



Center for Programs in Allied Health

Nuclear Medicine Technology

Program Handbook

2026 - 2027

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAM HANDBOOK

The purpose of the Program Handbook is to serve as a reference and resource for VUMC Center for Programs in Allied Health (CPiAH) students. The Program Handbook is an important document that provides operational guidance to students to assist them in successful progression through the program.

Key documents regarding policy and procedure information for CPiAH students include:

Catalog of the VUMC Center for Programs in Allied Health

Source of important policies and other information related to VUMC, the CPiAH, and each program. The catalog is available on the VUMC CPiAH website.

Program Handbook

Each CPiAH program provides students its own Program Handbook. The policies and procedures in the Program Handbook are aligned with VUMC, CPiAH, and program policies that appear in the Catalog—as well as other locations. The purpose of the Program Handbook is to provide more specific details about each program, with a focus on operational information and procedures.

VUMC CPiAH Website and Program Website

The Center for Programs in Allied Health has its own website. From the CPiAH homepage, links to each program's website may be accessed. Important information regarding both the institution and the programs is available on these sites.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO STUDENTS:

All students enrolled in VUMC Center for Programs in Allied Health (CPiAH) programs are bound by all VUMC, CPiAH, and Program policies. By enrolling in a CPiAH program, every student acknowledges their responsibility to abide by and adhere to all institutional and programmatic policies and procedures. Students, therefore, have the responsibility of being familiar with policies and procedures described in the following: 1) Program Handbook, 2) Catalog of the Center for Programs in Allied Health, and 3) CPiAH and respective program websites.

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IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE CPIAH CATALOG

The Catalog of the Center for Programs in Allied Health (CPiAH) contains important information about Vanderbilt University Medical Center, the Center for Programs in Allied Health, and this program, specifically.

Students are advised to refer to the CPiAH Catalog to obtain the following information about this program:

- Program Description
- Graduation Document
- Mission, Credo, and Goals
- Accreditation and Approvals
- Program Staff and Faculty
- Admission Information
- Academic Program
- Course List & Descriptions
- Graduation Requirements
- Student Assessment & Grading
- Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements
- Student Conduct Information

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Clinical Rotation Sites:

- VUMC
 - Nuc Med/QC: (615) 322-0895
 - Cardiac: (615) 322-0886
 - Nursing: (615) 343-2215
 - PET: (615) 343-7512
 - Radiopharmacy: (615) 322-7117
- VHVI
 - Cardiac: (615) 936-0734
- VCH
 - Nuc Med: (615) 936-4938
- VAMC
 - Nuc Med: (615) 873-6813

PROGRAM ACADEMIC CALENDAR – 2026-27

Aug. 24 – 28, 2026	Orientation
Aug. 31, 2026	Classes Begin
Sep. 7, 2026	Labor Day – Off
Nov. 26 – 27, 2026	Thanksgiving Break – Off
Dec. 21 – Jan. 1, 2027	Winter Break – Off
Jan. 18, 2027	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Off
Apr. 26 – 30, 2027	Spring Break – Off
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day – Off
Jul. 4, 2027	Independence Day – Off
Aug. 20, 2027	Projected Graduation Date

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, students must receive a passing grade of 75 or better in all courses, including didactic and clinical rotations, and complete a list of clinical competency evaluations. A complete list of the Clinical Competencies is included as Appendix A. Students must also complete at least 1,626 clock hours during the 12-month program. In addition to hours, total days attended are also monitored. Students are allotted a maximum of 10 personal days, in addition to the scheduled holidays.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are awarded a certificate from VUMC Center for Programs in Allied Health (CPiAH) and are eligible to take two national board certification exams: 1) Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) exam and, 2) American Registry of Radiologic Technologists – Nuclear Medicine Technology credential (ARRT)(N). Career services are provided to students by both CPiAH administration as well as program faculty. Graduates' board exam pass rates as well as job placement and performance are assessed as measures of program effectiveness.

RADIATION MONITORING

Monthly radiation monitoring is conducted on each student using a dosimeter service through the VUMC Office of Clinical and Research Safety (OCRS). A permanent dosimetry record for each student is maintained by the institution. Reports are reviewed monthly by the institution—which includes the Radiation Safety Department as well as the Program Director. Students receive a summary of their dosimetry data in monthly reports. A cumulative dose report is available for future employers by special request made to the OCRS department and are not handled through the Program. Dosimeters are to be turned in to the Radiology Department Badge Representative at the end of each month.

NMT Students who are or become pregnant while enrolled in the program may confidentially and voluntarily contact OCRS to discuss the option of fetal radiation monitoring.

Information on policies and procedures related to dosimetry monitoring may be obtained from the OCRS website (<https://www.vumc.org/safety/rad>).

STUDENT CLINICAL EVALUATION

Students receive weekly clinical rotation evaluations by their preceptors. These evaluations allow for frequent, constructive feedback to students on their professional development and are counted toward the semesterly review of Satisfactory Academic Progress. Both the Program Director and the Clinical Coordinator review these evaluations on a routine basis and may request formal meetings with students to discuss clinical performance deficiencies. An example of the rotation evaluation survey used to assess student performance is included in Appendix B.

MONITORING SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Each student's academic progress is formally evaluated semesterly during a process referred to as a performance review. A student is considered to be achieving satisfactory academic progress (SAP) if they maintain a grade of 75 or better in each didactic course, which includes clinical rotations. In addition, students must maintain satisfactory attendance and professional conduct in order to maintain SAP.

Prior to the determination of SAP status, the student, the Program Director and the Clinical Coordinator meet to discuss the student's progress. These meetings include discussion of grades in didactic courses, evaluations in clinical rotations, radiation exposure reports, absences, contact hours, behavior, etc. Students are given the opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns they may have related to their progress during their SAP meeting. Following this meeting, the Program Director and the Clinical Coordinator determine whether or not the student is maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students are notified of their status in writing.

Academic Performance and Remediation Plans

Students are expected to monitor their in-progress course grades and seek assistance from course instructors, as needed. A student's knowledge base may be assessed at any point during the program by the Program Director. Formal remediation plans may be provided as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Program Director following assessment. Remediation plans are personalized and based on the documented assessment of the student's knowledge base. Remediation plans are approved by the Program Director, working in conjunction with course instructors, and intended to provide students with a structured strategy to improve knowledge base. Students who do not complete the remediation plan are subject to disciplinary action up to and including probation, suspension, or dismissal from the program. Remediation plans are not directly tied to course grades and may not be used as a tool to increase in-progress or final course grades.

Grading System

Scale	Grade	GPA
95-100%	A	4.0
90-94%	A-	3.5
85-89%	B	3.0
80-84%	B-	2.5
75-79%	C	2.0
<75%	F - FAILURE	0
P	Pass - Any course with a "P" grade is not calculated into the grade point average.	
F	Fail - Any course with an "F" grade is not calculated into the grade point average. However, the course must be repeated and passed to graduate.	

