

Essential Functions Histologic Technology

Essential functions (or technical performance standards) represent the essential non-academic requirements of the AS HT program that students must master to successfully participate in the program. Students must be able to affirm their ability to comply with the following functions:

HEALTH:

- Possess the physical, mental, and emotional health to maintain alertness and concentration during an 8-hour day under the stressful conditions of technical malfunctions, time constraints, and a distracting environment
- Move freely and safely around the laboratory and hospital
- Possess normal, or correctable hearing
- Posses the ability to:
 - bend, stoop, stand
 - lift and move objects of at least 20 pounds
 - grasp with one or both hands o reach laboratory bench tops, shelves
 - perform moderately taxing repetitive tasks, often requiring prolonged sitting or standing over several hours

MANUAL DEXTERITY:

- Possess sufficient hand-eye motor coordination to allow delicate manipulations of specimens, instruments and tools
- Grasp and release small objects (specimens, specimen containers, forceps, scalpels, slides, coverslips, pipette tips, pipettes, reagent vials)
- Twist and turn dials/knobs
- Utilize a computer keyboard and mouse to operate laboratory instruments and verify and transmit data

VISION:

- Discriminate color, shading, and fine structural differences of microscopic specimens using a clinical grade binocular microscope
- Identify and distinguish objects macroscopically
- Read text, numbers, and graphs both in print and on a video monitor
- Judge distance and depth accurately.

BEHAVIOR:

- Possess the ability to be independent, flexible, creative and adaptable to change
- Possess the willingness to work with sharp objects, hazardous chemicals, and infectious or biohazardous materials
- Recognize potentially hazardous materials, equipment, and situations and proceed safely minimizing risk of injury to patients, self, and co-workers
- Demonstrate honest, compassionate, ethical and responsible conduct at all times
- Be honest and forthright about error or uncertainty
- Promote a team approach to learning, task completion, problem solving, and patient care by respecting, supporting and promoting the activities of fellow students and health care professionals.
- Project an image of professionalism

INTELLECTUAL:

- Apply knowledge and skills to new situations
- Apply complex thought processes to problem solving and/or troubleshooting
- Use reasonable judgment under stressful conditions to recognize and correct performance deviations
- Organize, prioritize and perform tasks productively, with accuracy and within feasible time limits
- Work concurrently on two or more different tasks
- Recognize emergency situations and take appropriate action

COMMUNICATION:

- Follow verbal and written instructions in standard English
- Read and comprehend text, numbers, and graphs in professional and technical materials (e.g., textbooks, Internet, handbooks, and procedure manuals)
- Independently study and prepare papers, reports or posters
- Deliver oral presentations to fellow students and health care professionals as required
- Take paper, computer, and laboratory practical examinations at the post-secondary level
- Interact and communicate effectively, sensitively and confidentially with all patients, healthcare professionals and coworkers
- Use applicable computer software and the Internet for communication, education, and professional purposes

SOURCES:

Contais, Lucille. "Essential 17 and "essential functions.""NAACLS News. Vol 67:11, Fall, 1997.

Coutsoukis, Photius and Information Technology Associates. Directory of Occupational Titles, 1995-2003. <http://www.occupationalinfo.org/07/078381014.html>

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