



**Katz**

**Katz School  
of Science and Health**

M.S. in Physician Assistant Studies

## Technical Standards

To be a physician assistant, a student must possess a number of abilities and skills. Therefore, each student must be able to fulfill all the standards listed below. The inability to perform these standards may lead to dismissal from the program.

### Intellectual

- Acquire information from written documents and visualize information as presented in images from paper, film, slides, and video
- Interpret X-ray, EKG, and other graphic images with or without assistive devices
- Exercise good judgment
- Properly complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients

### Observation

- Accurately observe patients, at a distance and close at hand, with or without standard medical instrumentation
- Speak to, hear, and observe a patient to elicit information

### Communication

- Communicate effectively with patients and their families in both written and oral modalities

### Sensory/Motor Coordination

- Possess motor skills necessary to perform palpation, percussion, auscultation, and other diagnostic and therapeutic maneuvers
- Perform basic laboratory tests and emergency therapeutic procedures including airway management, placement of intravenous catheters, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, application of pressure to control bleeding and suturing of wounds
- Tolerate physically taxing workloads

### Social and Behavioral

- Develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients
- Describe changes in mood, activity and posture and perceive nonverbal communication in patients
- Function effectively under stress
- Adapt to changing environments
- Display flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the practice of clinical medicine
- Possess good interpersonal skills to be an integral member of a medical team

### Problem Solving/Critical Thinking

- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, synthesize, and comprehend three-dimensional relationships including spatial relationships of structures according to standard medical care