I	Incomplete - May be used at the discretion of the instructor in those cases in which the student is not able to complete work in the normal time. In those instances, the student and instructor develop a written plan for an extension to provide work by a specific date that falls within the period of time specified by the relevant program's requirements (but in no circumstances greater than one month). An "I" that is not replaced by a letter grade within the period of time specified by the relevant program's requirements, due to unsatisfactory completion of the student's plan, will be changed to an F after the period specified by the program (a period not to exceed one month). Any course with an "I" grade is not calculated into the grade point average. Once a grade is assigned to the course (when conditions are met that allow for the removal of the "I" and assignment of a final grade), that grade will factor into the student's GPA.
W±	Withdrawal – Utilized when a student leaves the course due to an approved leave-of-absence or withdraws from the school prior to the scheduled completion of a course. Any course with a "W" grade is not calculated into the grade point average.

ATTENDANCE

Documenting Attendance

Students are required to be on time for all required learning experiences (clinical rotations, classes, etc.). Students are required to use the designated time tracking software, Trajecsyst, to document their attendance.

Students must clock in/out themselves. Under no circumstances are students allowed to clock in/out, log time, or otherwise document attendance for each other. Students engaging in this behavior—or any other form of fraudulent time tracking—are subject to disciplinary action up to and including probation, suspension, or dismissal from the program.

Program Hours and Days

Students' completion of both hours and days are documented and monitored. Any time in which a student is properly clocked in for either class or clinic will be summed and counted toward total program clock hours.

To monitor student compliance with the absence policy regarding personal days off—and to ensure students meet program expectations for completion of class and clinic hours—days are monitored independently from hours. Full days and half days have specific definitions. A full day is considered to be completion of at least 90% of a scheduled shift. A half day is considered to be between 50% - 89% of a scheduled shift. In this situation, students are awarded credit for a half-day. Anything less than 50% of a scheduled shift is considered to be a full day absence. Students are provided frequent time tracking updates and, additionally, may request their time tracking information from the Clinical Coordinator at any time.

Arrival Time for Scheduled Hours

Students should not clock in more than 15 minutes prior to their scheduled start time—whether it be for class or clinical rotation—unless they have received special approval from the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator to arrive early. Early arrivals are only approved for necessary or important circumstances. In the case of early arrival to a clinical rotation site, a certified preceptor must be present and supervising the student before clinical work begins. Clinical start times represent the time in which students are expected to begin actively working in their assigned rotation. Students may need to arrive within 15 minutes ahead of their scheduled start time to prepare for their clinical rotation so that they may begin clinical work at the scheduled start time.

Lunch and Breaks

Students are allotted a 30-minute lunch break during each full day in attendance. This applies to both clinic and classroom days. Fifteen-minute breaks are scheduled between class periods—and two 15-minute breaks (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) are allotted to students while in clinical rotations. Should an incident arise where a student needs to be excused or leave the clinic, both the clinical staff and the Program Director should be notified prior to departure.

Absence Policy

In addition to scheduled holidays and breaks, students are allotted 10 personal days to use as time off throughout the academic year. Excessive absences are defined as more than 10 absences during the academic year. Excessive absences or tardiness—with tardiness being defined as reporting over 7 minutes late to any clinic assignment or class—may result in disciplinary action, up to and including probation, suspension, or dismissal from the program.

Students are required to complete 1,626 clock hours in order to complete the program, with a particular number of contact hours counted toward coursework and clinical rotations. This number may be reduced by the program due to extraordinary circumstances for which the administration deems necessary. Hours during which affiliate university and program-related activities occur are counted toward program completion.

Absence Requests

Foreseen Absences

If a student anticipates being absent from either a clinical assignment or a class period, they should notify the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator as soon as they are planning to be absent. At a minimum, students must send advance notification no later than 12 hours before the beginning of the shift/class. Notifications must be sent directly to the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator from the student via e-mail. In addition to notifying the Program Administration, students should provide advance notification directly to clinical preceptors if they plan to be absent on a clinical day. Foreseen absences do not require documentation or justification if the student has not exceeded the 10 personal day allotment. If the student has exceeded 10 personal days, documentation or justification may be requested by the Program.

Unforeseen Absences

An unforeseen absence is defined as an unplanned absence—i.e., without a 12-hour advance notice. If an emergency arises where a student must be absent, the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator must be notified as immediately as possible. Notifications must be sent directly from the student via e-mail. Documentation or justification for unforeseen absences may be requested by administration as it relates to compliance with the absence policy. Students in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including probation and dismissal from the program.

Progressive Discipline Process for Attendance

To ensure students' progress appropriately and demonstrate an expected level of professionalism throughout the program, a progressive discipline process for unforeseen absences and tardiness is followed.

Each unapproved absence and/or tardiness shall result in a documented occurrence. Two occurrences result in a written warning. Four occurrences result in a final written warning. Six occurrences result in attendance probation. Once a student is on probation for attendance, they maintain this status for the remainder of the program. All written warnings will be documented in the student's file and included in semesterly evaluation determinations of satisfactory academic progress (SAP). Students in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including probation and dismissal from the program per the discretion of the program and institutional administration.

STUDENT CONDUCT / PROFESSIONALISM

All students are bound by several standards of conduct, as outlined in the CPiAH Catalog, including:

- VUMC Code of Conduct
- VUMC Credo
- VUMC Center for Programs in Allied Health Honor Code
- Vanderbilt Nuclear Medicine Technology Program Honor Code

Professional conduct is routinely assessed by program administration based on direct observation and feedback from colleagues, instructors, and preceptors. At a minimum, these evaluations are documented during SAP assessments. Should an acute event arise, Program Administration will work directly with CPiAH Administration to determine appropriate actions. In order to ensure students clearly understand the behaviors that are expected, acceptable and unacceptable, the following examples are provided. These examples are not all encompassing.

Alcohol and/or other Substance Use – The use of alcohol and/or other chemical substances during program academic and clinical activities is strictly forbidden under the policies of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Students suspected of using alcohol and/or other chemical substances are subject to immediate evaluation in the VUMC Emergency Department. If a forbidden substance is documented, the student is subject to disciplinary action up to and including temporary suspension and dismissal from the program. Please see the VUMC Alcohol and Drug Use Policy, included as an appendix to the Catalog of the Center for Programs in Allied Health.

Patient Medical Records and Confidentiality – The privacy of medical records (paper-based, electronic, etc.) is legally protected under Federal Law through the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). Patients' medical records are considered legal documents and require careful handling. Therefore, information contained in the medical record must not be discussed with anyone other than the patient, approved patient representatives and responsible health care team members for purposes directly related to patient care. Photocopying the contents of a medical record is strictly prohibited. Students violating patient confidentiality and/or HIPAA regulations are subject to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including temporary suspension and dismissal from the program.

Scope of Student Practice – Communicating with patients and other professionals regarding medical care is highly sensitive and requires the utmost in professional behavior. It is both inappropriate and unprofessional for NMT Program students to engage in discussions with patients concerning their clinical histories, with the exception of obtaining pertinent clinical information. NMT Program students are also strictly forbidden from engaging in discussions with patients regarding the results of studies performed, as well as speculation regarding the origin of the patient's illness. In addition, NMT Program students are expressly prohibited from performing studies, preparing, dispensing, and administering radiopharmaceuticals, and reporting results to physicians unless these actions are performed under the direct supervision of a staff nuclear medicine technologist or authorized clinical preceptor.

