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**Functional Abilities/ Program Performance Standards**

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and consistent with the ADA, the below Program Performance Standards provide the framework to relate functional ability categories and representative activities/attributes to any limitations/deficits in functional abilities. These standards shall be used by the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program in combination with the professional scope of practice, job analysis, other resources, and expert consultation to make decisions related to the ability of the diagnostic medical sonography student to perform the essential functions of diagnostic medical sonography.

If a prospective student is unable to meet the required “Program Performance Standards,” the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program in consultation with an advisor from the Accommodations at Collin College for Equal Support Services (ACCESS) Office will determine, on an individual basis, whether or not reasonable accommodations can be made that would permit the student to meet these “Program Performance Standards” and thus, to continue in the program.

Please note: “Skill/s tied to” within each section is not intended to be a complete listing of skills but rather as an example of a skill for which that ability is required. For a complete listing of skills tied to that ability, please see the program director.

1. **Critical Thinking** 
   1. Independent decision making
   2. Prioritizing tasks
   3. Identify cause and effect relationships
   4. Plan/control activities for others

**Skill/s tied to**: Interpret patient history, medical records, sonographic findings, and adjust sonographic protocol when needed.

1. **Interpersonal**
   1. Respect differences with patients and coworkers
   2. Establish a good rapport with patients and coworkers
   3. Work effectively with physicians, staff, patients and their families.

**Skill/s tied to**: Communicate effectively with disagreeable patients, family, doctors, nurses and other staff in order to provide diagnostic exams for patients.

1. **Communication**
   1. Read, write, and communicate effectively in English.
   2. Teach (patient and family)
   3. Explain procedures
   4. Give oral and written reports
   5. Interact with others
   6. Speak on the telephone
   7. Direct activities of others

**Skill/s tied to**: Documentation and communication of accurate pertinent information. Information in a prompt and clear manner.

1. **Mobility and Physical Strength**
   1. Bend, crouch, squat, kneel
   2. Reach above head
   3. Twist at waist
   4. Sit, stand, or walk for extended periods of time
   5. Full range of motion of both arms (shoulders, wrists, and hands)
   6. Maintain prolonged body positions necessary for scanning
   7. Be able to lift a minimum of 35

pounds.

**Skill/s tied to**: Able to participate as a team member by responding to patient needs. Push and pull medical equipment weighing up to 500 pounds. Assist in transporting, positioning, and lifting patients.

1. **Motor Skills**
   1. Move within confined spaces
   2. Sit, stand, and maintain balance
   3. Reach above shoulders and below waist
   4. Hand transducer for extended period of time
   5. Write legibly
   6. Type on a keyboard
   7. Twist knobs with hands
   8. Adequate manual dexterity to maintain sterile fields

**Skill/s tied to**: Function in a hospital environment: spaces to include extended studies in the OR, isolation, and ICU. Sit or stand while completing study. Manipulate equipment settings.

1. **Visual and Hearing Capabilities**
   1. Sufficient visual ability for observation and assessment
   2. Sufficient auditory ability to monitor and assess patient needs
      1. Corrective lenses and hearing aids are permissible

**Skill/s tied to**: Observe and monitor patients, diagnostic images, medical monitors and be able to manipulate medical equipment in full and dimmed lighting. Able to detect and evaluate monitor and exam sounds. Communicate verbally with patients and healthcare providers.