

**Rush University
College of Health Sciences**

Technical Standards

The following are the universal technical standards that apply to all clinical training students in the Rush University College of Health Sciences and in the PA Program.

PA Program Technical Standards:

Rush University is committed to diversity and to attracting and educating students who will make the population of health care professionals representative of the national population.

Our core values — ICARE — Innovation, Collaboration, Accountability, Respect and Excellence, translate into our work with all students, including those with disabilities. Rush actively collaborates with students to develop innovative ways to ensure accessibility and creates a respectful accountable culture through our confidential and specialized disability support. Rush is committed to excellence in accessibility; we encourage students with disabilities to disclose and seek accommodations.

The following technical functions are required of all students enrolled in the Physician Assistant Program.

Acquire Information:

- Acquire information from demonstrations and experiences in courses such as lecture, group, and physical demonstrations.
- Acquire information from written documents and computer systems (e.g., literature searches & data retrieval).
- Identify information presented in accessible images from paper, slides, videos with audio description, and transparencies.
- Identify information presented in images from paper, slides, videos, and transparencies.
- Recognize and assess patient changes in mood, activity, cognition, verbal, and non-verbal communication.

Use and Interpret:

- Use and interpret information from assessment techniques/maneuvers. Use and interpret information related to physiologic phenomena generated from diagnostic tools.

Motor:

- Possess psychomotor skills necessary to provide or assist in holistic Physician Assistant care and perform or assist with procedures and treatments.
- Practice in a safe manner and appropriately provide Physician Assistant care and assessment in emergencies and life support procedures and perform universal precautions against contamination.

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Communication:

- Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and families.
- Communicate effectively with faculty, preceptors, and all members of the healthcare team during practicum and other learning experiences.
- Accurately elicit information including a medical history and other information to adequately and effectively evaluate a population's, client's or patient's condition.

Intellectual Ability:

- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize data related to diagnosis and treatment of patients and populations.
- Exercise proper judgment and complete responsibilities in a timely and accurate manner according to the "program name" role.
- Synthesize information, problem solve, and think critically to judge the most appropriate theory, assessment, or treatment strategy.

Behavioral:

- Maintain mature, sensitive, effective relationships with clients/patients, families, students, faculty, staff, preceptors and other professionals under all circumstances.
- Exercise skills of diplomacy to advocate for patients in need.
- Possess emotional stability to function under stress and adapt to rapidly changing environments inherent to the classroom and practice settings.

Character:

- Demonstrate concern for others, integrity, accountability, interest, and motivation are necessary personal qualities.
- Demonstrate intent and desire to follow the Rush University and Physician Assistant Code of Ethics.

The technical standards delineated above must be met with or without accommodation. Students who, after review of the technical standards, determine that they require accommodation to fully engage in the program, should contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services [[Website: https://www.rushu.rush.edu/office-student-accessibility-services](https://www.rushu.rush.edu/office-student-accessibility-services)] to confidentially discuss their accommodations needs.

Given the clinical nature of our programs time may be needed to implement accommodations. Accommodations are never retroactive; therefore, timely requests are essential and encouraged.