Academic Integrity – The Vanderbilt system maintains that there is an agreement of mutual trust between students, faculty, and staff. Each student promises integrity in all submitted work and the instructors, in turn, presume the honesty of the student. The honor system provides an atmosphere of trust essential to the fulfillment of the program's purpose of educating individuals of professional character. The members of the Vanderbilt community regard a breach of honor as a serious breach of their principles, their purpose, and the academic enterprise. All work submitted as part of course requirements is assumed and expected to be the product of the student submitting it unless credit is given by the student using proper citation. Cheating, plagiarizing, falsifying results, or any action designed to deceive a member of the faculty are prohibited. These activities will not be accepted whether they are intentionally or unintentionally performed.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Academic Integrity – Assignments, coursework, exams, discussion responses, presentations, clinical documentation, and any other submitted work are intended to reflect the student’s own knowledge, critical thinking, communication, and clinical reasoning skills. Unless specifically authorized by the instructor, the use of AI tools or AI-generated content for completion of submitted work is prohibited. This expectation applies to both graded and ungraded submissions—including practice exercises and preparatory assignments. Students are expected to independently complete assigned work in order to support authentic learning and competency development. Submission of AI-generated, AI-assisted, or substantially AI-edited work as original student work may be considered academic dishonesty and may result in academic consequences consistent with program and institutional policies.

If concerns arise regarding the authenticity of authorship of submitted work, faculty may require the student to:

- Verbally explain or orally defend submitted content
- Demonstrate understanding of concepts included in the submission
- Reproduce portions of the work independently
- Provide drafts, notes, or supporting materials
- Complete an alternate assessment method

Failure to adequately demonstrate authorship, comprehension, or independent completion of assigned work may result in loss of credit, assignment failure, course consequences, referral for academic integrity review, or additional disciplinary action.

OTHER PROGRAM POLICIES

Students in violation of any program policy are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including probation or dismissal from the program.

Technology Requirements

Students are responsible for maintaining reliable access to technology that supports use of the internet, completion of coursework, viewing recorded materials or educational content, attending virtual meetings, document submission, and submission of any required online testing or proctoring.

Students must have a laptop computer. A tablet or smartphone alone is not sufficient to complete program requirements. Chromebooks may be acceptable for general coursework but may not support all testing, proctoring, document formatting, or program-specific software requirements. Students using a Chromebook are responsible for ensuring compatibility with all required course activities.

Minimum Hardware Specifications

- RAM: 8 GB minimum; 16 GB recommended
- Storage: 128 GB minimum; 256 GB SSD recommended
- Processor: Modern Intel i5/Ryzen 5/Apple M1 or better recommended
- Device age: Purchased within the last 4–5 years recommended
- Webcam: Built-in or external webcam required; 720p minimum recommended
- Microphone/headphones: Required; headset recommended for virtual meetings

Supported Operating Systems

- Windows 11 or newer
- macOS 13 Ventura or newer; macOS 14 Sonoma or newer recommended

- Note: Older operating systems (e.g., Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10, Mac OS X 10.6) are not supported due to security and compatibility limitations.

Internet Requirements

- Minimum: 5 Mbps download / 2 Mbps upload
- Recommended: 15 Mbps download / 5 Mbps upload or higher

Other Requirements

- Web browser: Latest version of Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Safari, or Firefox
- Office software: Ability to open Word, PowerPoint, and PDF files
- Antivirus: Required for Windows devices (may be integrated with operating system, such as Windows Defender)
- Email: Active email account checked daily
- Audio: Speakers or headphones required
- Webcam and microphone (for virtual meetings, check-ins, and/or proctoring)

Use of Cell Phones and Personal Devices

Cell phone and other personal device use for any purpose (calls, texts, voice mail, web browsing, apps, etc.) is prohibited during all required learning experiences—including classroom sessions, exams, clinical rotations, etc. Cell phone use is strictly prohibited in the clinic, and devices should be silenced at all times. Students are allowed to use their cell phones during breaks. Laptops may be used during classroom instruction as approved by the instructor. Laptops are not to be used in the clinic unless express permission is granted by the student's preceptor.

Earbuds and Headphones

Students are not permitted to wear headphones or earbuds in the classroom or clinical spaces—including during breaks within these spaces. Important communication, instructions, and professional interactions may occur at any time during program hours. Students are expected to remain attentive, approachable, and immediately responsive to faculty, staff, clinical personnel, patients, and peers.

Textbooks

Textbooks must be purchased or obtained by the student.

Uniforms/Dress Code

Students are required to dress in an appropriate professional manner, in keeping with VUMC Policies and Center for Programs in Allied Health (CPiAH) policies which are outlined in the CPiAH Catalog. Students must wear Allied Health approved scrubs to all clinical rotations. Students may wear appropriate professional clothing or approved scrubs to the classroom and elsewhere on campus.

Professional clothing should reflect the standards of a healthcare education environment and be neat, clean and in good condition. Clothing considered overly casual or inappropriate for a professional educational setting is not permitted. Examples include sleepwear, pajama-style pants, sweatpants, athletic shorts, excessively oversized clothing, denim jeans, ripped or distressed clothing, revealing attire, clothing with offensive or inappropriate language or graphics, and similar casual attire.

Personal Appearance and Presentation of Self

To convey a professional appearance to patients, visitors, and colleagues, students must adhere to the VUMC Radiology Policy "Dress Code and Personal Appearance." In addition to these items, NMT Students are also required to meet the following standards in both classroom and clinical settings:

- Identification badges are worn in clear sight above the waist with name, title, picture, and other identifying information clearly visible. These must not be altered in such a way as to change the nature of the ID badge.
- Hair is clean and contained in such a manner that it does not come in contact with patients or visitors. Natural or neutral hair color is required.
- Students are not permitted to wear fragrances (e.g., perfumes, colognes, scented body products, etc.) to clinical or classroom spaces.
- Students are expected to maintain appropriate personal hygiene and present themselves in a clean, professional manner during all program activities.

Normal Program Hours

Normal program hours for didactic courses are scheduled on certain weekdays from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm. Clinical rotations are scheduled on certain weekdays and have various start and end times based on the rotation site. A detailed course and clinic schedule is provided to students during orientation. Normal hours for each clinical rotation are outlined below:

CLINICAL ROTATION HOURS		
Rotation Site	Type of Day	Time
Radiopharmacy	Class	4:30 am – 8:00 am
	Clinic	4:30 am – 10:00 am
QC Nuclear Medicine	Class	n/a
	Clinic	6:30 am – 3:30 pm
General Nuclear Medicine	Class	n/a
	Clinic	8:00 am – 3:30 pm
PET	Class	n/a
	Clinic	8:00 am – 3:30 pm
VUMC Cardiac	Class	n/a
	Clinic	8:00 am – 3:30 pm
VHVI Cardiac	Class	n/a
	Clinic	7:00 am – 2:30 pm
VCH	Class	n/a
	Clinic	8:00 am – 3:30 pm
VA	Class	n/a
	Clinic	6:30 am – 2:00 pm

Clinical Workshops and Additional Clinical Training

Clinical workshops are scheduled during the fall semester. The purpose of these workshops is to provide students with standardized early clinical training provided by Program Administration with uninterrupted, hands-on access to clinical equipment and resources during times when patients are not typically scheduled. In the fall semester, workshops are scheduled every Wednesday from 3:30 – 5:00 pm and are considered a required program activity. No clinical workshops are scheduled in the spring or summer semesters. A detailed schedule is provided to students during orientation.

