

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION SCIENCES

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR A COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) TECHNOLOGIST

A Computed Tomography (CT) Technologist is typically employed in a hospital or a clinic to provide direct care for patients and must be able to apply verified knowledge and skillfully perform CT procedures. Clinical and laboratory assignments for the CT program require certain physical demands that are the technical standards of admission. These standards are based upon the minimum tasks performed by graduates of the program as recommended by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. Listed below are the technical standards which all applicants must meet in order to participate and complete the CT program.

1. Sufficient visual acuity to accurately administer contrast agents and to monitor imaging equipment as well as provide the necessary patient assessment and care.
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, blood pressure gauges and fire alarms.
3. Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly and to implement skills related to the performance of CT, such as positioning, transporting and imaging patients. CT technologists must be able to manipulate equipment such as the scan console and power injectors. In addition, CT technologists must perform venipuncture on a regular basis.
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 that the CT student must be able to meet are:

- Lift, transfer and/or move patients from wheelchair/stretchers to scan table, including trauma patients.
- Physical agility: sitting (4-7 hours)
- Physical and mental abilities to handle moderate and frequent exposure to infectious agents (blood, urine, etc.)
- Manual dexterity and ability to bend/stretch
- Distinguish colors and shades of gray
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, including patient instruction
- Read and extract information from the medical chart or patient requisitions
- Explain the clinical study verbally and/or in writing
- Interact compassionately with the sick or injured.