

Essential Functions for the RSPT Student

Macomb Community College, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. A person qualified for admission to the MCC Respiratory Therapy Program is one who has met academic prerequisites and is able to perform the essential functions of a registered respiratory therapist with or without reasonable accommodation. The student must be physically capable of performing all of the responsibilities of a respiratory care practitioner including but not limited to the following:

a. Observational Skills

- Demonstrate auditory ability to distinguish tonal differences, auscultate breath sounds, hear alarms, beepers, telephones, computer tones and communicate with others.
- Demonstrate visual acuity to assess a patient, read a patient chart , medication labels, syringes, records, scales, small print , handwritten notes and distinguish colors.
- Accurately distinguish odors.
- Accurately demonstrate the ability to perceive and identify a variety of tactile stimuli such as temperature, pulse, moisture, pain, texture, etc.

b. Communication Skills

- Communicate in English clearly, accurately, and appropriately (orally & written).
- Utilize and respond to nonverbal communication.

c. Motor Skills

- Demonstrate unassisted ability to safely lift, hold and mobilize patients and/or lift loads of 50 pounds.
- Push heavy equipment such as ventilators.
- Ambulate unassisted for 4 hours at a time.
- Possess endurance to perform 40 hours/week of activity during clinical education courses.
- Safely and therapeutically maneuver in small places.
- Demonstrate appropriate manual dexterity to accurately manipulate devices and equipment used in respiratory therapy such as sphygmomanometers, pulse oximeters, ECG units, ventilators, airway devices, etc.
- Perform unassisted cardiopulmonary resuscitation on infants, pediatrics and adults.

d. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- Assimilation of knowledge from classroom, laboratory & clinical experiences.
- Comprehend & implement accurate math skills.

- Aptitude for science requiring attention to detail, careful observation, and accurate recordkeeping.
 - Demonstrate critical thinking skills necessary for clinical decision making and problem solving.
- e. Behavior and Social Skills
- Establish and maintain therapeutic interpersonal relationships with diverse patients/clients.
 - Establish and maintain collegial relationships with peers, faculty and other health care professionals.
 - Able to work effectively with patients who may be terminally ill, have transmittable diseases or have psychiatric and developmental disorders.
 - Cope with the demands of supervision, productivity, rotating schedules and heavy workloads with respect for duty.
 - Personality suited to exhibit respect, concern, and compassion for people.
 - Possess the capacity to make independent decisions, work unsupervised, be creative, adaptable, and resourceful as well as believe in the highest standards of care and uphold the values of personal responsibility, honesty, integrity, ethical behavior, trust, and professionalism.

If a student believes they will not be able to perform these skills without accommodation, the student should speak with the instructor and contact the office of Special Services and speak to a Special Services Counselor. Center Campus G-131 586-286-2237 and South Campus H-316 586-445-7420.