

In accordance with Section 503 of the 1973 Vocational Rehabilitation Act, the Geisinger School of Medical Laboratory Science has adopted the following minimal technical standards. Applicants to the Geisinger School of Medical Laboratory Science must possess the following abilities or can perform required essential practices with or without reasonable accommodation. The technical standards for the School of Medical Laboratory Science reflect typical professional attributes for general current practices and competencies within the profession as a generalist and may be assessed in both graded and non-graded assessments in the program.

Cognitive Abilities

Students must have sufficient cognitive abilities including intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities to acquire foundational scientific knowledge, evaluate, correlate, reason, interpret, analyze, integrate, calculate, and synthesize information and data. They must be able to apply knowledge to calculations, analysis, evaluation, correlation, development, troubleshooting, problem-solving, and interpretation.

Observational Skills

Students must possess the ability to observe with tactile, aural, and visual including color and depth differentiation and at times smell.

Communication Skills

Students must possess the ability to communicate effectively with members of the health care team, other laboratory professionals and the public verbally, and in written communication in the English language.

Physical and motor function

Students must be able to stand and move safely within the laboratory environment. They must be able to stand for extended periods of time and manipulate objects both at and below shoulder height, stoop, and bend. Students must be able to safely handle potentially infectious blood, body fluids, and other patient specimens in compliance with regulatory standards. They must possess the fine motor skill to safely manipulate needles and pipette accurately. Possess the coordination, psychosomatic, and motor function to safely perform all core tasks required of a medical laboratory scientist.

Behavioral and social attributes

Students must possess the ability to work and learn independently and cooperatively, and exercise good judgement. Students must be able to develop effective relationships with faculty, staff, students, and other members of the health care team. Students must be able to honestly, openly, and readily address concerns through appropriate channels contributing to a just and inclusive culture.

Emotional stability

Students must possess the emotional stability and resilience to adjust to the stresses and rigor of the educational program. Adjust to rapid changes in expectation and assignment due to essential need. Respond quickly and ably to emergency and critical situations. Interact with and respond professionally to individuals demonstrating a lack of emotional control. Maintain care for safe practices for oneself and others in stressful situations.

Ethics and professionalism

Students must be able to maintain confidentiality of patient, and enterprise information. Students must be responsible to maintain safe and ethical practices for documents and property both physical and intellectual.