

## CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Medical Assisting students shall be in reasonably good health and any disability should allow the student to administer safe Medical Assisting care.

The following is a list of essential functions that a student must be capable of performing while a student in the **Medical Assisting Career Certificate** program at Florida State College at Jacksonville.

Specialized Motor Skills and Mobility: Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and adequate performance of clinical procedures.

- Demonstrate physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room
- Manipulate equipment by pushing/pulling weight up to 300 lbs. and lifting a minimum of 40 lbs.
- Lift, move and position patients
- Ability to Multitask
- Walk long distances (up to approximately 3 miles per day)
- Stand for prolonged periods of time
- Sit for prolonged periods of time
- Calibrate, use and manipulate instrumentation; grasp, hold, grip, turn with hands
- Ability to maneuver in small spaces
- Possess manual dexterity to safely grasp and manipulate small objects

Sensory: Sufficient use of the senses of vision, hearing, touch and smell to observe, assess and evaluate close to and at a distance in the classroom and clinical setting

- Differentiate color difference and shades of gray.
- Hear auditory signals from monitors, cameras and beepers.
- Hear emergency signals, auscultatory sounds and patient verbalizing needs.
- Hear and differentiate sounds.
- Perform visual assessment and observe patients' responses.

- Observe client responses at a distance and close at hand.
- Distinguish colors.
- Hear cries for help and respond in a timely manner.
- Feel vibrations (feel pulses).
  - Detect temperature (skin, solution).
  - Feel differences in surface characteristics (skin turgor, rashes).
  - Feel differences in sizes, shapes (palpate vein, identify body landmarks).
  - Detect environmental temperature (check for drafts).

Smell: Sufficient use of senses.

- Detect odors from client (foul smelling drainage, alcohol breath, etc.).
- Detect smoke.
- Detect gases or noxious smells.

Critical Thinking: Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment, ability to acquire, assimilate, integrate, apply and evaluate information and problem solve.

- Understand and interpret written and verbal orders
- Respond promptly to emergency situations
- Concentrate and focus attention for long periods of time
- Identify cause and effect relationships in clinical situations
- Make accurate decisions independently

Interpersonal: Interpersonal ability sufficient to communicate and interact with individuals, families and groups from a variety of backgrounds including social, emotional, cultural, economic and intellectual.

- Establish rapport with patients, clients, colleagues and other health care personnel
- Demonstrate patience, empathy and concern for others
- Display a calm manner in fearful or hostile situations

Emotional Stability:

- Establish therapeutic boundaries
- Provide client with emotional support

- Adapt to changing environment/stress
- Deal with the unexpected (patient going into crisis)
- Focus attention on task
- Monitor own emotions
- Perform multiple responsibilities concurrently
- Handle strong emotions (grief, anger)
- Use good judgment when providing patient care
- Maintain self-control

#### Communication Skills in English:

Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.

- Communicate needs in a prompt, clear and concise manner; accurately document findings both written and oral; communicate information accurately and effectively to physician or nurse
- Evaluate written and verbal orders, patient care plans and treatment requests
- Interact with others (health care workers)
- Speak on the telephone
- Influence people
- Direct activities of others
- Teach (client/family about health care)
- Maintain appropriate communication with faculty and staff/agency (status of patients)
- Explain procedures
- Give oral reports (report on client's condition to others)

#### Reading and Writing in English:

Communication abilities sufficient for safe interpretation on.

- Read and understand written documents (policies, protocols)
- Write notes in documents and clinical records

Behavior: Sufficiency of motivation, responsibility, and flexibility to function in new, ever changing and stressful environments and adapt appropriately to diverse client needs.

- Maintain patient confidentiality
- Show accountability for actions
- Adapt to assignment of patient, clinical site or laboratory such that meets objectives while providing safe, adequate patient care
- Individuals who choose the Medical Assisting profession require the capabilities outlined regarding core performance standards