

**TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL ADMISSION,
ACADEMIC PROGRESSION AND GRADUATION
LSU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN NEW ORLEANS**

Medical education requires that the accumulation of knowledge be accompanied by the acquisition of skills and professional attitudes and behavior. Medical school faculties have a responsibility to society to matriculate and graduate the best possible physicians, and thus admission to medical school is offered to those who present the highest qualifications for the study and practice of medicine. Technical standards presented in this document are prerequisite for admission, progression, and graduation from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. All courses in the curriculum are required so that students can develop the essential knowledge and skills necessary to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care.

The LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and has determined that certain technical standards must be met by prospective candidates and students. A candidate for the M.D. degree must possess aptitude, abilities, and skills in the five areas discussed below. Reasonable accommodation will be made for otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. All individuals must be able to perform independently; therefore, third parties cannot be used to assist students in accomplishing curricular requirements in the five skill areas specified below.

Observation:

Observation necessitates the use of the sense of vision and other sensory modalities. The individual must have visual acuity to make accurate observations, both close at hand and at a distance. The individual must be able to observe physiologic and pharmacologic demonstrations, microbiologic cultures, and microscopic studies of microorganisms and tissues. The individual must have the visual acuity necessary to be able to read electrocardiograms, radiographs, and other diagnostic tests.

Communication:

Communication includes not only speech, but reading and writing. The individual must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with patients and with members of the health care team. The individual must be able to speak, to hear, and to observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and to perceive nonverbal communications.

Motor Function and Coordination:

Individuals must have sufficient motor function to obtain information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers. The individual must have sufficient motor function to do basic laboratory tests (urinalysis, CBC, etc.) and carry out diagnostic procedures (proctoscopy, paracentesis, etc.). An individual must be able to perform motor activities required in providing general and emergency treatment to patients, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administering intravenous medication, applying pressure to stop bleeding, opening obstructed airways, suturing simple wounds, and performing routine obstetrical maneuvers. Such actions require both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and coordinated use of the senses of touch and vision.

Intellectual Abilities: Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative:

Intellectual abilities include measuring, calculating, reasoning, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Problem solving, a critical skill demanded of physicians, may require all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, individuals must be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships in order to understand the spatial relationships of anatomic structures.

Behavioral and Social Attributes:

Individuals must possess the emotional health required for the appropriate use of their intellectual and mental abilities, including logical thinking, good judgment, impulse control, empathy, interest, and motivation. These abilities should be sufficient to assure the development and maintenance of therapeutic relationships with patients and those who care for them. Individuals must be able to maintain emotional health despite stress, uncertainty, and physically taxing workloads and to adapt to changing situations while handling the responsibilities associated with medical education and patient care.

Louisiana State University School of Medicine - New Orleans will consider for admission, progression, and graduation individuals who demonstrate the knowledge and the ability to perform or learn to perform the skills described in this document. Individuals will be assessed not only on their scholastic accomplishments, but also on their physical and emotional capacities to meet the requirements of the school's curriculum and to graduate as skilled and effective practitioners of medicine.

Therefore, the following technical requirements apply:

1. The ability to observe and participate in experiments in the basic sciences.
2. The ability to analyze, synthesize, extrapolate, solve problems, and reach diagnostic and therapeutic judgements in a timely manner.
3. The sufficient use of the senses of vision, hearing, and the somatic sensation necessary to perform a physical examination.
4. The ability to establish and maintain professional relationships with patients, faculty, and peers.
5. The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients and colleagues.
6. The ability to perform routine laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures.
7. The ability to perform appropriately in emergency situations.
8. The ability to display good judgment in the assessment and treatment of patients.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND I AM IN COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS.

DATE

SIGNATURE