



## MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Students seeking a DPT degree from Marymount University must continually meet the following technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation. They are grouped into the following categories:

- Observation
- Communication
- Sensory and motor coordination
- Intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities
- Behavioral and social attributes

**Observation**- The student must have the capacity to:

Make accurate observations and interpret them in the context of classroom and laboratory activities, and in patient care.

Observe potential hazards to ensure the safety of self and others.

Detect relevant changes in patient status, behavior and performance based on non-verbal cues.

**Communication**- The student must have the capacity to:

Communicate effectively both verbally and non-verbally to elicit information from, and translate information to, others with compassion and empathy in order to relate effectively with cultural sensitivity to all patients regardless of their race, age, sexual orientation, lifestyle behaviors, gender, and socio-economic status.

Read, write, comprehend, and speak the English language to facilitate communications with patients, family members, and other professionals in health care settings.

Maintain accurate patient records, present information in a professional, logical manner, and provide patient education and support to effectively care for patients and their families.

**Sensory & Motor Ability**- The student must have the capacity to:

Perform gross and fine motor movements with sufficient coordination needed to perform complete physical examinations.

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Lift, guard, mobilize and exercise patients of varying sizes in a safe manner. (NB: per OSHA guidelines students must be able to lift 50 lbs 50% of the day)

Observe and apply universal precautions.

Demonstrate sufficient endurance to move about a work environment continuously throughout the day. This might require movement in large and small workplaces, from one floor to another, and onto different levels of surfaces.

Demonstrate sufficient levels of neuromuscular control and eye-to-hand coordination, and possess the physical and mental stamina to meet the demands associated with extended periods of sitting, standing, moving, and physical exertion required for satisfactory and safe performance in the clinical and classroom settings, including performing CPR, if necessary.

**Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities-** The student must have the capacity to:

Synthesize a large body of knowledge as deemed appropriate by faculty (core, adjunct & clinical) and CAPTE standards and apply in classroom, lab, and clinic activities.

Develop and refine problem solving skills that are crucial to practicing as a Physical Therapist.

Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize objective and subjective data, and to make decisions, often in a time-urgent environment, that reflect consistent and thoughtful deliberation and sound clinical judgment in calm and chaotic environments.

Incorporate new information from peers, faculty, and literature to formulate sound judgment in patient assessment, intervention, evaluation, and teaching.

Function in complex environments that require engagement in multiple tasks or activities simultaneously

Interpret and transcribe data among, and in between, written and electronic sources.

**Behavioral and Social Attributes-** The student must have the capacity to:

Practice in a safe, ethical and legal manner following guidelines as established by local, state, and federal law, the University, clinical facilities, the APTA, and other related professional organizations.

Exercise good judgment; complete all responsibilities in the classroom, lab, and clinical settings in a prompt manner; and develop mature, sensitive, professional, and effective relationships with patients and other members of the health care team.

Be punctual to all academic and clinical activities, and maintain a record of attendance in class and clinical assignments necessary for effective participation.

Respond to all communications in a timely manner using appropriate and professional language.

Adapt to changing environments; display flexibility; accept and integrate constructive criticism given in the classroom and clinical settings; effectively interact in the clinical setting with members of the healthcare team; and function cooperatively and efficiently in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical practice.

Manage stressful situations by adapting to and functioning effectively in both academic and clinical settings, including emergency situations.