

Technical Standards

Medical Assistant

In this program, students should be able to meet specific technical standards, which are the essential skills and abilities needed to be successful in a program, with or without reasonable accommodation. It is important to review and understand these standards before applying to the program. All Technical Standards documents are available for review on the Northwood Tech website at: <https://www.northwoodtech.edu/technical-standards>

This document should be reviewed prior to applying to the program.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made to ensure access to academic programs, activities, services, and employment in accordance with Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended. If accommodations are needed, contact the campus Accommodations Specialist or the Northwood Tech Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Officer, at [715-645-7042](tel:715-645-7042), TTY 711, 30 days in advance of needed assistance. Services available are documented on the Northwood Tech Accommodations webpage: [Accommodation Services | Northwood Technical College](#).

For more information, please see Administrative Procedure J-111A Reasonable Accommodation for Student.

AREA	STANDARD	EXAMPLES (NOT INCLUSIVE)
Physical Skills	The student must demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gross motor for data collection/assessment, intervention, and to promote a safe environment.Fine motor/dexterity to manipulate small objects and complete procedures or assessments.Endurance, strength, mobility, balance, flexibility, and coordination to perform client care activities and emergency procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promptly react in emergency situationsAbility to safely move, lift and support 50 poundsAble to navigate various terrains and levels, including flat surfaces and stairsPossess stamina (or endurance) to perform physical tasks and activity for up to 8 hours
Sensory Skills	The student must demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vision sufficient for observation and assessment of patient care.Tactile, auditory, visual, and olfactory ability for data collection/assessment and to promote a safe care environment.Ability to tolerate exposure to odors and common allergens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ability to visually detect environmental hazardsDetect subtle differences through skin (depth of veins and arteries; vibrations, pulse, temperature)
Communication Skills	The student must have the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Communicate effectively with patients/clients, families, peers, supervisors, members of the public, and other healthcare professionals.Observe, recognize, respond to, and use appropriate non-verbal communication.Listen and respond to others in a nonjudgmental, respectful manner.Speak, read, comprehend, interpret, and convey information.Produce written work legibly, accurately, and in a timely manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Able to effectively manage and navigate emotional experiences

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Communication Skills (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read and understand digital and computer displays, as well as enter data in a computerized client record.• Cope with strong emotions and adapt to unpredictable situations.	
Safety Skills	The student must have the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply knowledge, skills, and experience to provide a safe environment for the patient/client, self, and the healthcare team.• Respond appropriately to threatening or emergent situations.• Adhere to safety guidelines and regulations in a variety of healthcare settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be familiar with and follow complex emergency protocols
Critical Thinking Skills	The student must have the ability to execute the following skills in a timely/immediate manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem solve creatively.• Make decisions based on data and policy.• Analyze, synthesize, and interpret information.• Make safe and appropriate decisions, including when under stressful situations.• Acknowledge limitations of knowledge or performance ability (stay within scope of practice).• Perform basic mathematical skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comprehend and interpret graphic trends• Tell time• Read and interpret measurements
Professionalism	The student must demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrity, moral reasoning, ethical behaviors, and concerns for others.• Respect for diverse populations.• Ability to adapt to changing environments.• Ability to function effectively under stress.• Confidentiality when working with diverse individuals and communities.• Ability to accept constructive feedback and responsibility for own actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to work independently and in a team environment

Northwood Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to manage inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Amanda Gohde, Associate Vice President, Talent & Culture, 1900 College Drive, Rice Lake WI 54868; Amanda.Gohde@NorthwoodTech.edu, phone: 715-645-7042.

This document was adapted from Waukesha County Technical College.