

Technical Standards

The following technical standards are critical to completing the paramedic program curriculum successfully with or without reasonable accommodations for any documented disability.

- **Sight:** Students must be able to 1) see from 20 inches to 20 feet and beyond, 2) use depth perception and peripheral vision, and 3) distinguish color and color intensity.
- **Hearing:** Students must be able to hear sounds at varying levels (normal speaking volume, faint voices, faint body sounds and equipment alarms.)
- **Tactile:** Students must have normal tactile ability to be able to assess pulse, temperature, size and shape.
- **Smell:** Students must be able to detect odors from patients and the environment.
- **Gross Motor Skills:** Students must be able to 1) sit and stand while maintaining balance in the educational setting and in the ambulance and 2) while working above and below waist height.
- **Fine Motor Skills:** Students must be able to 1) write and type and 2) pinch, pick up, grasp, squeeze or otherwise work with fingers.
- **Physical Endurance:** Students must be able to 1) stand, stoop, move quickly, do repetitive movements, walk, climb stairs, back-up stairs with weight (50 pounds), push/pull (up to 100 pounds), 2) lift (up to 100 pounds), and 3) crouch, kneel, bend and twist for extended periods of time.
- **Communication:** Students must be able to 1) communicate effectively in English both verbally and in writing, 2) recognize, understand and interpret instructional material required during medical education, 3) use appropriate grammar, spelling and vocabulary when completing classwork and clinical documentation that is submitted into FISDAP, and 4) work cooperatively and professionally with others (i.e., EMS, fire, hospital, patients, family, etc.)
- **Emotional Stability:** Students must be able to 1) adapt to ever-changing, unpredictable and stressful situations, 2) monitor own emotions, 3) perform multiple responsibilities concurrently, and 4) handle strong emotions.

- Critical Thinking: Students must be able to 1) plan/control activities for others, 2) use appropriate knowledge and skills, and 3) sequence information.
- Interpersonal Skills: Students must be able to 1) control interpersonal conflict, 2) respect differences among patients and other medical staff, and 3) establish rapport with patient and co-workers.

Students must meet these standards upon admission to the CAS/DCB paramedic program and throughout their education. Reasonable accommodations may be made with the approval of the Disability Services Office at DCB. However a candidate is expected to perform these standards in a reasonably independent manner. See disability support at dakotacollege.edu/academics/college-catalog. Candidates affirm their ability to meet and maintain these technical standards on the CAS/DCB Paramedic Program Student Agreement form.