

Purpose

This describes the technical standards required for admission, retention, and graduation of applicants or medical students to the School of Medicine.

Scope/Audience

Program Applicants, M1-M4 Students

Definitions

None

Policy

A candidate for the M.D. degree at Wayne State University School of Medicine (WSUSOM) must demonstrate the ability to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to complete the core WSUSOM educational requirements, including those technical standards in this document, achieve the WSUSOM competencies in the basic and clinical sciences and be able to graduate as skilled and effective practitioners of medicine. The goal is to develop a deep and robust medical knowledge base and outstanding clinical skills, with the ability to appropriately apply them, effectively interpret information, and contribute to decisions across a broad spectrum of medical situations in all settings. Critical skills needed for the successful navigation of core experiences are outlined below, and include the ability to observe and communicate, as well as to understand, integrate core knowledge and skills, and to behave appropriately in varied educational and professional situations. Thus, each candidate must possess the ability to develop the skills and qualities required to practice direct patient care regardless of their ultimate career goals.

Wayne State University is committed to the full and equitable inclusion of qualified learners with disabilities. In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, WSUSOM requires that matriculates meet the following technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations. 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. Reasonable accommodations are decided on a case-by-case basis through an interactive process with the requesting student, and an accommodation will not be granted if it imposes an undue hardship on the University. For more information regarding reasonable accommodations for a disability, please refer to the [Student Disability Services](#) website.

Observation

Candidates must be able to obtain information and techniques as presented through

demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences, including but not limited to such activities as dissection of cadavers; examination of specimens in anatomy, pathology and neuroanatomy laboratories; and microbiologic study of microorganisms and tissues in normal and pathological states.

Candidates must be able to acquire information quickly and accurately from patients and assess findings. They must be able to perform a complete physical examination independently, correctly observe and interpret diagnostic representation of patients' physiological data, and accurately evaluate patients' conditions and responses in order to integrate this information and develop an appropriate diagnostic and treatment plan.

In any case, where a candidate's ability to observe or acquire information through these sensory modalities is compromised, the candidate must demonstrate alternative means and/or abilities to acquire and demonstrate the essential information conveyed in this fashion.

Communication

Candidate must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently (verbally and in written form) with patients, their families, health care personnel, colleagues, faculty, staff and all other individuals with whom they come in contact.

Candidates must be able to obtain a medical history in a timely fashion, interpret non-verbal aspects of communication or the way a disease or illness may present and establish therapeutic relationship with patients.

Candidates must be able to record information accurately, maintaining comprehensive and timely medical records, and communicate effectively in English with other health care professionals in a variety of patient settings.

Motor

Candidates must be able to independently perform a comprehensive physical exam and diagnostic maneuvers on a patient, using palpation and auscultation in a manner that respects the patient's right to privacy.

Candidates must be able to respond to clinical situations in a timely manner and provide direct general and emergency treatment to patients in a range of situations and conditions. Examples include airway management, placement of intravenous catheters, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, application of pressure to control bleeding, suturing of wounds, and the performance of simple obstetrical maneuvers. These activities require some coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.

Candidates must be able to adhere to universal precautions and meet safety standards appropriate for settings (i.e., inpatient, outpatient). This includes but is not limited to wearing hospital-approved operating room attire, following regulations related to sterilization procedures, and receipt of specific immunizations and/or evidence of immunity from specific diseases. Students must undergo periodic health testing in order to receive instruction in clinical settings and perform the essential function of a medical student. Additional information can be found in the policy Medical Health Requirements and Immunizations. It should be noted that failure to meet the requirements for patient safety, vaccination, and/or health testing will result in the student not being permitted to train in affiliated clinical facilities, thereby preventing the student from completing the required curricular activities needed to receive the Medical Doctor (M.D.) degree.

Intellectual-Conceptual (Integrative and Quantitative)

Abilities

Candidates must be able to assimilate and engage with detailed and complex information presented through both the didactic curriculum and clinical coursework, and engage in problem solving. Students are expected to possess the ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, synthesize, and communicate their knowledge and reasoning.

In addition, candidates must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships, to understand the spatial relationships of structures and to adapt to different learning environments and modalities, including but not limited to, classroom instruction; small group; team and collaboration activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; use of computer technology; medical simulation; clinical encounters; coaching; and personal reflection.

Candidates must be able to learn, participate, collaborate and contribute as part of a team effectively. Candidates will need to synthesize information effectively both in person and via remote technology.

Candidates must be able to formulate and test hypotheses consistent with the scientific method that enable effective and timely problem solving in diagnosis and treatment of patients in a variety of clinical modalities. They must be able to make timely, prudent, informed, and defensible decisions in the best interests of patients.

Behavioral and Social Attributes

Candidates must exhibit sufficient maturity and emotional stability for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, which includes but is not limited to, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completion of all responsibilities associated with the diagnosis and care of patients.

Candidates must exhibit integrity, honesty, professionalism, and compassion and are expected to display a spirit of cooperation and teamwork.

Candidates are expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within these standards of the medical profession.

Candidates must possess the physical and emotional endurance to tolerate demanding workloads, to function in a competent and professional manner in high stress fast-paced situations and to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and manage the uncertainties intrinsic in the care of patients and the health care system. They must be capable of regular, reliable, and punctual attendance for classes and their clinical responsibilities, which is equivalent to participating in a minimum of 90% of the curriculum.

Candidates must be able to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments, accept formative feedback from others, and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes. It is expected minimum accommodation will be requested with regards to this set of standards.

Procedure

Candidates for admission to the program, as well as enrolled medical students who are candidates for promotion and graduation are required to attest to meeting the Technical Standards, with or without reasonable accommodations at the following time points:

- As applicants at time of scheduling for interview, and
- Annually thereafter, and
- Returning from any leave of absence

Authorized Individuals and Governing Bodies

Senior Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs and Undergraduate Medical Education

Associate Dean of Clinical Education

Admission Committee

Related Documents

WSUSOM - Medical Health Requirements and Immunizations

WSUSOM - Student Disability Services (SDS) & Testing Accommodations

References/External Regulations

LCME Element 10.3

LCME Element 10.4

LCME Element 10.5