

# Technical Standards for Health Science Programs at Washtenaw Community College (WCC) Dental Assisting (CFDAC)

The technical standards aim to inform students choosing to enter a Health Sciences Certificate and Degree Program at WCC with the bare minimal technical standard requirements, which must be met to complete all coursework objectives and student outcomes. The listed standards encompass what is minimally required to perform the tasks necessary, with a few associated examples provided. This list is not exhaustive and can be modified as the College deems necessary. Students enrolled in a Health Science program at WCC must provide safe and effective care. These technical standards apply to any student enrolling in any one of the health sciences programs. To meet program technical standards, the student must demonstrate sufficient cognitive, emotional, professional, motor (physical), sensory, and other abilities, with or without accommodation.

Students with documented disabilities or who believe that they may have a protected disability can request accommodations that may assist with meeting the technical standards for Health Science Programs at WCC. Please contact the WCC Learning Support LSS Office at 734-973-3342 or [learningsupport@wccnet.edu](mailto:learningsupport@wccnet.edu) to schedule an appointment with an LSS Counselor.

**DISCLAIMER: EXAMPLES PROVIDED ARE NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF ASSOCIATED TASKS TO MEET PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS.**

Requirements	Standard	Examples
<b>Critical Thinking and Cognitive Competencies</b>	Sufficient critical thinking and cognitive abilities in classroom and clinical settings	Make safe, immediate, well-reasoned clinical judgments. Identify cause/effect relationships in all clinical situations and respond appropriately. Accurately follow course syllabi, assignments, directions, academic and facility patient protocols, and any action plan(s) developed by the dean, faculty, administration, or healthcare institution. Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and/or synthesize data as it applies to patient care.
<b>Professionalism</b>	Interpersonal skills sufficient for professional interaction with a diverse population of individuals, families, and groups	Establish effective, professional relationships with patients, families, staff, and colleagues with socioeconomic, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Capacity to comply with all ethical and legal standards, including those of the healthcare profession and the corresponding policies of the College and Clinical Sites. Respond appropriately to constructive criticism. Displays attributes of professionalism such as integrity, honesty, responsibility, accountability, altruism, compassion, empathy, trust, tolerance, and unbiased attitudes. Follow grooming guidelines set forth by the program and profession.
<b>Communication</b>	Communication sufficient for professional interactions	Explanation of treatment, procedure, initiation of health teaching (e.g., teach-back or show-me method). Accurately obtain information from patients, family members/significant others, health team members, and/or faculty. Documentation and interpretation of health-related interventions and client responses. Read, write, interpret, comprehend, and legibly document in multiple formats using standard English.
<b>Mobility</b>	Physical abilities sufficient for movement from room to room and in small spaces	Functional movement about patient's room, workspaces, and treatment areas. Administer rescue procedures such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The physical ability to transition quickly to accommodate patient needs and to maneuver easily in urgent situations for patient safety.
<b>Motor Skills</b>	Gross and fine motor abilities that are sufficiently effective and safe for providing Allied Health Care	Ability to effectively calibrate and use equipment. Strength to carry out patient care procedures, such as assisting in the turning and lifting/transferring of patients. Perform and/or assist with expected procedures, treatments, and medication administration using appropriate sterile or clean techniques (for example, CPR). Physical endurance is sufficient to complete all required tasks during the assigned period of clinical practice.
<b>Sensory</b>	Auditory and visual ability sufficient for observing, monitoring, and assessing health needs	Ability to detect monitoring device alarms and other emergency signals. Ability to discern sounds and cries for help. Ability to observe client's condition and responses to treatments. Ability to collect information through listening, seeing, smelling, and observation and respond appropriately. Ability to detect foul odors, smoke, changes in skin temperature, skin texture, edema, and other anatomical abnormalities.
<b>Observation</b>	Ability to sufficiently make observations in a health care environment, consistent with program competencies	Accurate interpretation of information obtained from digital, analog, and waveform diagnostic tools such as temperatures, blood pressures, cardiac rhythms, and diagnostic tools. Observation and interpretation of the following: patient's heart and body sounds, body language, the color of wounds, sensitivity to heat, cold, pain, and pressure, and signs and symptoms of disease, pain, and infection.
<b>Tactile Sense</b>	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Ability to palpate in physical examinations.