

**Florence-Darlington Technical College
Essential Functions and Standards
Respiratory Care Program Students rev. 7 2016**

Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC) complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If a prospective student who is otherwise qualified requires a reasonable accommodation, he or she should contact Disability Support Services at FDTC must be met with or without accommodation. The following essential functions reflects the reasonable expectations of a student in the AS Degree in Respiratory Care for the performance of common student/clinical/patient care functions. These standards do not reflect what may be required for employment in the Respiratory Care Profession. To verify the student's ability to perform these essential functions, students may be required to demonstrate the following essential functions/standards:

	Categories of Essential Functions	Definition	Example of Technical Standard
1	Critical Thinking / Problem Solving Skills	Ability to collect, interpret and integrate information and make decisions.	Capable of reading and comprehending written material in the English language, such as text books, medical records, and professional literature. Capable of processing information, evaluating outcomes, problem solve, exercise independent judgement and respond to emergencies.
2	Communication Skills	Ability to effectively communicate using English verbal and non-verbal formats with faculty, families, fellow students and all members of the multi-disciplinary team members to monitor and assess patient and equipment function; to provide safe and effective respiratory care.	Demonstrates the ability to actively listen, clarifying, responding to verbal and non-verbal behavior, respecting the personal space of others. Interpret and document client responses and patient health status using appropriate & correctly spelled medical terminology. Students must adhere to the codes of patient confidentiality.
3	Interpersonal Skills	Ability sufficient to collaboratively work with all members of the healthcare team, fellow students, faculty and clinical instructors.	Capable of establishing and recognizing interpersonal boundaries. Interact appropriately with all individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. Capable of showing respect for individuals of different age, ethnic background, religion and/or sexual orientation. Employs basic conflict management skills, demonstrating professional demeanor and behavior and must perform all aspects of work in an ethical manner in relation to peers, faculty, staff and patients.
4	Coping Skills	Ability to respond appropriately to stressful environments or during impending deadlines.	Capable of managing heavy academic schedules and deadlines; perform in fast-paced situations. Cope with psychosocial issues involving catastrophic illness, disability and death.

5	Emotional Stability	Maintain emotional stability sufficient to tolerate rapidly changing conditions and stressful environments.	Provide all persons associated with their work environment with emotional support. Adapt to changing environment and stress. Deal with the unexpected, capable of focusing attention on the task at hand. Handle strong emotions.
6	Physical Abilities (mobility)	Sufficient physical abilities to move from room to room, maneuver in small spaces, and maintain physical tolerance for repetitive movements and demands of the work shift.	Visual- (corrected as necessary) capable of recognizing, interpreting facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns, color changes, interpret and assess the environment up to 20ft away; read and understand written documents. Auditory- Communicate and interact with patients and families from a variety of backgrounds. Follow verbal instructions, hear heart and breath sounds detect and discriminate between sounds of normal conversation Tactile- Read written instructions/orders, read find print, monitors, gauges, differentiate color/character of sputum for signs/nature of infection/disease, chart procedures and observations in medical record.
7	Motor Skills (fine & gross)	Perform multiple motor tasks simultaneously and sufficiently to handle equipment while providing safe, effective patient care: steady arm and hand movement while manipulating objects or assisting patients.	Operate and manipulate respiratory equipment, blood collection devices, and several items at once. Administer aerosols, suction patients adjust pressure gauges, lift and transport oxygen cylinders, move in and out of treatment areas and push/pull hospital bed.
8	Sensory Abilities	Sufficient auditory, visual and tactile ability to monitor and assess health needs.	<u>Visual</u> – (corrected as necessary) recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns of movement, discriminate color changes and interpret and assess the environment up to 20 feet; read and understand written documents. <u>Auditory</u> – (corrected as necessary) recognize and respond to soft voices or voices under protective garb, auditory timers, equipment/emergency alarms, and effectively use devices for the measurement of vital signs, heart, breath, and abdominal sounds. <u>Tactile</u> – palpate a pulse and detect changes or abnormalities of surface texture, skin temperature, body segment contour, muscle tone and joint movement.
9	Behavioral Skills	Ability to demonstrate professional behaviors and a strong work ethic.	Demonstrate caring for others, initiative, flexibility, enthusiasm, honesty, cooperation. Recognize personal limitations and requests assistance as appropriate. Performs duties efficiently, willingly, and thoroughly. Manage time effectively. Ability to collaborate with all respiratory students, clinical and program faculty in a professional courteous manner. Demonstrate the ability to conform to appropriate standards of dress, appearance, language and public behavior.
10	Numerical Abilities	Ability to solve math problems	Requires ability to determine time, weight, units of measurement, involving measuring pressure, volume and flow, as well as basic mathematical calculations, such as; addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, order of operations, ratios, fractions and firm understanding of units of measure.

11	Safety	Free of use of non-prescription drugs, illegal drugs, alcohol and sleep deprivation. Ability to wear Personal Protective Equipment.	Abide by local, state and federal laws regarding the use of all drugs, and sleep deprivation. Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include gloves, face masks, protective eyewear, gown, and shoe covers.
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