

National Health Care (Foundation) Skill Standards

Health care skill standards offer an answer to the question, “What does a worker need to know and be able to do to contribute to the delivery of safe and effective health care?” The National Health Care (Foundation) Skill Standards represent the skill and knowledge, both academic and technical, necessary to pursue a full range of career opportunities within a career cluster from entry level to management, including technical and professional career specialties. Specific Accountability Criteria (objectives) for each National Health Care (Foundation) Skill Standard can be obtained at www.nchste.org. Foundation Standards include:

Academic Foundation

Health care workers will know the academic subject matter required for proficiency within their area. They will use this knowledge as needed in their role.

Communications

Health care workers will know the various methods of giving and obtaining information. They will communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Systems

Health care workers will understand how their role fits into their department, their organization, and the overall health care environment. They will identify how key systems affect services they perform and quality of care.

Employability Skills

Health care workers 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.

Legal Responsibilities

Health care workers will understand their legal responsibilities, limitations, and the implications of their actions within the health care delivery setting. They will perform their duties according to regulations, policies, laws, and legislated rights of clients.

Ethics

Health care workers will understand accepted ethical practices with respect to cultural, social, and ethnic differences within the health care environment. They will perform quality health care delivery.

Safety Practices

Health care workers 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.

Teamwork

Health care workers will understand the role and responsibilities of individual members as part of the health care team, including their ability to promote the delivery of quality health care. They will interact effectively and sensitively with all members of the health care team.

Health Maintenance Practices

Health care workers will understand the fundamentals of wellness and the prevention of disease processes. They will practice preventive health behaviors among the clients.

Technical Skills

Health care workers will apply technical skills required for all career specialties. They will demonstrate skills and knowledge as appropriate.

Information Technology Applications

Health care workers will use information technology applications required within all career specialties. They will demonstrate use as appropriate to health care applications.