

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION SCIENCES

MEDICAL DOSIMETRY TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A Medical Dosimetrist is typically employed in a hospital or outpatient oncology center.

Clinical and laboratory assignments for the Dosimetry program require certain physical demands that are the technical standards of admission. These standards are based upon Standards of Practice for the Medical Dosimetrist. Listed below are the technical standards which all applicants must meet in order to participate and complete the dosimetry program.

1. Sufficient visual acuity to read x-ray prescriptions & charts, observe conditions of the patient & evaluate images.
2. Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication from patients and members of the healthcare team and to assess the health needs of people through the use of monitoring devices such as intercom systems, cardiac monitors, respiratory monitors, fire alarms, etc.
3. Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly and to implement skills related to the performance of imaging exams and treatments. Dosimetrists must be able to manipulate equipment to construct required patient accessories, such as immobilization and shielding devices, compensators, and Brachytherapy equipment as needed.
4. Sufficient communication skills (verbal, reading, writing) to interact with individuals and to communicate their needs promptly and effectively, as may be necessary in the patient's/client's interest.
5. Sufficient intellectual and emotional function to plan and implement patient care.

Examples of specific technical standards the dosimetry student must be able to meet are:

- Lift, transfer and/or move patients from wheelchair/stretchers to simulation or treatment table.
- Stand and reach to make measurements of patients
- Manual dexterity and ability to bend/stretch
- Distinguish color and shades of gray
- Grasp complex 3-D spatial relationships
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, including patient instruction
- Read and extract information from the medical chart or patient prescriptions
- Explain the clinical study and treatment verbally and/or in writing
- Physical and mental abilities to handle moderate and frequent exposure to infectious agents (blood, urine etc.) and moderate and limited exposure to ionizing radiation
- Ability to lift 30 pounds of weight (treatment aids).
- Ability to type and use a computer keyboard and mouse and read or draw contours on screen
- Interact compassionately with the sick or injured.