Each clinical workshop hour represents an equivalent of one clinical rotation hour. Because of this, students are allowed to compensate time for attendance in clinical workshops by exchanging with subsequent clinical rotation hours. Specifically, in the fall semester, students are allowed to reduce their rotation time on Thursdays by 1.5 hours if they attended the clinical workshop on the Wednesday prior. Students may not exchange the clinical workshop hour with any other scheduled hours or days.

Students may also seek additional clinical training provided by the Clinical Coordinator at any time during the program. Requests for additional clinical training should be directed to the Clinical Coordinator via e-mail with a description of specific needs.

Clinical Assignments Outside of Normal Program Hours

Holidays and Weekends

Holidays and weekends are not considered normal program hours. Students are only allowed to come into their clinical assignment during these times if they are in need of make-up time, completion of competencies, or, in some cases, remediation. Permission from the CC or PD is required before a student attends their clinical assignments on holidays or weekend days. Official documentation for the approved holiday or weekend hours is required. Students must work directly with the CC or PD when planning to complete holiday or weekend hours. Students are not permitted to arrive at a clinical site on a holiday or weekend without prior approval and documentation from the Clinical Coordinator or Program Director.

Hours Beyond Scheduled Shift

Additionally, students must receive prior permission from the CC or PD to arrive early or stay late beyond their scheduled shift. Early or late is defined as 15 minutes before or after the scheduled time. Approval is only granted for necessary situations—i.e., for make-up hours, exposure to rare or unique procedures, completion of clinical competencies, or, in some cases, for remediation.

Student Employment While Enrolled in NMT Program

Students may work while they are participating in the NMT Program, as long as work hours do not interfere with the scheduled hours in which required NMT Program activities take place. It is not permitted for students to arrive late or leave early for outside work purposes. Therefore, any employment outside of the NMT program must allow for adequate preparation and participation in required program activities.

Informing the Program Director of Employment

It is highly recommended that students who plan to be employed while enrolled in the NMT Program discuss their plans with the Program Director prior to matriculation in the program. This will help ensure the student is best positioned for successful time management while enrolled in the program.

Participation in Clinical Research Studies

Students are cautioned about volunteering for clinical research studies. Many of these studies require committed participation over time, often during normal program hours. Students are advised to not participate in these studies.

Working at VUMC or Other Hospitals/Clinics

Students with backgrounds in other imaging modalities (i.e., radiologic technology, CT, MRI or ultrasound) or in other clinical specialties (i.e., medical lab science, phlebotomy, etc.) may wish to seek employment at the medical center while enrolled in the NMT Program. This is permitted, so long as work hours do not interfere with required NMT Program hours and activities.

Working in Nuclear Medicine

Students may hold student technologist/assistant level positions within the field of nuclear medicine so long as work hours do not interfere with the NMT program schedule. Work hours and assignments are strictly independent from the Program, and students may not earn course credit, attendance hours, or clinical competencies while working. In addition to paid work hours, students cannot use volunteer positions within the field of nuclear medicine to earn course credit, attendance hours, or clinical competencies.

Clinical Rotation Assignments

The clinical experiences/training in the program consists of a series of overarching clinical rotation content areas. Every student rotates through the same, repeated sequence of scheduled clinical rotations. The rotations are established so that each student is assigned to a single independent work assignment supervised by a board-certified technologist, nuclear pharmacist, or a radiology registered nurse. VUMC staff typically rotate on a weekly basis. This enables a student to work with multiple preceptors over the course of their assigned rotation.

Students are given a detailed clinical rotation assignment schedule at the start of the program. Rotation experiences and student performances are monitored by the clinical supervisor at each institution as well as the Clinical Coordinator and Program Director. Rotation assignments may be modified as needed to address noted deficiencies of specific students. This is only done by express direction of the Program Director. Students may only move from their assigned rotation to another one, with permission from the Program Director or Clinical Coordinator, to perform a specific procedure and/or receive a clinical competency.

Clinical Performance and Evaluation

Students' clinical performance is evaluated in two primary ways:

- 1) Weekly evaluations from primary clinical preceptors (professionalism objectives)
- 2) Completion of proficiencies (clinical performance)

Conceptual clinical concepts may be assessed through clinical assignments as outlined in course syllabi.

The weekly clinical evaluations are averaged and serve as a course grade. A passing grade in the clinical rotations course is considered to be 75 or greater. Clinical performance that falls below this grade is subject to standard SAP disciplinary or probationary actions.

See Appendix A for a list of required clinical proficiency competencies and Appendix B for details on clinical evaluation metrics.

Needlestick Protocol

The needlestick protocol applies to all clinical rotation sites that NMT students are assigned—this includes the VAMC, VCH, and VHVI rotations. The following actions should be taken by a student in the event of a needlestick:

1. Wash affected area thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Notify clinical preceptor.
 - a. If radioactive material was involved, the preceptor should follow the institutional or departmental process for notification of radiation safety, if specified.
3. Record patient's name and MRN to provide to Occupational Health—if incident involved a patient.
4. Report to VUMC Occupational Health.
 - a. If incident involved a patient, blood samples could be taken from the student for standard testing. Essential blood tests include: Rapid HIV, Hepatitis B profile, and Hepatitis C
 - b. If after hours, student may report to the Emergency Dept. In this case, student may need to register under personal insurance.
5. Optional: After receiving permission from the patient and approval by Occupational Health, a clinical staff member may draw blood samples from the patient (source of exposure) and send to lab for testing of infectious diseases.
6. Reporting within 24 hours:
 - a. If the incident occurred at VUMC, VCH, or VHVI, a VERITAS report must be made. The clinical preceptor or clinical coordinator should assist student in filing the report.
 - b. Notify the Program Director of incident.

Accessing Healthcare at Off-Site Locations

All clinical rotation sites are geographically located within the VUMC main campus or directly adjacent. While the VA hospital is a separate institution, it is next door to the VUMC main campus and connected by a skybridge. Therefore, students may access VUMC Occupational Health or the VUMC Emergency Department for healthcare, as needed. Note that students may have to use their personal insurance when accessing healthcare services at VUMC.

Practice Liability Insurance

Students are covered by malpractice insurance under the blanket policy of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. The cost is included in the Program cost of attendance.

ADA Accommodations

Students who wish to disclose a disability should do so by providing the Program Director a description of the request in writing, which will be forwarded to the Center for Programs in Allied Health. The Program Director will work with the student, the Center for Programs in Allied Health, and other necessary parties to determine and provide reasonable accommodations. Students should refer to the Catalog for further details regarding ADA accommodations.

PROGRAM HANDBOOK APPENDICES

Appendix A

Clinical Competencies

VUMC NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
CLINICAL COMPETENCY EVALUATION

Students must demonstrate competency in all mandatory procedures.

Co-assist is defined as active student participation aiding a certified preceptor in fully completing a specified study. The preceptor determines the amount of assistance. Students are expected to perform as much of these studies as possible. Co-assists are used in training competencies or performing studies that require a certified technologist.

As new procedures are instituted in clinical practice, special approval may be granted to students who wish to complete unlisted procedures as an elective check-off. The Program Director/Clinical Coordinator must give prior approval for such competencies.

