



2021-2022 TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR RESPIRATORY CARE PROGRAM

To the Student: As you complete this form please consider your physical and mental/attitudinal ability to meet the Technical Standards associated with the health professions program that you are about to enter. Please carefully consider the General Job Description as you evaluate your ability to meet the Technical Standards specified.

General Job Description: Utilizes the application of scientific principles for the identification, prevention, remediation, research, and rehabilitation of acute or chronic cardiopulmonary dysfunction thereby producing optimum health and function. Reviews existing data, collects additional data, and recommends obtaining data to evaluate the respiratory status of patients, develop the respiratory care plan, and determine the appropriateness of the prescribed therapy. Initiates, conducts, and modifies prescribed therapeutic and diagnostic procedures such as: administering medical gases, humidification and aerosols, aerosol medications, postural drainage, bronchopulmonary hygiene, cardiopulmonary resuscitation; providing support services to mechanically ventilated patients; maintaining artificial and natural airways; performing pulmonary function testing, hemodynamic monitoring and other physiologic monitoring; collecting specimens of blood and other materials. Documents necessary information in the patient's medical record and on other forms, and communicates that information to members of the health care team. Obtains, assembles, calibrates, and checks necessary equipment. Uses problem solving to identify and correct malfunctions of respiratory care equipment. Demonstrates appropriate interpersonal skills to work productively with patients, families, staff, and co-workers. Accepts directives, maintains confidentiality, does not discriminate, and upholds the ethical standards of the profession.

Throughout the performance of your duties as a healthcare provider, you will be exposed to infectious diseases in all practice settings. Although you will learn practices and procedures to minimize the risk of exposure, you should be aware of the risk and take it into consideration when deciding to enter this program and profession.

PHYSICAL STANDARDS		Expected Level of Performance Freq*
LIFT:	up to 50 pounds to assist moving patients	F
STOOP:	to adjust equipment	F
KNEEL:	to perform CPR	O
CROUCH:	to locate and plug in electrical equipment	F
REACH:	5 ½' above the floor to attach oxygen devices to wall outlet	C
HANDLE:	small and large equipment for storing, retrieving, moving	C
GRASP:	syringes, laryngoscope, endotracheal tubes	C

PHYSICAL STANDARDS		Expected Level of Performance Freq*
STAND:	for prolonged periods of time (e.g., deliver therapy, check equipment)	C
FEEL:	to palpate pulses, arteries for puncture, skin temperature	C
PUSH/PULL:	large, wheeled equipment e.g., mechanical ventilators	C
WALK:	for extended periods of time to all areas of a hospital	C
MANIPULATE:	knobs, dials associated with diagnostic/therapeutic devices	C
HEAR:	verbal directions	C
HEAR:	gas flow through equipment	C
HEAR:	alarms	C
HEAR:	through a stethoscope such as breath or heart sounds	C
SEE:	patients conditions such as skin color, work of breathing	C
SEE:	mist flowing through tubing	F
SEE:	shapes and forms associated with radiographs	F
TALK:	to communicate in comprehensible English goals/procedures to patients	C
READ:	typed, handwritten, computer information in English	C
WRITE:	to communicate in English pertinent information (e.g., patient evaluation data, therapy outcomes)	C
MENTAL/ATTITUDINAL STANDARDS		Expected Level of Performance Freq*
Function safely, effectively, and calmly under stressful situations.		F
Maintain composure while managing multiple tasks simultaneously.		F
Prioritize multiple tasks.		C
Exhibit social skills as respect, politeness, tact, collaboration, teamwork and discretion necessary to interact effectively with patients, families, supervisors, and co-workers of the same or different cultures.		C
Maintain personal hygiene, cleanliness, and avoidance of odors and noxious fumes (including cigarette smoke, perfume) consistent with close personal contact with patients and co-workers.		C
Display attitudes/actions consistent with a professional image and the ethical standards of the profession.		C

IMMUNIZATIONS

Health science students must meet immunization requirements under state law, MGL Chapter 76, Section 15C and its regulations at 105 CMR 220.000 – 220.700. Students must also meet any additional immunization requirements required by clinical affiliates.

According to MGL Chapter 76, Section 15C, a health science student who is in contact with patients may be exempt from the immunization requirements imposed under state law pursuant to a medical or religious exemption. Submission of documentation will be required and, if sufficient to qualify for a medical or religious exemption, it will be granted. **PLEASE BE ADVISED** that, while the college will make a reasonable effort to place you in a clinical facility, **clinical placement cannot be guaranteed in light of an unimmunized status. If a clinical placement cannot be secured, then you will be unable to complete the program's clinical requirement. Thus, you will be unable to progress and will fail out of the program.**

***Performance Level: O = occasionally 50-74%; F = frequently 75-89%; C = constantly 90-100%**

Applicants who are offered admission must document their ability to perform all essential tasks with or without reasonable accommodation in order to begin the professional courses. If you are an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who seeks a reasonable accommodation, you need to contact Accessibility Services for eligibility determination for reasonable accommodation(s). For those applicants offered admission into the program, you will be asked to self-certify that you meet the Technical Standards.