

Histotechnology Program

Technical Standards

Histotechnology professionals must be able to consistently perform many technical procedures with accuracy and precision. Safety and effectiveness are key skills. Our faculty have established these abilities and characteristics as technical standards. They are necessary for students to enroll, remain in good standing and learn the skills needed to graduate.

Because of this, we require all applicants to confirm that they're able to comply with these standards in order to be admitted, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Communication skills

Students must be able to:

- Respond to verbal requests, communicated in an average tone, from as far away as 15 feet.
- Accurately and clearly understand and respond to verbal and non-verbal methods of communication in English.
- Communicate accurate information clearly and efficiently by verbal and written methods.

Motor skills

You must be able to:

- Manipulate lab equipment, which includes pushing, pulling and repetitive use of your arms and hands.
- Lift and carry equipment, supplies or objects up to 25 pounds.
- Kneel or bend to get items from the floor or lower cabinets.
- Reach for items above shoulder level from overhead shelves or cabinets.
- Maintain physical activity without help for up to eight hours a day.
- Stay in a seated position for up to eight hours a day.
- See objects distinctly and clearly with or without corrective devices.
- Hear and respond to warning signals on equipment displays or verbal direction.
- Perform established histologic protocols in a safe, logical and expedient sequence.
- Perform essential job-related functions, including button manipulation on equipment; switches; using computers, keyboards and touch screens; rotating microtome handwheel and pressing tissue during embedding.
- Move expediently on your own around the department, hospital and clinical facility.

Cognitive skills

Students must be able to:

- Read and understand technical and medical information and interpret gross descriptions in both written and electronic formats.
- Prioritize and perform tasks related to technical procedures in a logical, expedient order.
- Use training from several sources to solve problems in a quick, accurate and highly coordinated manner.
- Follow written and verbal instructions from clinical staff and instructors.
- Multitask and complete tasks and assignments to meet deadlines while maintaining composure.
- Learn through a variety of modalities, including classroom instruction, small groups, team and collaborative activities.
- Evaluate results of technical tasks and formulate corrective actions to improve future outcomes.
- Explain the steps involved in performing technical tasks and protocols.

Behavior and social skills

Students must be able to:

- Use good judgment, including the timely completion of responsibilities, prioritization of tasks, and recognition of the need to seek assistance as indicated.
- React calmly and effectively in stressful environments.
- Demonstrate sensitivity towards people from a variety of backgrounds.
- Develop mature, sensitive and effective relationships with colleagues, lab staff and medical professionals.
- Demonstrate reasonable flexibility in adapting to changing work situations and unexpected situations inherent to lab practice.
- Process and accept constructive feedback, both oral and written, and use it to modify and improve clinical and academic performance.
- Behave professionally and ethically