Phase I				
Required: 90 Mandatory				
Program Required Certification		Date Issued	Expiration Date	
CPR Certification Maintenance				
Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Patient Care				
Appropriately Clean an Imaging Room: • Appropriately dispose of linen • Use appropriate cleaning material • Wait for an appropriate dwell-time and set up the room for the next patient	X			
AIDET #1 • Retrieve patient from waiting room • Perform AIDET	X			
AIDET #2 • Retrieve patient from waiting room • Perform AIDET	X			
Patient Comfort #1 • Knee Wedge/Body Support • Blanket	X			
Patient Comfort #2 • Knee Wedge/Body Support • Blanket	X			
Assisted Patient Transfer (e.g., Slider Board, Mechanical Lift, Gait Belt)	X			
Omniceil Drug Removal – Training with Technologist	X			
Nursing/Stress Testing – To be done at VUH Clinic for training – 3 practice sessions needed for checkoff				
ECG (lead placement and recognition of common dysrhythmias)	X			
Vital Signs - Manual Blood Pressure	X			
Vital Signs - Automatic Blood Pressure	X			
Vital Signs - Pulse	X			
Vital Signs – Respiration	X			
Vital Signs - Oxygen Monitoring	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
NM Clinic Workflow				
Stock Supplies (VUH General NM Areas/Hot Lab)	X			
Stock Linens (VUH General NM Areas) - QC Rotation	X			
Maintain and Care for Patient Ancillary Equipment (e.g., Pump, Collection Bag, Oxygen Delivery) – <i>Wall list that is checked during QC in the morning.</i>	X			
Clinical Professionalism				
Answer the Phone in the Clinic – Must minimally state your name and the area you are in	X			
Make a Phone Call in the Clinic – Must minimally state your name and the area you are in	X			
Radioactive Dosage Handling				
Measure Dose in Dose Calibrator	X			
Use Syringe Shield while Injecting Radiopharmaceutical	X			
Radiation Safety				
GM Survey Meter Operation: Battery Check & Constancy	X			
GM Survey Meter: Perform Daily Area Survey	X			
Radiation Waste Disposal Tag - fill out tag appropriately	X			
Radiation Waste Disposal – Waste Bag	X			
Radiation Waste Disposal – Sharps Container	X			
Bioassay – Random Check by CC	X			
PET Operations				
Perform Blood Sugar Testing with Glucometer – Done in Patient Care Class	X			
Stock Supplies (PET Areas)	X			
Stock Linens (PET Areas)	X			
Mark patient on table for a WB Scan	X			
Mark patient on table for a Head-to-Midthigh	X			
Mark patient on table for a Head/Neck Scan	X			
Mark patient on table for a Brain Scan	X			
Mark patient on table for a Cardiac Scan	X			
Radiopharmacy Operations				
Aseptic Technique and Finger Testing	X			
Sterile Gowning & Garbing	X			
Daily Clean Room Prep	X			
Transporting Radiopharmaceuticals to In-House Clinics	X			
Survey and Clean Radiation Pigs	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
VUAH General NM Camera Operations - All checkoffs in this section will be given by the Clinical Coordinator unless approval is given				
Camera: Infinia				
Change Collimators	X			
Set Camera Heads in L-Mode	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Posterior Obliques	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Anterior Obliques	X			
Set Camera Heads in H-Mode	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Anterior/Posterior	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Laterals	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in LAO/RPO	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in LPO/RAO	X			
Bring Camera Heads In and Out Completely Using Fast Setting	X			
Bring Camera Heads In and Out Using Slow Setting	X			
Unload Bed •Manually •Automatic	X			
Set up a Bone Scan •Put patient information into computer •Move patient to start position	X			
Camera: 670				
Change Collimators	X			
Set Camera Heads in L-Mode	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Posterior Obliques	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Anterior Obliques	X			
Set Camera Heads in H-Mode	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Anterior/Posterior	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in Laterals	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in LAO/RPO	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning •Set in LPO/RAO	X			
Bring camera heads in and out completely using fast setting	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Camera: 670 Continued				
Bring camera heads in and out using slow Setting	X			
Unload Bed – Automatically	X			
Set up a Bone Scan - Put patient information into computer - Move patient to start position	X			
Camera: CZT 870				
Set Camera Heads in L-Mode	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in Posterior Obliques	X			
L-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in Anterior Obliques	X			
Set Camera Heads in H-Mode	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in Anterior/Posterior	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in Laterals	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in LAO/RPO	X			
H-Mode: Camera Head Positioning Set in LPO/RAO	X			
Bring Camera Heads In and Out Completely Using Fast Setting	X			
Bring Camera Heads In and Out Using Slow Setting	X			
Unload Bed – Automatically	X			
Set up a Bone Scan - Put patient information into the computer - Move patient to start position	X			
IV Proficiency				
Successful IV Start on Practice Arm – <i>Only given by CC and must have this checkoff to do the following peripheral IV competencies.</i>	X			
Use a Stopcock Effectively – <i>Includes hooking it up to tubing, turning off to dose, and opening lines when appropriate</i>	X			
Peripheral IV Required before starting IV's on Patients; IV's for this competency can be done on technologists, fellow students, or volunteers				
Setup of Injection Area - Only Given by CC - Sterilizing space - Selecting and organizing supplies	X			
Successful Peripheral IV Start 20 G	X			
Successful Peripheral IV Start 22 G #1	X			
Successful Peripheral IV Start 22 G #2	X			
Successful Peripheral IV Start 24 G #1	X			
Successful Peripheral IV Start 24 G #2	X			
Clean-up of Injection Area - Proper handling/disposal - Sterilizing space	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Butterfly Needle				
Setup of Injection Area - Only Given by CC • Sterilizing space • Selecting and organizing supplies	X			
Successful Butterfly Needle Start • 23/25 G	X			
Successful Butterfly Needle Start • 23/25 G	X			
Clean-up of Injection Area • Proper handling/disposal • Sterilizing space	X			

Notes for Phase II: There are 66 mandatory competencies. Each competency can only be granted if the entire competency is completed appropriately.

- Students may complete Phase III competencies in Phase II, but the focus should be on completing the mandatory competencies in Phase II.
- Any Phase III competency that is completed in Phase II will count towards the mandatory competency required in Phase III and must be completed as a separate competency from any competencies listed in Phase II.
 - For example, you cannot complete a mandatory Phase II competency and have it count towards a Phase III competency as well.
- A single patient case may be used to fulfill multiple competencies, within the same phase, only if the study legitimately includes more than one distinct competency category.
 - **Example:** If a whole-body bone scan includes additional required static views, the student may receive credit for both the whole-body bone scan competency and the additional static views competency.

