St. Anthony School of Echocardiography

Technical standards

All students in St. Anthony School of Echocardiography must possess the intellectual ability to learn, integrate and analyze data. They must have functional use of the senses of vision, hearing, and equilibrium. Students must have motor function capabilities to meet the demands of the program, scanning, and patient care.

Observation skills: The ability to observe is required for demonstrations and presentations in both the classroom and clinical settings. The ability to discriminate among black, white, various shades of gray, and other color combinations is required for ultrasound performance and interpretation. A student must be able to observe patients accurately and completely, both at a distance and closely.

Communication skills: The student must be able to communicate effectively through speech, reading and writing. He/she should be able to hear and communicate with clinical staff and patients in order to elicit information, perceive nonverbal communications, describe changes in patient demeanor/status and recognize and respond appropriately to an emergency situation. In addition to patient and clinical staff communication, the student must be able to communicate orally and in writing with physicians and other health care professionals.

Motor skills: The student must possess the ability for gross and fine motor function, manual dexterity, and physical strength in order to:

- Assist with transferring patients to and from carts, beds and wheelchairs
- Lift and move objects on a daily basis
- Manipulate the ultrasound equipment, computers, and peripherals
- Distinguish audible sounds
- Adequately view ultrasound images including color distinctions
- Work both standing and sitting
- Have full use of both hands, wrists and shoulders involving the coordination of muscular movements, equilibrium, and sensation

Intellectual skills: The student must be able to comprehend multi-dimensional relationships and the spatial relationships of anatomic structures. He/she must also be able to problem solve and work independently.

Behavioral and Social Skills: A student must be emotionally healthy. He/she must be able to use his/her intellectual ability and exercise good judgement to complete all responsibilities required to obtain a quality ultrasound examination, provide care to patients, and work with others in the healthcare setting.