

The **Respiratory Therapy** 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Mobility sufficient to perform physical activities that require considerable use of arms and legs and moving the whole body • Mobility sufficient to perform physical activities that require dexterity and flexibility to move body in a variety of positions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize instruments with patients • Move around in patients’ rooms and treatment areas • Maneuver in confined spaces • Physical activities may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bending • Stooping • Lifting • Reaching
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 30 pounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand and walk up to 12-hour shifts • Lift and/or maneuver patients • Lift and move equipment such as gas cylinders
Sensory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sight • Sound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual skills sufficient to see details at close range and manipulate equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe patient responses to treatment

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taste • Touch • Smell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear equipment/emergency alarms, call bell, or call for help • Listen to heart, lung, and blood pressure sounds • Feel for pulse • Work with patients with poor hygiene
<p>Environmental / Occupational Exposure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent exposure to communicable and infectious diseases, secretions, blood, and bodily fluids • Exposure to environmental hazards • Ability to work under high stress situations and respond promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible exposure to HIV, hepatitis, etc. • Exposure to X-ray radiation, medicinal preparations, latex, and toxic substances • 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 	