Phase II Required: 66 Mandatory				
Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
NM Quality Control – To be done during the NM QC Rotation				
SPECT Gamma Camera: Uniformity	X			
CT: Fast Calibration	X			
CT: Water Phantom Uniformity, Resolution, and CT Number	X			
Dose Calibrator: Constancy	X			
Uptake Probe: Energy Calibration	X			
Nursing – Must show competency in each of the following				
ECG (lead placement and recognition of common dysrhythmias)	X			
Vital Signs - Manual Blood Pressure	X			
Vital Signs - Automatic Blood Pressure	X			
Vital Signs – Pulse	X			
Vital Signs – Respiration	X			
Vital Signs - Oxygen Monitoring	X			
NM Cardiac Procedures - Each Cardiac Clinical Site Has Imaging and Pharmaceutical Stress Testing Competencies				
Cardiology Imaging and Stress Lab Components				
VUH Cardiology – Student is expected to spend time in NM Generals and with Stress Nurses to see entire Cardiac Procedure				
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X			
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical (Observation/Training) – Need 3 sessions before granting checkoff	X			
VHVI Cardiology				
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X			
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical (Observation/Training) – Need 3 sessions before granting checkoff	X			
Stress Testing – Exercise (Observation/Training)	X			
VA Cardiology				
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
VA Cardiology Continued				
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical (Observation/Training) – Need 3 sessions before granting checkoff	X			
Stress Testing – Exercise (Observation/Training)	X			
NM General Procedures				
Skeletal: Whole Body Bone Scan #1	X			
Skeletal: Whole Body Bone Scan #2	X			
Skeletal: Planar/Static #1	X			
Skeletal: Planar/Static #2	X			
Respiratory: Ventilation and Perfusion (V/Q)	X			
Respiratory: Perfusion Quantification	X			
Gastrointestinal: Gastric Emptying	X			
Gastrointestinal: HIDA Scan (initial 60-minute scan)	X			
Gastrointestinal: CCK Administration (Setup and Start) – Training *THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE THE FULL CHECKOFF!	X			
Gastrointestinal: Full Procedure: HIDA Scan and CCK Administration with Imaging/Processing (This is separate from the HIDA Scan and Training Listed Above)	X			
Tumor/Antibody: Lymphoscintigraphy (Injection Only)	X			
NM Therapy Procedures				
Neuroendocrine Tumor Therapy – Lutathera – Co-Assist	X			
Prostate Cancer Therapy – Pluvicto – Co-Assist	X			
Therapeutic Procedure: Thyroid Ablation (High Dose) – Observation	X			
Therapy Patient Release: Radiation Safety and Homegoing Instructions (Observation)	X			
Thyroid Ablation Therapy Case Report – <i>To be turned in on Canvas in Clinical Rotations II</i>	X			
Bioassay Following administration of an Iodine Radiopharmaceutical -- Must appropriately document	X			
PET Quality Control				
PET Daily QA (Blank Scan)	X			
PET Singles (Weekly)	X			
CT: Daily QA - Water Phantom	X			
PET Procedures				
F-18 FDG Oncology #1	X			
F-18 FDG Oncology #2	X			
Ga-68 or Cu-64 Dotatate	X			
Cardiac (Rest & Stress) – Observation/Training	X			
Brain – Observation/Training	X			
Radiation Safety				
GM Survey Meter: Perform Daily Area Survey	X			
Well Counter: Perform Weekly Wipe Test in NM/PET	X			
Use of Lead Syringe Shield for Injection	X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Radiopharmacy				
Quality Control				
Kit QC: Cardiolite	X			
Kit QC: Myoview	X			
Kit QC: MDP/HDP	X			
Kit QC: Mebrofenin	X			
Kit QC: DTPA	X			
Kit QC: MAA	X			
Kit QC: Sulfur Colloid	X			
Kit QC: Mag-3	X			
Automated Well Counter: Daily Constancy, Energy, Chi-Square	X			
Single Well Counter: Daily Constancy Test	X			
Single Well Counter: Weekly Auto Cal (Gain & Energy)	X			
RAM Packages				
RAM Packages: Receiving	X			
RAM Packages: Shipping <i>Note: This is done weekly when shipping the generator</i>	X			
Radiation Surveys				
GM Survey Meter: Perform Daily Area Surveys in Radiopharmacy	X			
Automated Well Counter: Perform Weekly Wipe Test in Radiopharmacy	X			
Single Well Counter: Package Check-in with Wipes	X			
Patient Studies				
Prepare Gastric Emptying Meal	X			
Clean Gastric Emptying Area (to include washing pans, bowls, and utensils)	X			
Invitro Study - GFR	X			

Note for Phase III: Students are required to demonstrate successful completion of **all mandatory competencies** and a **minimum of ten (10) elective procedures** by the end of Phase III. Among the elective procedures, **at least one must be selected from the gastrointestinal (GI) procedure list, and at least one must be a SPECT study.**

- If you have any difficulties seeing a study consistently for competency granting, let the CC know.

Phase III Required: 56 Mandatory and 10 Electives					
Procedure	Mandatory	Elective	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Radiation Safety					
Therapy Room Decontamination (Co-Assist) – <i>Scheduled through Radiation Safety</i>	X				
Bioassay Following Thyroid Therapy Administration - <i>Must properly fill out all documents/books required at VUAH</i>	X				
NM Quality Control - All QC for this rotation will be done with designated staff, Physicists, or the Clinical Coordinator					
SPECT Gamma Camera: Resolution/Linearity (Bars)	X				
SPECT Gamma Camera: Center of Rotation	X				
SPECT Gamma Camera: Image Quality Phantom (Jaszczak Phantom)	X				
Dose Calibrator: Linearity – To be done with the Medical Physics Team	X				
Dose Calibrator: Accuracy – To be done with the Medical Physics Team	X				
Uptake Probe: Chi-Square	X				
NM Cardiology Procedures					
Cardiology Imaging and Stress Lab Components					
VUH Cardiology – Students are expected to spend time in NM Generals and with Stress Nurses to see the entire Cardiac Procedure					
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X				
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical	X				
VHVI Cardiology					
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X				
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical	X				
Stress Testing – Exercise	X				
VA Cardiology					
Myocardial Perfusion SPECT (Rest & Stress) Imaging	X				
Stress Testing - Pharmaceutical	X				
Stress Testing – Exercise	X				
General Cardiology Studies					
Cardiac Amyloid Plaque Study (PYP/HDP)	X				
Gated Blood Pool Study (RVG/RNV/MUGA)	X				
Tagged Red Blood Cell – In Vitro (Ultratag Kit)	X				
Tagged Red Blood Cell – In Vivo (VA)	X				

Procedure	Mandatory	Elective	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
NM General Procedures					
Skeletal					
3-Phase Bone Scan (Full Study)	X				
Bone SPECT		X			
Endocrine/Exocrine					
Thyroid Uptake (Full 2-day study)	X				
Thyroid Scan	X				
Parathyroid Scan	X				
Parathyroid SPECT		X			
Gastrointestinal - <i>At least one elective must be from the GI Section</i>					
Hepatobiliary (HIDA) with Morphine (Full Study)	X				
Hepatobiliary (HIDA) with CCK (Full Study)	X				
GI Bleed		X			
Gastroesophageal Reflux		X			
Meckel's Diverticulum		X			
Liver/Spleen		X			
Hemangioma/Damaged RBC		X			
Abscess and Infection					
Gallium		X			
WBC Imaging		X			
Genitourinary					
Renal Cortical Imaging (DMSA)	X				
Renal Function (Dynamic Perfusion) with Lasix	X				
Renal SPECT		X			
Central Nervous System					
Brain SPECT - DaTScan	X				
Brain SPECT – Interictal or Ictal	X				
Dynamic Imaging (Brain Death)		X			
Cisternogram Routine		X			
Cisternogram CSF Leak		X			
Shunt Patency		X			
Tumor and Antibody					
I-123 MIBG Dosing and WB Imaging (2-Day)	X				
Thyroid Metastatic Survey (I-123 NaI or I-131 Post Tx)	X				
Neuroendocrine Tumor SPECT		X			
Thyroid Tumor SPECT		X			
MAA Mapping/HAIP - Planar and Liver SPECT		X			
Lymphoscintigraphy Breast/Melanoma (with Imaging)		X			
Lymphangiogram (edema studies)		X			
Therapeutic Procedures – Students may not administer therapeutic doses, but they are required to participate in all other aspects of administration					
Thyroid Therapy: Ablation (> 30 mCi prescribed dose)	X				
Thyroid Therapy: Hyperparathyroidism or Ablation (<30 mCi prescribed dose)		X			
Palliative Bone Pain Therapy – Xofigo		X			

