

# National Healthcare Foundation Standards and Accountability Criteria

## Based on: National Healthcare Skill Standards

Accountability criteria have been established for each foundation standard to better define the expectations for meeting the standard and to provide content for curriculum design and measurement and certification of achievement.

### Foundation Standard 1: Academic Foundation

Healthcare professionals will know the academic subject matter required for proficiency within their area. They will use this knowledge as needed in their role. The following accountability criteria are considered essential for students in a health science program of study.

#### Accountability Criteria

##### 1.1 Human Structure and Function

- 1.11 Classify basic structural and functional organization of the human body (chemical, cellular, tissue, organ, and system)
- 1.12 Recognize body planes, directional terms, quadrants, and cavities
- 1.13 Analyze basic structure and function of the human body

##### 1.2 Diseases and Disorders

- 1.21 Describe common diseases and disorders of each body system (prevention, pathology, diagnosis, and treatment)
- 1.22 Recognize emerging diseases and disorders
- 1.23 Investigate biomedical therapies as they relate to prevention, pathology, and treatment of disease

##### 1.3 Medical Mathematics

- 1.31 Apply mathematical computations related to healthcare procedures (metric and household, conversions and measurements)
- 1.32 Analyze diagrams, charts, graphs, and tables to interpret healthcare data
- 1.33 Record time using 24-hour clock

### Foundation Standard 2: Communications

Healthcare professionals will know the various methods of giving and obtaining information. They will communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

#### Accountability Criteria

##### 2.1 Concepts of Effective Communication

- 2.11 Interpret verbal and nonverbal communication
- 2.12 Recognize barriers to communication
- 2.13 Report relevant information in order of occurrence
- 2.14 Report subjective and objective information
- 2.15 Recognize elements of communication using a sender-receiver model
- 2.16 Apply speaking and active listening skills

##### 2.2 Medical Terminology

- 2.21 Use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to communicate information
- 2.22 Use medical abbreviations to communicate information

##### 2.3 Written Communication Skills

- 2.31 Recognize elements of written and electronic communication (spelling, grammar, formatting and confidentiality)
- 2.32 Describe techniques for planning and organizing written documents

### **Foundation Standard 3: Systems**

**Healthcare professionals will understand how their role fits into their department, their organization and the overall healthcare environment. They will identify how key systems affect services they perform and quality of care.**

#### **Accountability Criteria**

##### **3.1 Healthcare Delivery Systems**

- 3.11 Understand healthcare delivery system (public, private, government, and non-profit)
- 3.12 Explain factors influencing healthcare delivery systems
- 3.13 Describe responsibilities of consumers within the healthcare system
- 3.14 Explain the impact of emerging issues such as technology, epidemiology, bioethics, and socioeconomics on healthcare delivery systems
- 3.15 Discuss common methods of payment for healthcare

### **Foundation Standard 4: Employability Skills**

**Healthcare professionals will understand how employability skills enhance their employment opportunities and job satisfaction. They will demonstrate key employability skills and will maintain and upgrade skills, as needed.**

#### **Accountability Criteria**

##### **4.1 Personal Traits of the Healthcare Professional**

- 4.11 Classify personal traits or attitudes desirable in a member of the healthcare team
- 4.12 Summarize basic professional standards of healthcare workers as they apply to hygiene, dress, language, confidentiality and behavior (i.e. courtesy and self-introductions)

##### **4.2 Employability Skills**

- 4.21 Apply employability skills in healthcare
- 4.22 Exemplify professional characteristics
- 4.23 Engage in continuous self-assessment and career goal modification for personal and professional growth

##### **4.3 Career Decision-making**

- 4.31 Compare careers within the health science career pathways (diagnostic services, therapeutic services, health informatics, support services, or biotechnology research and development)
- 4.32 Recognize levels of education, credentialing requirements, employment opportunities, workplace environments, and career growth potential

##### **4.4 Employability Preparation**

- 4.41 Develop components of a personal portfolio
- 4.42 Demonstrate process for obtaining employment

### **Foundation Standard 5: Legal Responsibilities**

**Healthcare professionals will understand the legal responsibilities, limitations, and implications of their actions within the healthcare delivery setting. They will perform their duties according to regulations, policies, laws and legislated rights of clients.**

#### **Accountability Criteria**

##### **5.1 Legal Implications**

- 5.11 Analyze legal responsibilities and limitations
- 5.12 Explain practices that could result in malpractice, liability, and/or negligence
- 5.13 Apply procedures for accurate documentation and record keeping
- 5.14 Interpret healthcare facility policies and procedures

