

**Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center  
School of Radiologic Technology**

**Essential Functions for Admission Policy**

**PURPOSE:** Essential functions are the physical and personal standards required to practice radiography. The essential functions for the Aurora School of Radiologic Technology program are established criteria that all applicants must meet in order to be admitted to the program. These standards are the minimum requirements to achieve the graduate competencies necessary to practice the art and science of radiography.

**SCOPE:** All applicants to the School of Radiologic Technology

**Essential Functions**

Applicants who do not meet the program standards will be considered ineligible for admission into the education program. All standards described pertain to radiographer expectations.

**Physical Standards**

1. **Visual Abilities:** radiographers must be able to see well enough to work with patients, to read requests, to read syringes, medicine vials, and other necessary items. They must be able to see well enough to perform all fluoroscopic/radiographic procedures and work in low lighted rooms.
2. **Communication Skills:** radiographers must communicate with all patients, giving instructions and explaining all procedures. Tone and volume must be sufficient for close proximity face-to-face communication as well as for distant communication (example: patient is on the table and radiographer is in control booth, i.e., patient is not facing radiographer).
3. **Hearing:** radiographers must be able to hear and understand patients above equipment noise. Patients have differing tones, volumes, and clarity of speech. Patients must be close by or some distance away.
4. **Writing:** radiographers must be able to write both legibly and quickly, and type information in an efficient manner. Documentation on charts and request is a must for adequate patient care.
5. **Reading:** radiographers must be able to communicate via reading. They must be able to read physician orders, departmental policies, and hospital policies. They must be able to read instruction related to drug administration and equipment operation (example: "operation of this equipment may be hazardous to operator and patient").
6. **Motor Skills:** radiographers must use both hands simultaneously to lift 50 pounds and possess physical stamina for an eight-hour day. Radiographers are responsible for pushing/pulling equipment, to include maneuvering of mobile radiographic equipment, as well as patients in wheelchairs or on stretchers with IV poles; load and unload image receptors/detectors and reach and operate an x-ray tube placed 48 inches above the table, be capable of assisting and supporting patients, and have sufficient motor skills to allow for the positioning of any size patient for all procedures.

**Personal Standards**

1. **Behavioral and Social Skills:** the applicant must be neat and clean in appearance, have an outgoing pleasing personality, and positive attitude about themselves; can provide examples showing completion of assigned tasks, responsibility for one's own actions, initiative, and willingness to accept rules and regulations along with change; must be motivated and have a genuine interest in working with and around people.