

Criminal Justice **TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

The technical standards discussed in the following chart define performance expectations suggested for advancement through and successful completion of the Criminal Justice program. As a result, considerable thought has gone into ensuring individuals entering the Criminal Justice program understand what may be expected throughout the academic program. These standards are not intended to discourage individuals from considering the Criminal Justice program, but to provide an overview so that individuals can make a well-informed decision regarding their academic pursuits. It is the policy of SOWELA Technical Community College to provide reasonable accommodations for those with disabilities, health impairments, and other conditions. Individuals that would like to pursue a degree in this program and believe they may need accommodations are encouraged to reach out to the Office of Disability Services at (337) 421 – 6576 or email ods@sowela.edu.

ABILITY	STANDARD	Some examples of necessary activities (not all inclusive)
Physical Demands / Motor Skills / Hearing / Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to perform physical activities that require considerable use of your entire body in various types of locations, environments, and weather. • Ability to be physically active for long periods of time without getting tired; requires stamina. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to stand, move, bend, stretch, twist, or reach with your body, arms, and/or legs and doing such movements as climbing, lifting, balancing, walking, stooping, and handling of materials and/or persons. • Ability to make precise coordinated movements of the fingers of one or both hands, and the entire body, to grasp, manipulate, or place small objects, weapons, and/or persons. • Possess fine motor skills and dexterity. • Ability to quickly adjust or react correctly when responding to various scenes. • Ability to use muscles to lift, push, pull, or carry objects/persons. • Ability to see and hear details of objects, colors, shards, light variances, and distances among various types of scenes.
Critical Thinking/ Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to use logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems. • Able to quickly and efficiently, assess and analyze facts, observations, and information to make informed, sound decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate problem solving skills. • Skills to make the correct decision for conflict resolution, protection, and prevention of situations from escalating. • Have discernment skills as all decisions will impact a life or community in some fashion.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have keen observational skills to gauge a situation visually, mentally, and emotionally. • Be detail oriented. 	
Behavioral / Social Skills and Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess personal skills for successful interactions with people in a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. • Possess the emotional well-being required for use of their intellectual abilities and the exercise of sound judgment. • Able to adapt to ever-changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties and stresses which are inherent in the criminal justice field. • Ability to develop organizational skills necessary to meet all requirements of the department. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to have face-to-face discussions with individuals from all walks of life. Have good personal hygiene, professional conduct, and appearance per department policy. • Be willing to work with others within and among other agencies. • Demonstrate attributes of empathy, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation. • Be careful about detail and thoroughness in completing all tasks • Maintain composure, keep emotions in check, control anger, and avoid aggressive behavior, even in very difficult situations.
Communication Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to communicate verbally, nonverbally, and written. • Must be sensitive to multicultural and multilingual needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of various reports for court, records, warrants, grants, etc. • Have strong communication skills to deal with various types of persons from criminal justice colleagues, courts, corrections, and the community. • Possess nonverbal/ body language skills regarding tone, facial expressions, gestures, and enunciations of various persons. • Possess active listening skills to interpret and understand the needs of people.
Integrity / Honesty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must follow legal, ethical, and moral standards of the law and departmental policy. • Possess a high standard of ethics and be honest in all aspects of the job. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to put personal biases, thoughts, feelings, or beliefs aside when dealing with others. • Establish trust and partnerships with members of the community.
Empathy / Interpersonal Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess an understanding and be sensitive to situations of others in need of help. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat all persons with respect. • Believe that people have the ability to change, improve, and overcome their problems.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide solutions, options, and resources to people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work patiently with others. • Have a true desire to want to help others.
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Please note: In the case of a qualified individual with a documented disability, reasonable accommodations will be made. Students must self-identify to the Office of Disability Services if you feel one or more of the required standards cannot be met due to a documented disability. The Office of Disability Services can be contacted at 337.421.6576 or ods@sowela.edu.

SOWELA Technical Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or age in its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Title: Compliance Office
 Address: 3820 Senator J. Bennett Johnston Ave, Lake Charles, LA 70616
 Telephone No: (337) 421-6905 or 800-256-0483
 Email: complianceofficer@sowela.edu

