



Medical Assisting Program-

Technical Standards and Working Environment Safety & Risks (approved 8/3/2023)

Technical standards are requirements for participation in the medical assisting program. Technical standards include physical, cognitive, and behavioral standards required for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum and the development of professional attributes required of the medical assisting profession. Students must demonstrate the ability to perform required functions as a routine part of classroom, laboratory, and practicum participation.

Technical standards must be met with or without accommodations. Students interested in the medical assisting program should carefully review the technical standards and decide if he or she has any limitations that may restrict or interfere with the satisfactory performance of any of these requirements. Any applicant can consult with the program director to discuss individual situations that may prohibit the applicant from meeting any of these technical standards. Any students can consult CSI Student Accessibility Services at 208-732-6260.

The Medical Assistant utilizes their ability to apply scientific knowledge and theory to perform within their profession. Therefore all applicants should possess the following Essential Technical Standards including but not limited to:

Walking/Running	Walking within office to aid in patient care. Emergency situations may require the ability run.
Twisting, Stopping, Squatting, and Bending	All may be needed to provide patient care in a varied situations.
Climbing Stairs, Lifting, Prolonged Standing, Pushing, and Pulling	Using stairs may be necessary. Lifting up to 50 pounds (equipment and patients) Average time spent standing during a workday 75%. Pushing up to 200 pounds (wheelchair patient)
Fine motor dexterity	Grasp with both hands, manipulate equipment and supplies to provide safe patient care.
Tactile sensation	Palpate pulses, muscle contractions, bony landmarks, and edema. Differentiate between temperature variations.
Visual acuity	Adequate visual acuity to provide various tasks and observations necessary for patient care. Ability to read numbers and letters on instruments, equipment, or computers. Ability to discriminate shapes and color to identify changes in reagents or other materials needed for patient care. (with or without corrective lenses)

Auditory acuity	Adequate to receive verbal communication from patients, care givers, and team members in person or over the phone. Ability to auscultate body sounds to report for patient care. Ability to hear alarms, timers, and paging systems within the medical setting.
Olfactory acuity	Ability to detect unusual odors to safeguard patients, self, and team members.
Communication ability	Ability to communicate effectively in spoken and written English language. Adequate communication skills (verbal, nonverbal, and written) to interact effectively with individuals.
Cognitive/Mental ability	Ability to read, write, perform math, measure, and analyze data and information. Critical thinking and ability to adapt to various situations and problem solve to provide safe patient care. Remain alert to surroundings. Display attitudes and actions consistent with ethical standards of the profession. Ability to remain calm in various situations. Function without causing harm to others. Maintain personal grooming consistent with close person contact with patients and team members.
Professional and Ethical behavior	Morally and ethically accountable for actions and behaviors. Meet and promote the professional standards of health and safety.

Work Environment Safety & Risks include but are not limited to:

Medical assistant's work indoors in an office/clinical setting. There are mechanical, electrical, chemical, and infectious material hazards in existence. Infectious material hazards involve exposure to diseased persons, specimens, body fluid, wastes and risks of blood borne diseases. Mechanical and electrical hazards exist with equipment that is used in the office and clinical settings. The work environment is subject to frequent interruptions, and at times irregular hours. Ability to prioritize pressures of multiple tasks needing to be complete exists.

Safety is provided in the form of personal protective equipment. Training is provided on handling possible risks in the medical office and how to minimize exposure and treat exposure if it does occur. Safeguards with lighting, ventilation, and work surfaces are provided to increase safety in the medical office.