

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR DOCTOR OF PHARMACY PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy is committed to full compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. An applicant for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree must have abilities and skills in the five areas listed below, as pharmacists must be capable of independently functioning in the delivery of health care. Accommodations will be made for qualified individuals with disabilities, providing such accommodation does not pose an undue hardship, would not result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the program, service, or activity, or pose an undue financial or administrative burden. All applicants must meet the fundamental technical standards of the program set forth below. Applicants accepted for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program will be expected to demonstrate proficiency and continue to meet the required technical standards in these five areas over the course of the program.

Observation

An applicant must be able to observe demonstrations and experiments in the basic and pharmaceutical sciences. An applicant must be able to observe patients, other professionals, and professional equipment and supplies accurately both at a distance and in close proximity. Observation necessitates the functional use of the sense of vision and somatic sensation.

Communication

An applicant must be able to speak, hear, and observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity, and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications. An applicant must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients. Applicants must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with members of the health care team.

Motor

Applicants must have sufficient motor functions to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers. An applicant must be able to perform basic laboratory tests. An applicant must be able to execute motor movements to provide general care and emergency treatments to patients, e.g., first aid treatments, cardiopulmonary resuscitation. An applicant must be able to execute motor movements required in the compounding of medications inclusive of using techniques for preparing sterile solutions, e.g., parenteral or ophthalmic solutions. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.

Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities

These abilities include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of pharmacists, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, an applicant must be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.

Behavioral and Social Attributes

An applicant must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completion of all responsibilities including, but not limited to, those related to the care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients and other health care providers. Applicants must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties in the clinical setting. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that are assessed during the admissions and education processes.