



Technical Standards Acknowledgement Form Dental Assistant Program

The attached list of Technical Standards has been prepared to assist you in understanding the essential physical and behavioral requirements for participating in and successfully completing the Dental Assistant program. These standards must be satisfied by all students in all aspects of the program, with or without a reasonable accommodation, including in the classroom, laboratories, and externship.

Please note that you must carefully review these technical standards. Once reviewed, please complete all of the information below and submit it to **HEALTH SERVICES BY JULY 1**. If you are an individual with a disability who seeks reasonable accommodation, please contact the Office of Disability Services, Building 27/2nd Floor, 755-4785 for information concerning the College's accommodation process.

Your signature below shall confirm and verify that you have reviewed the program's technical standards and are capable of performing those standards, with or without a reasonable accommodation. Failure to perform the program's essential technical standards shall result in a student's removal from the program.

1. _____
Print your full name

2. _____
Sign your full name

3. _____
Student ID number (found on your acceptance letter)

4. _____
Date of signature

Please return this form to Health Services, building 20/room 320 by July 1.

Springfield Technical Community College
School of Health and Patient Simulation
Technical Standards
Essential Skills for the Dental Assistant Program

The Dental Assistant Student must be able to meet the following technical standards:

Communication:

- Communicate in written format as well as orally with faculty, patients and fellow students.
- Establish a rapport with the faculty, patients and fellow students.
- Accurately transfer gathered data and record with correct grammar, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary.
- Observe and decipher non-verbal communication.

Physical Strength, Endurance and Mobility:

- Possess strength and mobility to work in a confined space for long periods of time when assisting with patient care.
- Stand and sit for long periods of time.
- Walk for a long distance.
- Change positions quickly in the operatory to perform patient care.
- Grasp items and equipment above shoulder height and below waist level to utilize equipment.
- Push/Pull/Lift up to 50lbs., including large boxes and equipment.

Motor Skills:

- Operate and utilize equipment and instruments.
- Utilize hand, eye and foot coordination of dental handpieces.
- Position and move patients in a safe manner.
- Work in limited spaces.
- Perform CPR.
- Role-playing to practice oral health skills in a clinic setting assuming the position of the dental assistant, patient and the operator.

Visual:

- Read written instructions
- Read and understand a medical history and patient charts.
- Evaluate a safe environment.
- Distinguish between different equipment and its usage.
- Observe a patient's facial expressions and other nonverbal expressions.

- Identify the working ends of various dental instruments and other dental equipment and materials.

Auditory:

- Communicate, understand and hear faculty, patients, fellow students and staff.
- Correspond and cooperate with faculty, patients, fellow students and staff from a variety of cultural backgrounds.
- Follow verbal instructions.
- Recognize sounds, alarms and emergency signals. (Hearing loss with device correction will not work for the student due to the pitch of the high-speed handpiece).

Olfaction:

- Possess the ability to withstand unpleasant scents related to patient's oral hygiene and personal care.
- Possess the ability to know when one's own body odor/perfume scent needs addressing and have the ability to correct it to maintain personal hygiene within a professional and clinical setting.

Dermatological Health:

- Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis or other chronic skin disorders with open lesions.
- Non-allergic responses to dental materials and agents.

Intellectual, Conceptual and Cognitive Skills:

- Collect, analyze and recall information and knowledge to participate in a clinic setting.
- Interpret, problem solve and demonstrate critical thinking.
- Comprehend, focus and process information.
- Possess the ability to self-evaluate.
- Recognize the potential for exposure to bloodborne pathogens (HIV, HBV, HCV), ionizing radiation and other potentially infectious (OPM) and hazardous material.

Time Management Skills:

- Ability to meet a variety of deadlines with time critical tasks.
- Ability to prioritize tasks and complete them in a timely fashion.

Emotional/Personal Temperament:

- Ability to withstand physically and mentally demanding workloads and function effectively under stress and respond calmly.
- Maintain composure under demanding course load and patient care.
- Accept constructive criticism and appropriately modify behavior.