Technical Standards for the Mayo School of Health Science Program in Nuclear Medicine Technology

Mayo School of Health Sciences accepts students who are highly qualified for its programs. To be considered for admittance you should exhibit strong qualifications for the health profession you wish to pursue. All applicants and students of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program must be able to perform each of the standards listed below.

Adaptive devices may be permitted in order for the student to meet select technical standards in some cases.

In addition to the general responsibilities listed previously, nuclear medicine technology students are required to be able to perform the following:

Motor Skills/Mobility
General: A candidate must possess both gross and fine motor skills necessary for providing safe and effective patient care.
Examples:
- Full range of motion to allow for gross movements such as bending, stooping, squatting, kneeling, pushing and pulling
- Ability to lift 25 to 50 pounds occasionally
- Ability to work standing more than 50 percent of the time during a typical 8 or 10 hour workday
- Adequate use of arms, hands and fingers in order to perform patient examinations, obtain venous access, operate imaging equipment and perform patient care, including basic life support (CPR)

Communication
General: A candidate must be able to communicate clearly and effectively with patients and healthcare staff in both oral and written modes to ensure an accurate exchange of information including but not limited to a patient health history, current symptoms and patient care orders.
Examples:
- Possess the skills necessary to effectively communicate verbally using the English language with faculty, staff, patients and family members
- Exhibit the ability to read and comprehend the English language to understand and participate in lectures, communicate concepts on written exams and understand patient care orders
- Adequate written communication skills necessary in order to effectively evaluate performance, work collaboratively and perform proper patient care documentation
Sensory/Observation:
Specific: A candidate must possess visual and hearing abilities adequate to ensure accurate patient identification and effective patient care. A candidate must also be able to acquire a defined level of required information through demonstrations and observed clinical experiences. In addition, the ability to assess patients using the sense of touch is necessary to determine proper site selection for intravenous access.
Examples:
- Reading small, fine print in all environments including low-light conditions to ensure accurate patient identification
- Performance of visual and tactile examinations to differentiate subtle variations in color, shape and general appearance
- Observation of basic patient vitals up close and from a distance including audio and visual alarms and cardiac waveforms
- Auditory capacity to ensure patient identification is accurately performed according to institutional policy
- Ability to hear and see various equipment lights and sounds such as alarms, patient call lights and x-ray exposure lights
- Hear and see clearly when dealing with patients, radioactive materials, imaging equipment and infection hazards
- Visual acuity to observe subtle differences in patient images related to nuclear medicine imaging
- Ability to locate veins and arteries by palpation

Cognitive/Intellectual/Organization:
Specific: A candidate must be able to think critically, measure, calculate reason, analyze, integrate and synthesize information.
Examples:
- Ability to organize his/her time and independently manage multifaceted demands and schedules to include didactic coursework deadlines and patient care schedules
- Possess the ability to comprehend and apply didactic concepts and engage in critical thinking
- Be able to perform and analyze physiologic measurements and clinical data related to nuclear medicine imaging
- Ability to perform mathematical calculations with regard to radiopharmaceutical doses, decay factors, exposure limits and radiation protection
- Possess the ability to problem solve, adapt and troubleshoot when necessary

Interpersonal Behavior/Social Skills
Specific: A candidate must possess a level of emotional health and well-being to effectively communicate and interact with patients, families, healthcare staff and
providers. The candidate must exercise good judgment, adhere to patient confidentiality policies and demonstrate mutual respect for patients, families, other healthcare staff and providers.

Examples:
- Communicate in a mutually respectful manner
- Display genuine empathy, honesty, understanding, interest and professionalism during all patient and professional interactions
- Ability to accept constructive criticism and modify addressed behaviors accordingly
- Be able to tolerate physically, mentally and emotionally demanding workloads and situations related to patient care
- Ability to function and perform well under pressure for example in emergent situations involving patient care
- Display flexibility and the ability to adapt to changing environments with regards to patient care
- Show compassion, integrity and genuine concern for the well-being of others
- Understand and be aware of cultural differences while exhibiting tactful, culturally sensitive and congenial interactions

Ethics
Specific: A candidate must adhere to Mayo Clinic’s mission, vision and value statements regarding patient care.

Examples:
- Recognize the importance of performing duties in accordance with policies and standard operating procedures
- Accept the expectation of maintaining patient confidentiality, both from a legal and humanitarian perspective
- Understand the Patient Bill of Rights and perform patient care in a manner that exhibits respect, dignity and empathy for patients and their family members

Computer Skills
Specific: A candidate must possess the skill sets and capability to utilize electronic technology in the healthcare setting.

Examples:
- Understand basic computer functions such as windows, drop down menus, pop up boxes, data entry, printing and the ability to function in multiple screens simultaneously
- Ability to learn and understand information systems and software applications utilized in the healthcare environment

You must be able to perform the essential functions of the profession and meet the standards of the program. Students seeking exceptions to these standards or reasonable accommodations should initiate their request with the Program Director.