



Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
"A Private University with a Public Mission"

TECHNICAL STANDARDS POLICY

POLICY: # 320.5

Supersedes: 6/23/21

Issuing Officer: Dean, College of Medicine
Responsible Office: Office of Medical Education
Effective Date: 2/13/24
Next Review Date: 2/13/27

I. PURPOSE:

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) has established standards regarding the requirement of medical schools to A medical school develops and publishes technical standards for the admission, retention, and graduation of applicants or medical students in accordance with legal requirements. (LCME Element 10.5)

II. POLICY STATEMENT:

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) College of Medicine (COM) Medical Degree (MD) Program seeks to train competent health-care providers who demonstrate clinical skills and critical judgment, with the ability to appropriately apply their extensive knowledge and technical skills. A candidate for the MD degree at CDU must have abilities and skills in five areas including: 1) observation; 2) communication; 3) motor function; 4) intellectual conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities; 5) behavioral, emotional and social attributes.

Technical Standards Include:

- 1. Observation: A student must be able to visually observe materials presented in the learning environment including audiovisual presentations, written documents, tissues, and gross organs in the normal and pathologic state; diagnostic images; and microscopic examination of microorganisms. The student must be able to observe patients accurately and completely, both at a distance and directly. This involves functional vision, hearing, and sensation.*

2. *Communication: A student must be able to communicate in oral and written form with the healthcare team in an effective and accurate manner. Must be able to perceive non-verbal communications, including facial expressions, body language, and affect. They must be able to speak, hear, read, and use a keyboard.*
3. *Motor Function: A student must be able to elicit information from patients via palpation, auscultation, and percussion as well as carry out diagnostic maneuvers.*
4. *Intellectual Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities: A student must possess the ability to integrate and assimilate large volumes of information from multiple sources and multiple educational experiences in order to be skilled in clinical reasoning, problem solving and decision making.*
5. *Behavioral, Emotional and Social Attributes: A student must possess the emotional health to fully apply his/her intellectual skill, exercise good judgment, and complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients. Develop a mature, sensitive and effective relationship with patients and colleagues. Tolerate the physical, mental, and emotional stress experienced during the training and patient care. Cooperate with others and work collaboratively as a team member.*

III. PROCEDURES:

- *Disability Accommodation Procedures: A qualified candidate with a disability is one who is able to meet the degree program's admission, academic, and technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation. Candidates with disabilities will be strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Title IX and Disability Services early in the application process to begin a confidential consultation about accommodations that may be required. Candidates must acknowledge their personal responsibility to initiate accommodation procedures.*
- *Review & Approval of Technical Standards: The Technical Standards Policy will be reviewed and updated at a minimum of every three years.*
- *Dissemination of Technical Standards: The Technical Standards for admission, retention, and graduation are disseminated to applicants at the point of interview and acceptance. Enrolled medical students, faculty, and others can review the Technical Standards in the Student Handbook on the CDU website.*
- *Documentation:*
 - *Medical school applicants receive the Technical Standards at the point of interview. They also receive the Technical Standards in their acceptance packet and must sign off on the statement, "I have received and read the Technical Standards for the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science MD Program, and I am able to perform them with or without reasonable accommodation."*
 - *After enrollment, medical students will annually review the technical standards and attest that they continue to meet the standards with or without reasonable e accommodation. Documentation of the attestations will be kept on file in the Office of Student Affairs.*

IV. APPLICABILITY:

The faculty, students, and staff of the CDU COM are responsible for knowing this policy and its procedures.

V. DEFINITIONS:

- *Publishes: Communicates in hard-copy and/or on-line in a manner that is easily available to and accessible by the public. (LCME Element 10.5)*
- *Technical standards for the admission, retention, and graduation of applicants or medical students: A statement by a medical school of the: 1) essential academic and non-academic abilities, attributes, and characteristics in the areas of intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities; 2) observational skills; 3) physical abilities; 4) motor functioning; 5) emotional stability; 6) behavioral and social skills; and 7) ethics and professionalism that a medical school applicant or enrolled medical student must possess or be able to acquire, with or without reasonable accommodation, in order to be admitted to, be retained in, and graduate from that school’s medical educational program. (LCME Element 10.5)*
- *Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee (EPCC) is the committee charged to represent the faculty to oversee the medical education program as a whole and has responsibility for the overall design, management, integration, evaluation, and enhancement of a coherent and coordinated medical curriculum.*

VI. RELATED POLICIES:

- *No related policies*

VII. RELATED LINKS:

- *LCME Standards, Publications, & Notification [Forms](#)*

VIII. POLICY HISTORY:

Review Dates:	Change Description:
6/22/21	New policy. Approved by the Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee on 6/22/21
2/13/24	Reviewed by the Admissions Committee on 2/6/24. Reviewed and reapproved by the EPCC with no changes on 2/13/24.
10/3/24	Policy reviewed by CDU Policy Committee – no conflict with university policies.