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# STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

## **TECHNICAL STANDARDS (for Admission, Retention, and Graduation)**

The Doctor of Medicine degree from the Ohio State University College of Medicine indicates that the individual is a physician who is competent to practice medicine in any postgraduate training program and is capable of medical licensure. All graduates are required to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to provide safe and effective medical care to diverse patients in a wide variety of clinical settings. Thus, each candidate for admission must possess the ability to develop the skills and qualities required to practice direct patient care regardless of his or her ultimate career goals.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended, the faculty assembly of the OSU College of Medicine requires that matriculates into the medical college meet the following technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, as a condition of participation in the medical education program. Reasonable accommodations include those assistive devices and strategies that do not change the essential requirements of the curriculum and do not change the standards of performance judged to be acceptable. Assistive strategies that use trained intermediaries to obtain and interpret data from patients on behalf of the student will not be accepted as reasonable.

### **Standard I**

#### **Intellectual, conceptual, integrative, qualitative abilities:**

- a. The matriculate must be able to observe, measure, calculate, and utilize information to engage in critical thinking and problem solving in both individual and group contexts that are essential to the function of a physician. They must be able to demonstrate these procedures under pressure and in a timely fashion across the range of clinical conditions and timeframes.
- b. The matriculate must be able to comprehend multi-dimensional relationships.

### **Standard II**

#### **Stamina:**

- a. The matriculate must possess the physical and mental stamina necessary to reliably and fully participate in the curriculum, including small group learning activities, computer-based learning activities, computer-based examinations, and clinical rotations.
- b. The matriculate must be able to demonstrate sustained intellectual activity to master the large volume of material needed to meet COM performance standards.
- c. The matriculate must be able to work erratic shifts and function as a collaborative team member within the work hours defined by the College of Medicine and derived from the ACGME work hours at the time of matriculation.

### **Standard III**

#### **Observation:**

The matriculate must be able to actively participate in instructional activities utilizing images, to observe patients for signs of disease and ill ease, and to interpret visual diagnostic tests such as EKGs, radiographs and histology slides.

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## **Standard IV**

### **Communication:**

- a. The matriculate must be able to communicate independently with peers and other members of the healthcare community.
- b. The matriculate must be able to communicate efficiently and effectively using written text.

## **Standard V**

### **Motor:**

- a. The matriculate must be able to independently perform a comprehensive physical exam on a patient, using palpation and auscultation in a manner that respects the patient's right to privacy.
- b. The matriculate must be able to either personally perform or direct and evaluate the performance by others of life saving procedures such as BLS, ACLS, and direct pressure to stop bleeding.

## **Standard VI**

### **Professional Interactions:**

- a. The matriculate must possess the emotional stability and personal management skills necessary to behave with integrity, respect, compassion, tolerance, and acceptance of others in their interactions with patients, peers, faculty, and other members of the medical center community at all times, including under stress and after interrupted sleep.
- b. The matriculate must be able to respond quickly to demands within the clinical environment.
- c. The matriculate must be able to demonstrate flexibility with regard to the demands of the curriculum and must be able to manage clinical uncertainty.

Prior to receiving reasonable accommodations a student must be evaluated at the Ohio State University Office of Disability Services:

OSU Office of Disability Services  
098 Baker Hall  
113 W. 12th Ave.  
614-292-3307  
<http://ods.osu.edu/>

Students approved through the Office of Disability Services will receive all reasonable accommodations to the study of medicine and for locally administered examinations. Independently, we require that all students adhere to the technical standards set forth by the College of Medicine. Licensure examination boards have their own accommodations approval process. For information about learning disabilities and testing accommodations, see the USMLE Bulletin of Information: <http://www.usmle.org/test-accommodations/>.

If at any point in time a student enrolled in the College of Medicine might no longer meet the Technical Standards of the College of Medicine they must notify the Associate Dean for Medical Education and complete a new technical standards attestation (*forms available as addenda at the end of this document*). The student should consult with the Office of Disability Services regarding potential accommodations and request that a report of the ODS evaluation and recommendations be sent to the COM Associate Dean for Medical Education. Upon receipt of the attestation and the

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ODS report, the Associate Dean for Medical Education will determine if **reasonable** accommodations for the student can be made. In circumstances when the Associate Dean for Medical Education determines that a student does not meet the technical standards and cannot be reasonably accommodated the student will be referred for review by the **Technical Standards Advisory Committee** (details of this committee can be found in Section 7: Academic Review Process). It is the responsibility of the **Technical Standards Advisory Committee** to determine whether the student can or cannot meet the described standards utilizing reasonable accommodations. The recommendations of this Committee shall guide the associate dean in determining whether a student should be referred to the Academic Review Board for dismissal. Students who are no longer able to meet the technical standards of the College of Medicine even with reasonable accommodations will be dismissed.

### **English Competency Requirement**

Students must be able to demonstrate effective communication skills with patients that include spoken, auditory, reading, and writing proficiency in English language. Any faculty or staff member has the authority to refer an applicant with a provisional acceptance or a matriculated student to the Associate Dean for Admissions or the Associate Dean for Medical Education if a concern is raised about English competency. The associate dean may require assessment and subsequent remediation of the individual if minimal competency is not demonstrated. Individuals must have a score of 230 on the SPEAK test in order to meet minimal competency standards.

If minimal competency is not met, the individual will be removed from clinical studies or have a deferred admission until remediation is achieved according to the OSU spoken English-competency program. Any individual who does not meet spoken English competency must also demonstrate competency on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a 250 minimum score on the computerized exam or a score of 120 on the TOEFL iBT test.

If remediation cannot be accomplished in one year, provisional acceptance will be withdrawn. Matriculated students who are unable to meet competency standards will be unable to complete the curriculum due to inability to participate in clinical assignments and will be counseled accordingly.

### **Criminal Background Checks**

All students are required to complete a criminal background check. This policy is described in detail in **Section 14: Disclosure, Background Checks, and Toxicology Testing**.