

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS for a BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST

Essential functions represent non-academic requirements which include knowledge, skills, and attitude/behavioral requirements that BioMedical Sciences (BMS) students must meet for successful admission and continuance in the BMS Programs and to become employable upon graduation. In addition to the academic requirements, students must be able to meet the following Essential Functions to be admitted to and continue in the BMS Programs:

Locomotion and Gross Motor Skills—Students must be able to:

- demonstrate mobility to traverse about the classroom, laboratory, and /or institutional corridors.
- operate equipment in the laboratory and lift or move objects of at least 20 pounds.

Fine Motor Skills—Students must be able to:

- demonstrate sufficient manual dexterity to allow delicate and controlled manipulations of specimens, instruments, and tools.
- safely grasp and release small objects (e.g., test tubes, microscope slides); perform fine movements such as the ability to twist and turn dials/knobs (e.g., for a microscope, balance, or spectrophotometer); and manipulate other laboratory materials (e.g., reagents and pipettes) in order to complete tasks.

Communication Skills—Students must be able to:

- read, write, and communicate effectively in the English language to facilitate effective communication with patients, physicians, and other members of the health care team.
- comprehend and respond to both formal and colloquial English, by person-to-person, telephone, and written communication.
- appropriately assess nonverbal as well as verbal communication with other students, faculty, staff, patients, family and other professionals.

Visual Acuity and Sensory—Students must be able to:

- identify and distinguish objects macroscopically and microscopically; read charts, graphs, and instrument scales as well as discern fine details of texture and color.
- demonstrate a sense of touch and temperature discrimination sufficient to perform laboratory testing.
- possess sufficient hearing ability with or without auditory aids to understand the normal speaking voice and discern audible instrument alert signals and timing devices.

Cognitive Application Skills — Students must be able to:

- apply knowledge, skills, and values learned from previous coursework and life experiences to new situations.
- measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate and synthesize information.

Safety— Students must be able to:

- work safely with mechanical, electrical, thermal, chemical, and biological hazards and follow prescribed guidelines for working with hazardous materials.
- recognize and respond to safety issues appropriately.
- recognize emergency situations and take appropriate actions.

Stability— Students must:

- demonstrate sufficient psychological stability to effectively problem solve and react appropriately and effectively in stressful situations.
- maintain mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals under all circumstances, including high stress situations.
- demonstrate the emotional stability to function effectively under stress and adapt to an environment that may change rapidly without warning and in unpredictable ways.

Affective (valuing) Skills— Students must:

- show respect for self and others and project an image of professionalism, including appearance, dress, and confidence.
- demonstrate complete personal honest and integrity.
- adhere to appropriate professional conduct.
- understand that his or her values, attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and experiences affect personal perceptions and relationships with others.
- be willing to examine personal behavior when it interferes with productive individual or team relationships.
- possess skills and experience necessary for effective and harmonious relationships in diverse academic and work environments.

Professional skills— Students must:

- follow written and verbal directions.
- work independently and with others and under time constraints.
- prioritize requests and work concurrently on at least two different tasks.
- function in an environment that demands working quickly & accurately while multi-tasking due to the clinical need for timely results.
- maintain alertness and concentration during a normal work period.
- learn and abide by professional standards of practice.
- possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, integrity, honesty, responsibility and tolerance.
- engage in patient care delivery in a variety of settings and deliver care to all patient populations including but not limited to children, adolescents, adults, individuals with disabilities, medically compromised patients and vulnerable adults.

Reference citation: (accessed August 2014)

1. Details Report for: 29-2011 Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists. O*Net Online (US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration), 2013. <http://www.onetonline.org/link/details/29-2011.00>
2. National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) <http://www.naacls.org>

Note: Corrective devices & reasonable accommodations may be utilized to satisfy these Essential Functions.

Your signature below indicates that you have read and are able to comply with the Essential Functions required for a Biomedical Scientist. Submit this signed form along with the BMS Professional Training application materials.

Signature

Date