

## Behavioral Health Support Program Essential Abilities

The following essential abilities address the motor, behavioral, emotional, communication and professional conduct essential to the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Behavioral Health Support at State Fair Community College. Students must meet these essential abilities in order to be admitted and retained in the program. Students with documented disabilities who wish to request reasonable accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act must follow the college's procedure for requesting accommodations. The college reserves the right to reject requests for accommodations that would fundamentally alter the nature of an educational program, lower the academic standards, cause an undue hardship on the college, or endanger the health or safety of a student with a disability, other students, or any other member of the college community.

Ability	Standard	Examples of Necessary Activities
Mobility	Ability to sit, stand or move as long as necessary to complete assessments, or required documentation and intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sit with clients to complete intake assessments.</li> <li>• Move with adults and children as needed for appointments.</li> <li>• Be able to get up and down off the floor if needed while working with children.</li> </ul>
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care in a timely fashion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use computers to input case information.</li> <li>• Write legibly so that others can read notes.</li> </ul>
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to understand clients during assessment communication and to determine safety during crisis intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have the ability to hear client's communication of distress.</li> <li>• Recognize inflection and tone and have the ability to determine client intent.</li> <li>• Be able to listen to understand client's situation and needs.</li> </ul>
Visual	Sufficient observation skills necessary for safe client care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detect and respond independently to warning signals from team members and/or clients of impending danger or emergency, i.e. a change in an individual's physical communication of distress.</li> </ul>
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking sufficient for clinical judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpret and carry out written and verbal communication sometimes in stressful situations.</li> <li>• Identify cause &amp; effect relationship to develop appropriate and safe intervention strategies.</li> </ul>
Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with clients, families, groups, team members from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish rapport and maintain professional boundaries; contribute to a calm, therapeutic environment.</li> <li>• Motivate and engage clients in treatment.</li> <li>• Ability to resolve conflict and to respond to feedback in a professional manner.</li> <li>• Ability to work effectively and efficiently as a team member utilizing interpersonal skills in an intra professional setting.</li> </ul>
Communication	Communication abilities for interaction with others orally and in writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly and accurately, present information to team members, clients and families.</li> <li>• Instruct client and/or family regarding treatment modalities and goals.</li> <li>• Accurately document client progress notes, reports according to facility guidelines and standards.</li> </ul>