

ST. LOUIS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Listed below are recommendations and information regarding the characteristics and abilities that St. Louis College of Pharmacy at University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis believes are important for student pharmacists to possess in order to be successful in the pharmacy curriculum and in subsequent practice as a pharmacist.

Any student pharmacist who has concerns that a disability may impact their ability to complete the program should contact the director of academic support. Student pharmacists who lack certain characteristics and/or abilities which are related to a documented disability, may request the University to provide reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodation means services provided to individuals with disabilities, medical conditions or temporary injury/conditions that remove or lessen the effect of disability-related barriers. Examples include providing sign language interpreters, furnishing written materials in large print, and making a facility or event physically accessible. Some individuals with disabilities may need reasonable accommodations to meet the Technical Standards, while others may not. The absence of some skills, however, may potentially lengthen the time to completion of the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program and limit the variety of settings in which a student pharmacist or pharmacist can work.

For more information on the University's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, please refer to the Student Handbook or the ADA Program information on the University website, uhsp.edu/policies/student-code.

The standards detailed below are derived from a variety of sources specific to pharmacy education and the practice of pharmacy. These sources include:

- Code of Ethics for Pharmacists
- Oath of a Pharmacist
- Pledge of Professionalism
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Accreditation Standards 2016
- Student Code (Professionalism Plan)

St. Louis College of Pharmacy has a responsibility to the public to assure that its graduates become fully competent pharmacists; therefore, it is imperative that persons admitted possess each of the five key categories (psychomotor abilities, communication, cognitive abilities, behavioral and social attributes, and ethical values) necessary to practice pharmacy. Each key category is defined and specific examples related to the pharmacy curriculum and the practice of pharmacy are noted. In the event of deteriorating physical, behavioral, social or emotional function, Pharm.D. candidates may require counsel with St. Louis College of Pharmacy and University officials if there is evidence that they are not meeting the technical standards.

Pharm.D. candidates whose actions or decisions pose a danger to self, patients and/or colleagues may not continue in the program unless they agree to accept professional help under conditions acceptable to St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Revealed deficiencies of current Pharm.D. candidate's ability to perform the technical standards may create barriers that could prevent the student pharmacist from continuing in the Pharm.D. program.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT

Review the technical standards outlined below and sign to indicate that you understand you will be held to these standards within the Doctor of Pharmacy program.

PSYCHOMOTOR ABILITIES

Use of the body associated with mental activity.

During the curriculum, Pharm.D. candidates will be asked to:

- Observe lectures, demonstrations and experiments
- Use a computer for course-based activities
- Visually evaluate microscopic slides, pharmaceutical preparations and instrumentation data
- Observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand in settings such as an ambulatory care exam room, hospital room, operating room, etc. where blood and other bodily fluids may be present
- Perform basic life support (BLS)
- Demonstrate safe, sterile technique
- Prepare drug products (compound drug products, prepare IVs, and make capsules)
- Perceive the signs of disease or adverse drug effects through visual observation
- Perform physical exams using touch (e.g. use a stethoscope, take a pulse, perform a foot exam, etc.)
- Perform and demonstrate point-of-care testing (e.g. fingerstick of yourself and others)
- Administer immunizations

COMMUNICATION

Imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions, or information by speech, writing or signs.

During the course of the curriculum, Pharm.D. candidates will be asked to:

- Communicate effectively in the English language
- Document activities
- Speak, listen and read in order to elicit information (patient history, medication use, etc.)
- Effectively communicate with instructors, peers and patients
- Communicate with other health care providers
- Teach patients how to use health care related devices (inhalers, glucometers, etc.)
- Provide patients with clear, concise, accurate and audience-appropriate information
- Organize ideas and develop thoughts into coherent, appropriately written and referenced essays and research papers
- Interpret non-verbal communication (body language) from peers, patients, instructors and members of a health care team
- Utilize appropriate resources for communication with non-English speakers

COGNITIVE ABILITIES

Mental processes of perception, memory, judgment and reasoning.

During the course of the curriculum, Pharm.D. candidates will be asked to:

- Accurately fill prescriptions
- Solve problems involving measurement, calculations, reasoning, analysis, synthesis and evaluation
- Gather and evaluate information from multiple sources to develop patient treatment and monitoring plans in a timely manner
- Demonstrate evidence-based decision making
- Synthesize knowledge and integrate relevant information

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES

Characteristics of experience, behavior and interaction with people.

During the course of the curriculum, Pharm.D. candidates will be asked to:

- Possess virtues such as honesty, integrity, altruism and dedication
- Place the welfare of their patients foremost
- Display attitudes such as empathy, care, compassion and social responsibility regardless of the age, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, disability, disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran status
- Promote confidence in their profession by exemplifying professional demeanor, respect and dignity in all interactions
- Demonstrate and achieve the values and goals of the three pillars of professionalism within the Student Code: Competence, Connection and Character
- Identify personal reactions and responses, recognize multiple points of view, and integrate these appropriately into clinical decision-making
- Exhibit emotional stability and sufficient physical health to be able to perform in physically, intellectually and emotionally challenging workloads
- Function effectively under stress and adapt to an environment which may change rapidly without warning and/or in unpredictable ways

ETHICAL VALUES

Act in a manner that is right or moral.

During the course of the curriculum, Pharm.D. candidates will be asked to:

- Demonstrate a professional demeanor, conduct and behavior that are appropriate to their standing in the professional degree program
- Protect the confidentiality of any and all patient information in their professional and personal communications
- Meet the ethical standards set forth in the Code of Ethics for Pharmacists
- Obtain and maintain a valid Pharmacist Intern license in the State of Missouri and pass criminal background check, drug tests/screens, immunization/tests, and trainings required by the Missouri Board of Pharmacy rules, Missouri law and/or University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis affiliated experiential sites and their accrediting and/or regulatory agencies

SIGNATURE

I acknowledge that I will be held to these standards if I continue into the Doctor of Pharmacy program.

STUDENT NAME (PRINT)

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

I would like to discuss accommodations to help me meet these standards.