Procedure	Mandatory	Elective	Patient/Performed (P) or Simulated (S)	Date Completed	Verified By:
Neuroendocrine Tumor Therapy – Lutathera	X				
Prostate Cancer Therapy – Pluvicto	X				
PET Quality Control					
SUV (Quantitation) Phantom - Co-Assist		X			
PET Procedures					
F-18 FDG Infection	X				
PSMA	X				
Cerianna	X				
F-18 FDG Brain	X				
Amyvid Brain	X				
Cardiac Myocardial Perfusion Imaging	X				
Cardiac Viability		X			
Cardiac Sarcoidosis		X			
Radiopharmacy					
Clean Room – Competencies granted at the end of this rotation – Students must consistently show competency over the course of the rotation					
Clean Room Cleaning & Disinfection	X				
Elute Generator / Mo-99 Check	X				
Draw Unit Doses	X				
Kit Prep: Cardiolite	X				
Kit Prep: Myoview	X				
Kit Prep: MDP/HDP	X				
Kit Prep: Mebrofenin	X				
Kit Prep: DTPA	X				
Kit Prep: MAA	X				
Kit Prep: Mag-3	X				
Kit Prep: Sulfur Colloid	X				
ACE Rotation - Reports					
Report 1	X				
Report 2	X				
Report 3	X				
Report 4	X				

Appendix B

Clinical Evaluation

NMT Student Clinical Evaluation Criteria: Professional Objectives

Phase I Evaluation Criteria					
Objective	1 - Unsatisfactory	2 - Weak	3 - Developing	4 – Progressing Well	5 – Exceeds Phase Expectations
Availability & Punctuality	Frequently late; needs repeated reminders about schedule; unaware of clinical flow	Sometimes late, begins to notify preceptor; occasionally unprepared	On time, communicates whereabouts when asked; learning expectations	Consistently on time, notifies preceptor proactively	Always on time, arrives prepared; shows early professional responsibility
Interpersonal Communication Skills	Hesitant to interact; avoids conversation; uncomfortable speaking to patients	Interacts when prompted; basic greetings; limited confidence	Communicate politely with guidance, improving comfort level	Initiates appropriate conversation; demonstrates empathy	Communicates clearly and confidently for a beginning student
Dependability	Frequently need reminders; struggles to stay engaged	Occasionally reliable; inconsistent follow-through	Usually completes assigned tasks with prompting	Dependable; completes tasks independently once instructed	Very reliable and self-directed within beginner-level tasks
Initiative	Waits to be told every step; passive	Performs assigned tasks but rarely seeks more	Shows interest and asks questions; engages more readily	Proactively seeks small tasks appropriate for Phase 1	Actively participates and takes initiative in beginner tasks
Critical Thinking	Cannot proceed without step-by-step instructions	Need guidance to solve simple issues.	Begins to recognize problems; asks appropriate questions	Can adjust basic tasks with minimal guidance	Applies foundational problem-solving with confidence
Attitude & Reaction to Constructive Criticism	Resistant to feedback; becomes frustrated	Accepts feedback but struggles to apply it	Accepts feedback well; apply changes with help	Welcomes feedback; shows improvement quickly	Actively seeks feedback and uses it constructively
Self Confidence	Very unsure; avoids tasks	Hesitant; needs encouragement	Performing tasks with moderate reassurance	Performs basic tasks with growing confidence	Confident within beginner expectations
Patient Care	Unsure how to assist; needs constant guidance	Provides minimal assistance, improving comfort	Provides adequate care with guidance	Provides good patient care; minimal prompting	Provides excellent basic patient care independently
Radiation Safety	Forgets safety steps; needs close supervision	Demonstrates basic understanding but inconsistently	Uses safety measures correctly with reminders	Demonstrates good safety habits with minimal correction	Performs all foundational radiation safety independently
Applied Math Skills	Cannot complete basic calculations	Needs step-by-step help	Performs basic math with guidance	Performs calculations well with minimal help	Independent and accurate with calculations appropriate for Phase 1
Ability to Follow Instruction & Retention	Easily distracted; forgets steps	Needs repeated instruction	Remembers steps after practice	Retains tasks well; learns quickly	Quickly masters and retains instructions
Use & Care of Equipment	Hesitant to use equipment; needs full guidance	Uses equipment only with repeated instruction	Demonstrates basic competency with supervision	Operates beginner-level tasks well	Independently performs basic equipment tasks accurately
Quantity of Work/Speed	Requires extended time; cannot complete tasks	Slow even with help	Works steadily with guidance	Works efficiently with minimal prompting	Performs basic tasks quickly and efficiently
Quality of Work	Makes frequent mistakes; lacks understanding	Needs repeated correction	Produces acceptable work with assistance	Produces good-quality work with minimal correction	Produces high-quality beginner-level work

Phase II Evaluation Criteria					
Objective	1 - Unsatisfactory	2 - Weak	3 - Developing	4 – Progressing Well	5 – Exceeds Phase Expectations
Availability & Punctuality	Frequently late; disrupts workflow	Sometimes late, occasionally unprepared	On time, understands workflow; communicates as needed	Consistently punctual; integrates smoothly into the team	Highly reliable; functions like an entry-level technologist
Interpersonal Communication Skills	Communication unclear or inappropriate	Communicates minimally; needs coaching	Communicates effectively with some support	Confident and professional in most interactions	Communicates at near-tech level
Dependability	Frequently fails to complete tasks	Needs reminders, but improving	Reliable with routine tasks; needs oversight	Strong follow-through; requires minimal prompting	Consistently dependable
Initiative	Passive; waits for direction	Performs tasks when assigned	Seeks tasks occasionally	Proactively seeks appropriate responsibilities	Demonstrates initiative comparable to Phase 3 readiness
Critical Thinking	Struggles to adapt; needs full guidance	Needs support to problem-solve	Shows improving problem-solving ability	Makes appropriate decisions with minimal guidance	Near-independent critical thinking for basic studies
Attitude & Reaction to Constructive Criticism	Resistant; defensive	Accepts feedback but inconsistently applies it	Accepts and applies feedback with support	Responds positively and adapts quickly	Actively uses feedback to grow
Self Confidence	Very insecure performing tasks	Needs frequent reassurance	Developing confidence; performs tasks with guidance	Shows confidence in most routine tasks	Displays technologist-like confidence in basic exams
Patient Care	Needs close supervision; misses important elements	Adequate care with guidance	Provides good care with moderate support	Provides excellent care with minimal oversight	Demonstrates technologist-level patient care
Radiation Safety	Unsafe practices require intervention	Inconsistent; forgets safety steps	Safe with occasional reminders	Reliable radiation safety performance	Demonstrates safety practices at Phase 3 readiness
Applied Math Skills	Miscalculates frequently	Needs extensive help	Performs calculations with occasional support	Accurate and efficient	Performs calculations confidently at a near-tech level
Ability to Follow Instructions & Retention	Struggles to retain steps	Needs repeated instruction	Retains procedures with practice	Quickly retains and applies instructions	Consistently remembers and performs tasks independently
Use & Care of Equipment	Struggles with equipment; needs full supervision	Uses equipment with frequent guidance	Operates most functions with moderate help	Operates equipment well with minimal supervision	Near-independent equipment operations
Quantity of Work/Speed	Unable to complete tasks efficiently	Slow; needs support	Efficient with guidance	Completes tasks in a timely manner	Works at near-tech speed
Quality of Work	Frequent errors; poor technique	Several corrections needed	Good quality work with support	High-quality work with minimal correction	Produces excellent work approaching Phase 3 level

