

Essential Functions for the Medical Laboratory Technician

The Delgado MLT Program has established essential functions that must be met by the students in the program. Overall the student must be in good physical health and free from contagious diseases and addictions.

- A. **Motor Skills** – Students must be able to:
1. Work for extended periods while standing, sitting and in small spaces
 2. Work on instruments at countertop height
 3. Bend forward, reach, and lift up to 10 pounds
 2. Manipulate and handle laboratory equipment
 3. Utilize keyboard for inputting data
 4. Perform venipunctures at the patient's bedside or in an outpatient area
- B. **Visual Ability** – Students must be able to:
1. Differentiate color and color changes
 2. Read computer screens, lab instruments and procedure manuals
 3. Use a clinical grade binocular microscope to discriminate and recognize fine differences in structure and color of microscopic specimens
 4. Detect and recognize alarms from instruments and equipment
- C. **Communication Skills** – Students must be able to:
1. Communicate in English with individuals and groups(i.e. faculty members, staff, patients, and other health care professionals) verbally and in recorded format (unaided oral speech, writing, typing, and graphics)
 2. Understand and interpret written and verbal instructions.
- Mental Ability** – Students must be able to:
1. Use good judgment in performing laboratory procedures and validating test results
 2. Recognize safety hazards
 3. Manage use of time in order to complete tasks within specific time constraints
- E. **Human Relations** – Students must be able to:
1. Work compatibly with other technicians/ technologists as a team member
 2. Interact with patients in a concerned and compassionate manner
 3. Respond positively to supervision and accept suggestions
 4. Interact with hospital personnel and physicians professionally
- F. **Behavioral Skills** – A student must possess adequate behavioral skills to be able to:
1. Be honest, compassionate, ethical and responsible. The student must be forthright about errors and uncertainty.
 2. Student must be able to critically evaluate his/her own performance, accept constructive criticism and look for ways to improve.
 3. Show respect for individuals of different age, race, religion, and/or sexual orientation
 4. Be flexible and able to adapt to change
 5. Provide professional and technical services while experiencing the stresses of a distracting environment (i.e.high noise level, crowding, complex visual stimuli) and emergent demands (i.e. STAT tests, ringing phones)
 6. Exhibit professional behavior by conforming to appropriate standards of dress, appearance, language and public behavior. For example, body piercing and visible tattoos are **NOT** considered professional appearance
 7. Follow safety regulations including but not limited to wearing personal protective equipment (i.e. lab coat, gloves, face shield, etc.) and washing hands with bactericidal cleansers