

## Essential Capabilities of Radiologic Technology Students

Any student requesting information about accommodations for disabilities may visit the American's with Disabilities Act website at [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)

There are essential capabilities necessary for admission and progression in the complex discipline of radiology in the Radiologic Technology Program at Marian University. To enter or progress in the radiologic technology curriculum, the student must be able to perform all of the essential capabilities and functional requirements. Marian University Radiologic Technology students must have abilities and skills of four (4) varieties: Behavioral and Social Attributes, Communication, Sensory, and Motor. A student should be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner without the use of a surrogate. These essential capabilities must be demonstrated in the clinical, laboratory, and theory (classroom) interactions and evaluations, and include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- A. **Behavioral and Social Attributes:** Students must possess the emotional stability and moral reasoning required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities to practice radiologic technology in a professional and ethical manner. These abilities include:
- Prompt completion of all responsibilities inherent to the diagnosis and care of patients.
  - Prioritize competing demands.
  - Development and maintenance of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and the healthcare team.
  - Experience empathy for the situations and circumstances of others and effectively communicate that empathy.
  - Tolerate physically taxing workloads and to multitask effectively and efficiently under stress.
  - Adapt to changing environments and/or circumstances.
  - Display flexibility and learn to function effectively, despite the uncertainties inherent in the clinical situations.
  - Interact and establish rapport with individuals, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
  - Separate own needs and experiences in order to maintain objectivity and client-centered care.
  - Demonstrate compassion, integrity, honesty, and concern for others, including maintenance of confidentiality.
  - Demonstrate interpersonal skills, interest and motivation throughout the education process.

- B. Communication:** Students must be able to speak, to hear and to observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications. Abilities include:
- Ability to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, colleagues, and other personnel.
  - Use of appropriate grammar and vocabulary
  - Appropriate interpretation of client responses (verbal and nonverbal).
  - Ability to communicate in English effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with all members of the health care team, patients, and families.
  - Accurate reporting of patient information orally and in writing to members of the health care team.
- C. Sensory:** Students must be able to observe a patient accurately. Observation necessitates the functional use of the senses of vision, smell, touch, hearing, and somatic sensation.
- Coordinate verbal and manual instruction.
  - Respond to a timer, alarm, overhead codes or cries for help.
  - Hear and interpret verbal communication from patients.
  - Communicate over the phone.
  - Read printed and hand written material, meters, gauges and computer monitors.
  - Perform palpation and other functions necessary for the positioning of the patient for the required radiographic projections.
  - Sufficient eyesight to observe patients and manipulate all radiographic equipment.
  - Sufficient eyesight to evaluate radiographic images including the ability to see fine lines and distinguish gradual changes in black, grays and white in a dimmed lighting environment.
- D. Motor:** Students should be able to execute gross and fine motor movements required to provide general care, emergency treatment of patients manipulate x-ray equipment and controls for the production of radiation. Many actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.
- Ability to stand and walk unassisted (up to eight (8) hours) in order to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.
  - Transfer patients who may require physical assistance.
  - Guard and assist patients with ambulation without placing the patient at risk.
  - Lift and carry a minimum weight of 50 pounds, pushing and pulling of wheelchairs, beds, stretchers and portable radiographic equipment.
  - Wear a 15-20 pound lead apron for hours while standing.
  - Squat, bend/stoop, reach above shoulder level, use standing balance, and climb stairs unassisted
  - Use hands repetitively and use manual dexterity.
  - Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

- Travel to and from academic and clinical sites.
- Ability to manipulate all radiographic equipment

E. **Hearing:** The ability to hear sounds is necessary to:

- Respond to patient questions and concerns.
- Distinguish sounds such as a patient breathing, wheezing or gasping.
- Hear faint or muffled sounds when the use of surgical masks is required.
- Hear faint or muffled sounds since the operator control areas are separated from the x-ray table and patient.
- Monitor equipment operation or dysfunction which may be indicated by low sounding buzzers or bells.