

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Sonography Programs Technical Standards

Technical Standards and Essential Functions

Health Sciences programs establish technical standards and essential functions to insure that students have the abilities required to participate and potentially be successful in all aspects of the respective programs. Students are required to meet technical standards and essential functions for the (Program) as indicated below. If an applicant or student is unable to meet all of the outlined standards, he/she may be withdrawn from the program.

Sonography Program Technical Standards and Essential Functions

The following technical standards and essential functions outline reasonable expectations of a student in the Sonography Program for the performance of common sonographic imaging functions. The Sonography student must be able to apply the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a variety of classroom, lab and/or clinical situations while providing the essential competencies of sonographic imaging. These requirements apply for the purpose of admission and continuation in the program.

Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Sonography Technical Standard
Observation	Ability to participate actively in all demonstrations, laboratory exercise, and clinical experiences in the professional program component and to assess and comprehend the condition of all clients assigned to him/her for examination, diagnosis, and treatment. Such observation and information usually requires functional use of visual, auditory, and somatic sensations.	<p>Adequately view sonograms, including color distinctions</p> <p>Recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language</p> <p>Distinguish audible sounds from both the patient and the ultrasound equipment (Doppler)</p> <p>Recognize and respond to soft voices or voices under protective garb</p>
Communication	Ability to communicate effectively in English using verbal, non-verbal and written formats with faculty, other students, clients, families and all members of the healthcare team.	<p>Able to elicit information and assess non-verbal information</p> <p>Transmit information to patients, staff, fellow students, and other members of the health care team</p> <p>Receive/comprehend, write, and interpret verbal and written communication in both the academic and clinical settings</p>
Motor	Sufficient motor ability to execute the movement and skills required for safe and effective care and emergency	Lift more than 50 pounds routinely

Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Sonography Technical Standard
	treatment	<p>Push and pull, bend and stoop routinely</p> <p>Move, adjust, and position patients and equipment</p> <p>Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders</p> <p>Dexterity to manipulate transducer and control panel simultaneously</p> <p>Work standing 80% of the time</p>
Intellectual	Ability to collect, interpret and integrate information and make decisions.	<p>Read and comprehend relevant information in textbooks, medical records, and professional literature</p> <p>Retain and apply information</p> <p>Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize</p> <p>Organize and accurately perform the individual steps in a sonographic procedure in the proper sequence and within required time frame</p> <p>Apply knowledge and learning to new situations and problem solving scenarios</p>
Behavioral and Social Attributes	<p>Possess the emotional health and stability required for full utilization of the student's intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all academic and patient care responsibilities and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with clients and other members of the health care team.</p> <p>Possess the ability to tolerate taxing workloads, function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and</p>	<p>Manage heavy academic schedules and deadlines</p> <p>Perform in fast paced clinical situations</p> <p>Able to remain calm and focused during instruction for and performance of sonographic exams</p> <p>Display flexibility and adaptability</p> <p>Demonstrate integrity, concern</p>

Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Sonography Technical Standard
	<p>learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical settings with patients.</p> <p>Possess compassion, integrity, concern for others, and motivation.</p> <p>Possess the ability to demonstrate professional behaviors and a strong work ethic.</p>	<p>for others/compassion, appropriate interpersonal skills, interest and motivation</p> <p>Comply with the Sonographer Code of Ethics, Clinical Practice Standards, and Scope of Practice (Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography: www.sdms.org)</p>

Qualified applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply to the program. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Office of Students with Disabilities if they feel they cannot meet one or more of the technical standards listed. Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented physical or psychological disabilities. Students with disabilities must request reasonable accommodations through the Office for Students with Disabilities on the campus where they expect to take the majority of their classes. Students are encouraged to do this three weeks before the start of each semester.