

Technical Standards for Therapeutic Massage

Our program technical standards have been developed to help students understand nonacademic standards, skills, and performance requirements expected of a student in the Therapeutic Massage Program.

If an accommodation is necessary to participate in the program, it is imperative to identify reasonable accommodations to those students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonableness is determined by the Disability Services Office (DSO) and the program on a case-by-case basis utilizing the program technical standards. The accommodation needs to be in place prior to the start of the program, or it may delay your ability to start the program. It is the student's responsibility to contact the DSO and request accommodation.

| Skills | Description | Specific Examples |
|--|---|---|
| Sensory | Visual, auditory, and tactile senses must be sufficient to provide client care, monitor and assess therapeutic needs, and to maintain a safe environment. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visually distinguish data from assessing clients. 2. Perceive color variations and depth. 3. Observe and individual's presentation. 4. Perceive a variety of odors. 5. Perceive variations of touch (i.e., texture differences, hot/cold, pulsations, etc.). |
| Communication | Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with faculty, students, clients, etc. in verbal and written form. Candidates will be required to communicate with and respond to clients, faculty and other students as well as observe clients. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elicit information (i.e., questioning of the client). 2. Describe changes in mood, activity, posture. 3. Perceive nonverbal communication |
| Motor and Function Abilities | Requirements of a candidate include gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, strength, and functional use of the senses of touch, and vision for the safe handling of the client, and self | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elicit information from patients by palpation, percussion, testing muscle strength and function. 2. Safely perform therapeutic procedures 3. Provide other client services and client-associated services. |
| Intellectual: Conceptual, Integrated, and Quantitative Abilities | The Candidate must have these abilities to accurately calculate, analyze, synthesize, and report appropriate physiologic client data | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solve problems (i.e., client care problem solving). 2. Relationships (i.e., anatomical relations). 3. Understand the spatial relationship of structures. |

| Skills | Description | Specific Examples |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Behavioral and Social Skills | The Candidate must have these abilities to provide empathic support to clients and to interact with clients, and colleagues | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with clients, and fellow therapists. (Interpersonal skills) 2. Tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads. 3. Function effectively under stress. 4. Adapt to changing environments. 5. Display flexibility and ability to function during uncertainty inherent in health care (i.e., emergency conditions). 6. Display compassion, empathy, integrity, concern for others, interest and motivation, and professional demeanor. |
| Technological | The Candidate must be able to effectively use a computer with manual keyboarding, mouse, and viewing a monitor/screen. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review, record, research client information and pre-existing conditions. |

All the above abilities, skills and knowledge in a candidate will be continually tested by evaluation during the educational process of this program.

This document is intended to serve as a guide regarding the physical, emotional, intellectual, and psychosocial expectations placed on a student. This document cannot include every conceivable action, task, ability, or behavior that may be expected of a student. Meeting these technical standards does not guarantee employment in this field upon graduation. Ability to meet the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for any licensure, certification exam, or successful completion of the degree program.