



## Technical Standards for Respiratory Therapy Program

Upon entering the program, students enrolled in the Respiratory Therapy program should be able to meet the established technical standards identified below with or without reasonable accommodations. The technical standards for the Respiratory Therapy program are representative of those found in the Respiratory Therapy profession.

Ability	Standard	Examples (not inclusive)
<b>Physical Skills</b>	Students must have sufficient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endurance, strength, mobility, balance, flexibility and coordination to perform client care activities and emergency procedures</li> <li>• Gross and fine motor skills to perform clinical skills in a timely, safe and effective manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sit, stand, walk and maintain balance at varying intervals</li> <li>• Reach above shoulders and below waist</li> <li>• Ability to move light or heavy equipment with or without assistance</li> <li>• Sustain repetitive motion</li> <li>• Bend, stretch, squat, twist and kneel</li> <li>• Good hand-eye coordination</li> <li>• Arm-hand steadiness</li> <li>• Finger and manual dexterity (squeeze, grasp, twist, pinch and manipulate small objects)</li> <li>• Move in confined spaces</li> </ul>
<b>Sensory Skills</b>	Students must have sufficient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditory ability</li> <li>• Visual ability</li> <li>• Sense of smell</li> <li>• Tactile ability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detect audible sounds for function and warning of equipment</li> <li>• Ability to visually detect equipment displays</li> <li>• Ability to visually detect environmental hazards</li> <li>• Detect and identify different colors</li> <li>• Detect changes in skin color, temperature and swelling</li> <li>• Hear and understand communication without visualization of a person's mouth and lips</li> <li>• Hear faint body sounds</li> <li>• Detect subtle differences through skin (depth of veins and arteries; vibrations, pulse and temperature)</li> <li>• Detect odors (abnormal breath, alcohol, gases, fire)</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Skills</b>	Student must have the ability to effectively communicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal communication</li> <li>• Non-verbal communication</li> <li>• Written communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to discuss and ask questions regarding patient care with patient, family and health care team</li> <li>• Ability to convey information in a clear, professional and timely manner</li> <li>• Listen and respond to others in an accepting and respectful manner</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic communication</li> </ul> <p>Student must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interact appropriately with patients, peers, leadership</li> <li>• Interpret and convey information</li> <li>• Speak, read, write, comprehend, interpret and document information</li> <li>• Recognize nonverbal behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss details and ask questions regarding patient care</li> <li>• Listen and respond to others in a nonjudgmental, respectful manner</li> <li>• Awareness of non-verbal communication</li> <li>• Observe, interpret and respond appropriately to surroundings, nonverbal cues, verbal and written communication</li> </ul>
<b>Critical Thinking Skills</b>	<p>Student must have sufficient critical thinking and problem-solving skills to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize data in a timely manner</li> <li>• Problem solve and make decisions in a timely manner</li> <li>• Apply knowledge, skills and experience to determine best/safe practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply concepts of respiratory care to clinical situations</li> <li>• Concentrate to perform clinical tasks</li> <li>• Recognize the need to consult with healthcare professionals</li> <li>• Demonstrate problem-solving skills</li> <li>• Anticipate needs for procedures, provider and patient and respond appropriately</li> <li>• Prioritize patient care duties</li> <li>• Ability to problem solve complex situations while maintaining a professional demeanor</li> </ul>
<b>Safety Skills</b>	<p>Students must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply knowledge, skills and experience to provide a safe work environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in an environment with potentially infectious materials</li> <li>• Demonstrate adherence to safety guidelines and regulations</li> <li>• Recognize potentially hazardous conditions and take appropriate actions</li> <li>• Maintain immunizations and health care requirements</li> <li>• Utilize personal protective equipment (gloves, mask, eyewear, gown)</li> <li>• Operate equipment, adhering to safety standards</li> <li>• Identify and resolve unsafe situations</li> <li>• Be familiar with and follow emergency procedures</li> </ul>
<b>Professionalism</b>	<p>Student should demonstrate appropriate behavior to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish effective relationships</li> <li>• Display cross-cultural competency,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exhibit positive interpersonal skills in all interactions</li> <li>• Maintain confidentiality</li> <li>• Demonstrate appropriate impulse control and professional level of maturity</li> <li>• Recognize appropriate boundaries in relationships with patients and colleagues</li> </ul>

	<p>integrity, moral reasoning, ethical behaviors and concern for others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show respect in diverse populations</li> <li>• Work cooperatively with all professional teams</li> <li>• Adapt to changing environments inherent in clinical practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate good team building skills</li> <li>• Demonstrate ability to cope with stressful situations</li> <li>• Adhere to attendance, dress code and personal hygiene protocol</li> <li>• Display integrity, honesty, respect, reliability and accountability</li> </ul>
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The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794) prohibits discrimination of persons because of her or his disability. In keeping with these laws, colleges of the Wisconsin Technical College System make every effort to ensure a quality education for students. The purpose of this document is to ensure that students acknowledge that they have been provided information on the technical standards required of a student in the Respiratory Therapy program. In addition, information was given to the student on reasonable accommodations to meet the technical standards at this time.

If you know you have a recognized disability, or suspect that you might have one, it is your responsibility to identify yourself as soon as possible to the Disability Services staff in Student Services. Course standards will not be lowered but various kinds of accommodations are available to you. Adequate and reasonable time will be required to develop and provide appropriate accommodations so contact Disability Services as soon as possible. It is Mid-State Technical College's goal to assist you in your individual educational plan.