Phase III Evaluation Criteria					
Objective	1 - Unsatisfactory	2 - Weak	3 - Developing	4 – Progressing Well	5 – Exceeds Phase Expectations
Availability & Punctuality	Consistently late; Never calls; Leaves work area; Does not attend to patient.	Consistently late; Sometimes calls; Sometimes wanders from assigned area	On time to site; Notifies preceptor of whereabouts afterward	On time to site; Calls when late; Notifies preceptor as to whereabouts ahead of time	Ready to work at start time; Always notifies as to whereabouts
Interpersonal Communication Skills	No communication with staff or patients; Initiates minimal conversation with patients/staff; uncomfortable explaining portions of the procedure; Indifferent towards others.	Minimal communication with staff or patients; Initiates conversation with patient/staff but the technologist leads most of the conversation; Quiet or reserved.	Good communication with staff and patients; Initiates conversation with patient/staff with guidance from technologist; Pleasant and courteous.	Great communication with staff and patients; Initiates conversation with patients/staff with minimal guidance from technologist; Pleasant and respectful.	Outstanding communication with staff and patients; Initiates conversation with patient/staff with no guidance; Acts as a healthcare professional in all situations.
Dependability	Is not reliable; Puts forth minimum effort.	Is not reliable; Puts forth moderate effort	Often reliable; Must be frequently reminded by preceptor	Usually reliable; Must sometimes be reminded by preceptor	Always reliable; Does not have to be reminded
Initiative	Requires complete guidance; does not seek additional responsibilities; No motivation	Moderate to extensive guidance; Often must be directed; Minimal motivation	Moderate guidance; Somewhat engages with preceptor; moderately motivated	Minimal guidance; Always productive; Engages with preceptor with productive questions; highly motivated	Requires no guidance; always productive; engages all staff by asking questions; Highly motivated
Critical Thinking	Cannot make decisions when faced with problems or responsibilities.	Requires assistance when adapting procedures.	Usually handles challenging situations well; minimal assistance is needed.	Makes decisions well in challenging situations; minimal or no assistance is needed.	Completely independent; Organized and educated thought process with clinical accuracy
Attitude & Reaction to Constructive Criticism	Poor attitude; Difficult to work with or disrespectful; Blames others; Resents constructive criticism.	Passive; Does not respond to constructive criticism and usually does not adapt.	Good attitude; Accepts constructive criticism and adapts.	Excellent attitude; Accepts and learns from constructive criticism.	Outstanding attitude; seeks constructive criticism; demonstrates continued desire to learn.
Self Confidence	Lacks self-confidence; Complete doubt; Avoids work; is not self-reliant.	Needs frequent reassurance and encouragement; Extensive doubt; is not self-reliant.	Moderate doubt/lack of confidence; Somewhat self-reliant	Minimal doubt/lack of confidence; Comfortable with different situations.	Minimal to no doubt; Great confidence; Self-reliant
Patient Care	Needs to be reminded when and how to care for patients; unable to interact as a healthcare professional	Provides adequate care; Uncomfortable interacting as a healthcare professional.	Provides good care; Steps in to help with difficult patients with technologist guidance.	Provides great care; Treats patients with dignity and respect; Little guidance from technologist	Outstanding care; Cares for patient without technologist guidance
Radiation Safety	Does not perform rad safety precautions and/or never knows how to perform them appropriately	Frequently forgets to perform rad safety precautions and/or often does not know how to adequately perform actions	Often demonstrates appropriate rad safety precautions; occasionally needs instruction	Usually demonstrates appropriate radiation safety precautions and/or mostly performs actions correctly	Always demonstrates appropriate radiation safety precautions without technologist guidance
Applied Math Skills	No understanding of basic math concepts; unable to perform calculations	Poor understanding of basic math concepts; Unable to perform calculations without assistance.	General understanding of math concepts; Can work through calculations with guidance.	Great understanding of clinic calculations; little assistance needed.	Excellent math skills; Can complete calculations independently
Ability to Follow Instruction & Retention	Lacks concentration; Easily distracted from task; No retention from day-to-day.	Needs to be more focused; Eventually catches on after repeated instruction.	Often focused on tasks; Occasionally needs additional instructions.	Focused on tasks; Quick to learn and retain with minimal additional instruction	Completely focused on tasks; Learn and retain without additional instruction
Use & Care of Equipment	Constantly needs assistance with equipment; mistreats equipment.	Needs frequent help or reminders with equipment.	Competent understanding of equipment; occasionally needs help.	Great understanding of equipment; quick learner with minimal assistance	Excellent understanding of equipment; zero assistance needed
Quantity of Work/Speed	Cannot complete procedures	Completes procedures extremely slowly even with help.	Completes most procedures on time with frequent help by preceptor.	Performs procedures in a timely manner with minimal assistance.	Consistently performs procedures in a timely fashion without assistance.
Quality of Work	Confused about procedures; Makes numerous mistakes; Often must repeat.	Makes mistakes; Unsure about next steps; Requires assistance.	Minimal mistakes, but requires assistance with next steps	Produces high quality work with minimal assistance	Excellent work and technique; Produces high quality studies/work.

Clinical Evaluation Rubric Assessment Levels and Instructions:

Preceptors should refer to this detailed description of clinical professional objectives when evaluating NMT students' clinical performance. Ratings should be recorded weekly utilizing either a paper card or electronic survey by the preceptor who primarily worked with the student. Comments are helpful and should be recorded on the evaluation.

Preceptors should assign ratings based on the students' current level of experience. For example, during the first set of rotations, a students' quality of work will naturally be less than it is during their final rotations. Preceptors should adapt their expectations based on what "average" performance and behavior is of students at each level.

Scale	Rating	Definitions
5 (Pass)	Exceeds Phase Expectations	• Reserved for exemplary set of skills that yield a particularly sophisticated approach to handling the situation or task. • Extremely effective performance which is significantly above criteria for successful completion of the task.
4 (Pass)	Progressing Well	• More than adequate for effective performance. • Generally exceeds criteria relative to quality and quantity of behavior required for successful completion of the task.
3 (Pass)	Developing	• Adequate for effective performance. • Meets criteria relative to quality and quantity of behavior required for successful completion of the task.
2 (Fail)	Weak	• Insufficient for performance requirements. • Generally does not meet criteria relative to quality and quantity of behavior required for successful completion of the task. • Some deficiencies.
1 (Fail)	Unsatisfactory	• Significantly below criteria required for successful job performance. • Few or no criteria met with many deficiencies.