##### **5.2 Legal Practices**

- 5.21 Apply standards for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- 5.22 Describe advance directives
- 5.23 Summarize the Patient's Bill of Rights
- 5.24 Understand informed consent
- 5.25 Analyze legislated scope of practice of healthcare professionals
- 5.26 Explain the laws governing harassment, labor, and employment

## **Foundation Standard 6: Ethics**

**Healthcare professionals will understand accepted ethical practices with respect to cultural, social, and ethnic differences within the healthcare environment. They will perform quality healthcare delivery.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **6.1 Ethical Boundaries**

- 6.11 Differentiate between ethical and legal issues impacting healthcare
- 6.12 Compare personal, professional, and organizational ethics
- 6.13 Recognize ethical issues and their implications related to healthcare

#### **6.2 Ethical Practice**

- 6.21 Apply ethical behaviors in healthcare
- 6.22 Apply procedures for reporting activities and behaviors that affect health, safety, and welfare of others

#### **6.3 Cultural, Social, and Ethnic Diversity**

- 6.31 Understand religious and cultural values as they impact healthcare
- 6.32 Demonstrate respectful and empathetic interactions with diverse age, cultural, economic, ethnic, and religious groups

## **Foundation Standard 7: Safety Practices**

**Healthcare professionals will understand the existing and potential hazards to clients, co-workers, and self. They will prevent injury or illness through safe work practices and follow health and safety policies and procedures.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **7.1 Infection Control**

- 7.11 Explain principles of infection control
- 7.12 Describe methods of controlling growth of microorganisms

#### **7.2 Personal Safety**

- 7.21 Apply personal safety procedures based on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regulations (including standard precautions)
- 7.22 Apply principles of body mechanics and ergonomics

#### **7.3 Environmental Safety**

- 7.31 Evaluate environment to recognize safe and unsafe working conditions
- 7.32 Apply safety techniques to prevent accidents and to maintain a safe work environment

#### **7.4 Common Safety Hazards**

- 7.41 Recognize Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
- 7.42 Comply with safety signs, symbols, and labels
- 7.43 Understand implications of hazardous materials

#### **7.5 Emergency Procedures and Protocols**

- 7.51 Practice fire safety in a healthcare setting
- 7.52 Apply principles of basic emergency response in natural disasters and other emergencies

## **Foundation Standard 8: Teamwork**

**Healthcare professionals will understand the roles and responsibilities of individual members as part of the healthcare team, including their ability to promote the delivery of quality healthcare. They will interact effectively and sensitively with all members of the healthcare team.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **8.1 Healthcare Teams**

- 8.11 Understand roles and responsibilities of team members
- 8.12 Recognize characteristics of effective teams

#### **8.2 Team Member Participation**

- 8.21 Recognize methods for building positive team relationships
- 8.22 Analyze attributes and attitudes of an effective leader
- 8.23 Recognize factors and situations that may lead to conflict
- 8.24 Apply effective techniques for managing team conflict

## **Foundation Standard 9: Health Maintenance Practices**

**Healthcare professionals will understand the fundamentals of wellness and the prevention of disease processes. They will practice preventive health behaviors among the clients.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **9.1 Healthy Behaviors**

- 9.11 Apply behaviors that promote health and wellness
- 9.12 Describe strategies for prevention of diseases including health screenings and examinations
- 9.13 Apply practices that promote prevention of disease and injury
- 9.14 Apply appropriate safety practices as related to high-risk behaviors
- 9.15 Discuss complementary and alternative health practices

## **\*Foundation Standard 10: Technical Skills**

**Healthcare professionals will apply technical skills required for all career specialties. They will demonstrate skills and knowledge as appropriate.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **10.1 Technical Skills**

- 10.11 Apply procedures for measuring and recording vital signs
- 10.12 Apply skills to obtain training or certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED), foreign body airway obstruction (FBAO), and first aid

\*Additional technical skills may be included in a program of study based on career specialties

## **Foundation Standard 11: Information Technology Applications**

**Healthcare professionals will use information technology applications required within all career specialties. They will demonstrate use as appropriate to healthcare applications.**

### **Accountability Criteria**

#### **11.1 Health Information Management**

- 11.11 Identify records and files common to healthcare
- 11.12 Interpret information from electronic medical documents

#### **11.2 Information Technology**

- 11.21 Communicate using technology (fax, e-mail, and Internet) to access and distribute data and other information
- 11.22 Recognize technology applications in healthcare