

**Hancock Regional Hospital
SCHOOL OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY**

TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Professional competence requires that student radiographers apply knowledge of anatomy, physiology, imaging systems and radiographic exposure factors in the performance of their duties. They are required to manipulate mobile, portable and stationary radiographic equipment in the production of diagnostic images as well as transport patients through various areas of the hospital. It is essential that the student radiographer have the skills to communicate effectively with patients, families of patients, other health care professionals and the general public. Additional duties include image processing, image and equipment evaluation, patient education and care, radiation protection, critical thinking, and venipuncture. The student radiographer displays personal attributes of compassion, competency and concern in meeting the special needs of the patient.

Therefore, students who expect to enter or continue in the radiologic technology program must display the following cognitive and physical skills:

COGNITIVE DEMANDS

<u>REQUIRED SKILL</u>	<u>SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT</u>
1. READING	Must be able to read English, including medical terminology. This relates to exam questions, equipment controls, medical reports, drug labels, patient charts, journals and medical texts.
2. SPEAKING	Must have clear English speaking skills in audible tones. This relates to communicating with patients during exams, telephone communication, communicating with other health professionals, etc.
3. WRITING	Must have legible English writing skills. This relates to exam questions, patient histories, test-taking skills, etc.
4. CRITICAL THINKING	Must be able to modify radiographic equipment, procedures and patient positioning to meet patient needs. React quickly and rationally in chaotic or emergency situations. Solve problems in a variety of situations where only limited standardization exists.
5. REASONING	Must be able to correctly interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral and diagrammatic form.
6. MATHEMATICS	Must have a working knowledge of algebra and geometry to calculate variables and formulas, ratios, proportions, percentages and square roots. Understand planes and angles and their properties.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The role of a radiography student cannot be performed without the ability to execute the following:

- 1. STANDING** - Standing unassisted is required 95-100% of the time throughout the assigned clinical hours. This is an essential demand.
- 2. WALKING** - Walking is required 90-100% of the time throughout the assigned clinical hours. This is an essential demand.
- 3. CLIMBING** - Climbing stairs is often required.

4. PUSHING/PULLING - Pushing and pulling an average of 200 pounds is required when transferring patients to and from the radiographic table. Moving radiographic equipment and transporting patients may require significant physical exertion. This is an essential demand.

5. LIFTING - Lifting 25 to 50 pounds frequently. Lifting over 50 pounds is common. Must be able to safely assist patient to and from the radiographic table, wheelchair, or cart. This is an essential demand.

7. BENDING/CROUCHING - Bending, crouching, stooping, kneeling is a requirement in certain exam situations. This is an essential demand.

8. FINE MOTOR SKILLS - Manipulate knobs, buttons, switches and keyboards. Must be able to manipulate small medical devices, don surgical gloves, insert IV catheter, etc. This is an essential demand.

9. HEARING (WITH/WITHOUT CORRECTION) - Distinguish sounds over background noise. Must be able to respond to low sounding alarms, codes, and verbal expressions from patient and physician. Hear muffled sounds in surgery or behind an x-ray control booth, as well as auscultate BP. This is an essential demand.

10. VISION (WITH/WITHOUT CORRECTION) - Ability to see fine lines and distinguish gradual changes in blacks, greys, whites, of images. Perform procedures in dim lighting, read monitors, and written material. This is an essential demand.

PHYSICAL EXPOSURE

Student radiographers are classified as OSHA Category 1: required to perform tasks that may result in occupational exposure on a regular basis.

The role of a student radiographer requires exposure to the following:

1. DISEASE - Disease exposure will occur on a daily basis while in clinical education. It involves caring for patients with known and unknown risk factors and potential infections or harmful diseases.

2. PPE - Due to potential exposure to various diseases, radiography students must be able to wear all types of PPE for various lengths of time throughout the work period.

3. HANDLING REPULSIVE TASKS - Radiography students are frequently involved with handling and disposing of body fluids and secretions such as blood, feces, urine, vomit, and the general cleaning and maintenance of an incontinent patient.

4. RADIATION - Exposure to ionizing radiation and radiation producing machines on a daily basis.

5. WORKING IN CONFINED PLACES - Must be able to work in small rooms and areas daily. Duration can vary from one minute to more than an hour.

6. NOISE - Must be able to work around constant low humming noises.

This program reserves the right to require the applicant or student to physically demonstrate any of the above skills at any time. In the event a student is unable to meet the technical standards as described above, s/he will not be accepted into the program or will be released from the program.

I have read and I understand the cognitive and physical performance standards for radiography students and I am able to perform the tasks associated with the technical standards.

Name (print) _____

Signature _____

Date _____