

The **Medical Assisting** program technical standards have been developed to inform students of the nonacademic essential functions of the program and profession. Examples are not all inclusive.

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
Communication Oral / Written	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills sufficient to communicate information and ideas so others will understand • Skills sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds • Ability to interpret nonverbal communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legibly document relevant patient information (manual or via computer) using correct terminology and spelling • Interpret doctor's orders • Record patient responses to treatments • Establish rapport with patients, families, and other health care providers
Mobility / Motor Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor skills sufficient to move the hands and use hands to grasp or manipulate objects, pinch with thumb or forefinger • Mobility sufficient to perform physical activities that require considerable use of arms and legs and moving the whole body • Mobility sufficient to reach above shoulder height • Mobility sufficient to bend and retrieve items below waist level • Ability to perform repetitive tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize delicate instruments with patients • Maneuver in confined spaces • Twist body to adjust equipment and obtain supplies in various positions • Physical activities may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bending • Stooping • Lifting • Reaching • Kneeling • Crouching • Squatting
Physical Strength and Stamina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to stand for extended periods of time • Ability sufficient to lift and carry up to 50 pounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand and walk up to 12-hour shifts • Lift and carry equipment

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to support and assist patients • Ability to push 200 pounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist patient in and out of a wheelchair and on/off an examination table • Push a patient weighing 200 pounds in a wheelchair
<p>Sensory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sight • Sound • Taste • Touch • Smell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual skills sufficient to see details at close range and manipulate equipment • Visual skills sufficient to discriminate shapes and colors • Listening skills sufficient to communicate with others • Identify various sounds • Ability to touch and locate anatomy on patients to perform physical assessments • Ability to tolerate various odors • Visual ability for central and peripheral observation as necessary in operation of equipment and patient care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read accurately numbers, letters, and cursive writing on instruments, equipment, computer screens, and paper • Identify reagents and other materials such as laboratory media and the physical properties of various body fluids • Observe patient responses to treatment • Hear verbal communication from patients and other health care team members • Hear equipment/emergency alarms, call bell, or call for help • Listen to heart, lung, and blood pressure sounds • Feel for pulse • Differentiate between temperature and pressure variations • Work with patients with poor hygiene
<p>Environmental / Occupational Exposure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposure to communicable and infectious diseases, secretions, blood, and bodily fluids • Exposure to environmental hazards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible exposure to HIV, hepatitis, etc. • Exposure to X-ray radiation, medicinal preparations, latex, and toxic substances

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible exposure to X-ray radiation • Ability to work under high stress situations and respond promptly • Ability to use personal protective equipment correctly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond appropriately in emergency to maintain patient safety and care
<p>Field or Industry Professional Standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal background check • CPR certification • Adhere and follow the Medical Assisting Education Review Board technical standards 	