

## Essential Functions

The Salt Lake Community College Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology signifies that the holder of that degree/equivalency has been educated to competently practice the profession in all healthcare settings and to apply for the ARRT certification examination. The education of a healthcare professional requires integration of knowledge, acquisition of skills, and development of judgment through patient care experiences in preparation for making appropriate decisions required in radiology. The practice of the profession emphasizes collaboration among allied health care professionals and the patient.

The curriculum leading to the AAS in Radiologic Technology from this school requires students to engage in diverse, complex, and specific experiences essential to the acquisition of radiographs and implementation of essential healthcare practitioner skills and functions. Students must be able to complete these essential functions with or without a 504 or ADA accommodation.

Unique combinations of cognitive, affective, psychomotor, physical, and social abilities are required to satisfactorily perform these functions. These functions are not only essential to the successful completion of the requirements of the AAS but are necessary to ensure the health and safety of patients, fellow students, faculty, and other healthcare providers.

In addition to the standards of behavior and academic conduct set forth in the Salt Lake Community College's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, students must also demonstrate the following abilities:

### Motor Skills and Physical Qualifications

Students should have sufficient motor function so that they are able to execute movements required to provide general care and treatment to patients in all healthcare settings. The essential functions noted below have been identified as required components of the practice of a radiologic technologist and students must be capable of performing these essential functions to successfully complete the SLCC Radiology Program. The student's ability to achieve competency level performance in all radiologic procedures includes but is not limited to:

- a) Perform basic life support, including CPR, and function in an emergency.
- b) Demonstrate ability to safely transfer dependent patients from a hospital bed, wheelchair, or gurney to the radiology examination table using minimum, moderate, and maximum assistance techniques.
- c) Demonstrate ability to manipulate dials/keys/buttons to accurately set exposure techniques for radiology procedures.
- d) Perform cleaning protocol procedures for sterile technique with all radiology equipment.
- e) Exhibit good body mechanics in the process of all patient interventions.
- f) Demonstrate ability to set up interventional equipment; suction, oxygen, and crash carts within the time restraints of the treatment requirements to provide safe and effective interventions to critical patients.
- g) Ability to apply universal precautions, including mask, gown, gloves, and goggles, when indicated for patients with potentially contagious diseases or as required for reverse-isolation.
- h) Demonstrate the ability to push and manipulate heavy portable radiology equipment throughout the hospital such as portable x-ray machines and portable c-arms in the operating room.
- i) Safely perform in an environment that requires frequent and prolonged period of standing and exposure, work in dimly lit areas, and with flashing lights and abrupt audio stimuli.

j) Demonstrate the ability to safely lift 50 pounds of weight using the following method:

Step 1:

Stand with feet apart.

Step 2:

Keep your back straight and keep the 50 lb. object close to your body.

Step 3:

Use your mobility muscles (arms & legs) to lift the 50 lb. object from the floor to the x-ray table while bending and straightening your knees.

#### Sensory/Observation Capabilities

A student must be able to acquire information presented through demonstrations and experiences in curriculum content. The student must be able to observe a patient accurately, at a distance, and close at hand, including non-verbal communications when performing an assessment or intervention or performance of radiographic examinations. The student must be capable of perceiving life-threatening signs of changing patient conditions as manifested through physical examination. A student must be able to demonstrate visual acuity for observation of patients, preparation, and administration of medications, and evaluation of radiographic images and demonstrate hearing acuity for verbal communication from patients and healthcare team, including the ability to assess health needs through monitoring devices such as stethoscopes.

#### Communication Proficiency

The student must communicate effectively and sensitively with other students, faculty, staff, patients, family, and other professionals. The student must express his or her ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrate a willingness and ability to give and receive feedback. A student must be able to: convey or exchange information at a level allowing the development of a health history; identify problems presented; explain alternative solutions and give directions during and after radiographic exams. The student must be able to communicate the English language effectively in oral and written forms. The student must be able to process and communicate information on the patient's status with accuracy and in a timely manner to members of the healthcare team which will require the student to make a correct judgment in seeking supervision and consultation in a timely manner.

#### Transportation

The student must be able to have safe and reliable transportation to clinical sites. These sites may be located throughout Salt Lake, Summit, Davis and/or Utah counties. As healthcare is a profession that requires services 24 hours per day clinical placements may also occur during off hours such as night and swing shifts. Students must have reliable transportation for clinical placements within the times they are scheduled.

#### Giving Instruction

Students must be able to correctly give the following instructions:

- a. Invite a person into the room and ask them to sit on the chair.
- b. Introduce yourself to a person.
- c. Ask a person to get up on an examination table.
- d. Instruct a person to lay down on their back.
- e. Instruct a person to turn on their right side.
- f. Instruct a person to roll over, face down.
- g. Instruct a person to get off the table.

#### Cognitive

A student must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize in context radiographic technique adjustments. The student must be able to quickly read and comprehend extensive written material. He or she must also be able to evaluate and apply information and engage in critical thinking in the classroom and clinical setting.

### Behavioral/Emotional

A student must possess the emotional health required for the full utilization of his or her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt completion of all responsibility's attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients and families. In addition, the student must be able to maintain mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, students, faculty, staff, and other professionals under all circumstances including highly stressful situations. The student must have the emotional stability to function effectively under stress and to adapt to an environment that may change rapidly without warning and/or unpredictable ways.

[For example, Emergency Room, NICU, SICU, and Operating Room, dealing with dying clients, fast-paced clinical situations, psychosocial responses of clients with disabilities, responding to emergencies, heavy academic schedule, and so forth.]

The student must be able to effectively communicate empathy for the situations and circumstances of others. The student must know that his or her values, attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and experiences affect his or her perceptions and relationships with others. The student must be able and willing to examine and change their behavior when it interferes with productive individual or team relationships. The student must possess the skills and experience necessary for effective and harmonious relationships in diverse academic and working environments.

I UNDERSTAND THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

Student Name Print: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_