

**Department of Radiation Sciences
College of Health Professions
Virginia Commonwealth University**

Technical Standards for Admission and Graduation

The VCU Department of Radiation Sciences is responsible for providing education without regard to disability while ensuring that academic and technical standards are met. Academic standards are met by successfully completing the curriculum for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Clinical Radiation Sciences. Technical standards represent the essential non-academic requirements that a student must demonstrate to successfully participate in the Radiation Sciences degree program.

An applicant and candidate for the BS in Clinical Radiation Sciences degree must have demonstrated aptitude, abilities and skills in the following categories: sensory, communication, physical/mobility, cognitive, and behavioral/social. All students admitted/completing the program must meet, with or without reasonable accommodation, the following technical standards:

Sensory

- Observe patients and equipment operation during procedures, as well as read the patient's reports and medical information
- Receive verbal communication from patients and members of the healthcare team
- Assess the health needs and/or status of people directly or through the use of monitoring devices
- Visual acuity to see objects beyond 20 ft. and within 20 inches
- Visual depth perception to safely manipulate equipment
- Accurately observe and distinguish subtle visual and auditory changes in the patient, health professional, and equipment
- Tactile (touch) sensitivity to obtain information from patients by palpation and other diagnostic maneuvers

Communication

- Communicate effectively and efficiently with faculty, fellow students, health care providers, patients and their families, in English in both written and verbal forms
- Effectively communicate verbally under limited time constraints

Physical/Mobility

- Lift, transfer and/or move patients from wheelchair/stretchers to a treatment table.
- Lift, move, reach or push equipment
- Manual dexterity and ability to bend/stretch
- Hand/eye coordination in order to operate equipment while observing patients.
- Strength and stamina to wear 10-20 pounds of lead protective aprons and patient protective equipment during procedures.
- Manipulate small objects with fingertips or adaptive devices
- Dexterity to position equipment 6 feet above the ground
- Physical strength to lift 30-35 pounds shoulder height and to push and pull at least 100 pounds
- Stand or walk for prolonged periods of time as required in the clinical setting
- Physically bend, crouch or stoop for long periods of time in the clinical setting

- Safely maneuver in the clinical setting (for example, within small spaces)

Cognitive

- Comprehend and execute verbal and written communications in English
- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize to solve problems
- Recall, understand, and apply basic scientific principles and methods

Behavioral/Social

- Adapt and function effectively in stressful, changing and uncertain environments
- Provide physical and emotional support to the patient during procedures and be able to respond quickly to situations requiring basic life support and emergency care of the patient in the absence of, or until the physician arrives.
- Tolerate and function effectively under stress, time constraints, and distracting conditions for prolonged periods
- Demonstrate integrity, responsibility, tolerance, and respect
- Adapt to changing environments and display flexibility in the practice setting

Accommodation

VCU is committed to ensuring accessibility and equal access to its academic programs and provides reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, as set forth in the university's policy on Accessibility and Reasonable Accommodation. A student seeking accommodation related to technical standards must contact the VCU Division for Academic Success: <https://das.vcu.edu/>