

Respiratory Care Technology Program Core Performance Standards

The following core performance standards are required in this program.

Performance	Standard	Essential Activities/Tasks
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, and take corrective action when necessary • Utilize patient assessment techniques to develop or alter respiratory care plans
Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individual, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish rapport with patients, clients, and health care colleagues • Communicate in a meaningful manner with patients and health care colleagues
Communication Skills	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form, including via electronic devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret respiratory care actions and patient/client responses • Demonstrate charting procedures and verbal staff communication concerning patients
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, maneuver in small spaces, utilize stairwell when necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move around in patient's room, work spaces, administer CPR, assist patient into wheelchair/bed and perform transport duties • Possess physical capabilities that would allow for maintenance of equipment such as cleaning and storage • Demonstrate proper procedure for turning and/or lifting patient in bed • Lift at least 15 lbs. of weight • Respond quickly in an emergency

Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calibrate and use equipment necessary to perform respiratory care procedures • Demonstrate method for reading flow meters and pressure gauges and safe handling of medical gases and their storage systems • Maintain sterile technique when performing sterile procedures • Perform various procedures requiring the use of both hands
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, and cries for help; auscultate sounds • Distinguish changes in tone and pitch, as in listening to patient's breath sounds, heart sounds, and blood pressure with the use of a stethoscope
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in respiratory care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe patient/client responses • Observe visual alarms when monitoring respiratory and other patient care monitoring equipment • Identification of patient, verification of oxygen flow, possess color vision to properly identify color on medical gas cylinders
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform palpation functions of physical examination and / or those related to therapeutic intervention • Demonstrate method for palpating arterial sites
Accountability and Responsibility	Demonstrate accountability and responsibility in all aspects of the respiratory care profession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to distinguish right from wrong, legal from illegal and act accordingly • Accept responsibility for own actions • Able to comprehend ethical standards and agree to abide by them • Consider the needs of patients in deference to one's own needs

Students with a diagnosed disability who are unable to meet the above standards are advised to contact the ADA counselor at the Nursing / Allied Health Center