students must be able to exercise good judgment including the timely completion of responsibilities, prioritization of tasks, and recognition of the need to seek assistance as indicated.
- Students must be able to react calmly and effectively in stressful environments.
- Students must be able to demonstrate sensitivity towards individuals from diverse backgrounds.
- Students must be able to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients and colleagues.
- Students must be able to demonstrate reasonable flexibility in adapting to changing work situations and unexpected situations inherent to clinical practice.
- Students must be able to process and accept constructive feedback, both oral and written, and use it to modify and improve clinical and academic performance.
- Students must be able to complete all responsibilities attendant to the treatment and care of patients. This includes effective expression of empathy for the situations and circumstances of others.
- Students must be able to demonstrate professional and ethical behavior.

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- Students must be able to demonstrate professional and ethical behavior.
- Students must be able to exhibit a level of attentiveness that ensures patient safety.
- Students must be able to rapidly respond to emergency signals and alarms.