Technical Standards

Students admitted to the College of Pharmacy must possess the mental, emotional, and physical abilities to complete the curriculum and ultimately perform the functions of a generalist pharmacy graduate. These technical standards are essential to ensure that students are capable of achieving the basic competencies in pharmacy practice adopted by the College.

Applicants must possess the following skills and abilities, with or without reasonable accommodations as needed for those with disabilities:

- **Intellectual skills:** Candidates must have mastered effective learning techniques in order to assimilate and apply a detailed and complex curriculum to resolve individual drug-related problems. They must be able to acquire knowledge through many modalities of teaching and instruction. It is essential that student pharmacists are able to transcribe verbal messages precisely, interpret written orders accurately, and perform pharmacokinetic and dosing calculations rapidly and correctly.

- **Communication skills:** Applicants must be able to understand, speak, read and write fluent English. They must be able to communicate effectively with patients from a broad range of backgrounds. Candidates must also be able to communicate accurately, respectfully and rapidly with colleagues and other members of the healthcare team in both oral and written forms.

- **Motor skills:** Candidates must possess the motor, tactile, auditory, and visual abilities required to perform the duties of a generalist pharmacist, such as intravenous dose drawing and patient assessment.

- **Behavioral, social and emotional skills:** Applicants must be capable of relating to patients, caregivers, and other healthcare professionals in a culturally sensitive and caring manner. Candidates must be able to understand, interpret and apply the ethical standards of the profession to a variety of different situations. They must also demonstrate emotional stability under stressful conditions and a willingness to accept responsibility for patient outcomes.

- **Stamina:** Pharmacy students must demonstrate a high level of physical and emotional stamina in the face of difficult workloads and stressful situations.

All applicants accepted into the College of Pharmacy must demonstrate an aptitude for meeting each of these skill sets during the interview process. Deficiencies in any of the abilities described above which are revealed during the pharmacy curriculum may prevent progression. Individuals with a diagnosed disability may function as a pharmacy student as long as the technical standards are met. Requests for accommodation secondary to an established disability may be brought to the attention of the Associate Dean confidentially.