Name of Policy: Minimal Technical Standards for Admissions, Matriculation, and Graduation

Policy Number: 3364-81-04-005-00

Approving Officer: Dean, College of Medicine

Responsible Agent: Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Effective date: 08/20/12

Scope. College of Medicine and Life Sciences MD Program

☐ New policy proposal  ☐ Minor/technical revision of existing policy
☒ Major revision of existing policy  ☐ Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement
The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences is committed to equal access for all qualified applicants and students. Minimal Technical Standards for Admission, Matriculation, and Graduation state the expectations of all UT medical students. The Standards provide information to allow a candidate to make an informed decision for application and are a guide to accommodation of students with disabilities. Academic Adjustments can be made for disabilities in some instances, but a student must be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner. The use of a trained intermediary in a way that a candidate’s judgment must be mediated by another’s power of selection and observation is not acceptable. In the exceptional case where either reasonable accommodation cannot be provided or adequate assurance of function obtained, admission may be denied or rescinded. The processes for applying for accommodations are located at the end of this policy.

(B) Purpose of policy
The University of Toledo College of Medicine admits and matriculates qualified medical students. In accordance with UT Policy No. 01-061 (Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability – Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance), UT prohibits discrimination against anyone on the basis of a documented disability. UT expects all applicants and students to meet certain minimal technical standards as set forth. In adopting these standards the UT College of Medicine believes it must keep in mind the ultimate safety of the patients who may be involved in the course of the student’s education as well as those patients to whom its graduates will eventually provide care. The Standards reflect what the College of Medicine believes are reasonable expectations of medical students (and physicians) in learning and performing common medical treatments.

A medical doctor must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care. In order to carry out the activities described below, students must be able to consistently, quickly, and accurately integrate, analyze, and synthesize data. Students must possess, at a minimum, the following abilities and skills: observation; communication; motor; sensory; intellectual, conceptual, integrative, and quantitative; and behavioral and social. These abilities and skills comprise the categories of UT’s
College of Medicine Minimal Technical Standards for Admission, Matriculation, and Graduation and are defined below.

1. **Observation:** Candidate/students must be able to acquire a defined level of required information as presented through demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences including, but not limited to, physiologic and pharmacologic demonstrations, microbiologic cultures, and microscopic studies of microorganisms, tissues in normal and pathological states, and laboratory exercises. Students must have adequate visual capabilities for proper evaluation and treatment integration. They must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and up close, to acquire information from written documents, and to visualize information as presented in images from paper, films, slides or video, and to interpret x-ray and other graphic images, and digital or analog representations of physiologic phenomenon (such as EKG) with or without the use of assistive devices.

Such observation and information acquisition necessitates the functional use of visual, auditory and somatic sensation while being enhanced by the functional use of other sensory modalities. 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. If the alternatives are acceptable, it is expected that obtaining and using such alternative means and/or abilities shall be the responsibility of the student.

2. **Communication:** Candidate/student must be able to hear, observe and speak to patients in order to elicit and acquire information, examine them, describe changes in mood, activity, and posture, and perceive their nonverbal communication. Students must also be able to communicate effectively in oral and written form with staff and faculty members, the patient, and all members of the health care team.

3. **Motor:** Motor demands include reasonable endurance, strength, and precision. Candidates/students must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion and other diagnostic manual maneuvers. A candidate/student must be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients such as airway management, placement of intravenous catheters, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, application of pressure to control bleeding, suturing of simple wounds and the performance of simple obstetrical maneuvers. A student should be able to do basic laboratory tests (urinalysis, CBC, etc), carry out diagnostic procedures (protoscopy, paracentesis, etc), and read EKGs and x-rays. Such movements require coordination of both gross and fine muscular activity, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision. The student who cannot perform these activities independently should be able to understand and direct the methodology involved in such activities.
4. **Intellectual, Conceptual, Perceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative:** These abilities include reading, writing, measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. In addition, students must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of physicians, requires all of these intellectual abilities.

5. **Behavioral and Social Attributes:** Students must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships. Students must be able to tolerate physically demanding workloads and to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical problems of patients. Compassion, maturity, honesty, ethics, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admission and educational processes.
Summary

The University of Toledo College of Medicine is open to the possibilities of human potential and achievement by providing reasonable academic adjustments for students with documented disabilities, as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The Office of Accessibility (OA) is responsible for determining eligibility for reasonable academic adjustments, coordinating the administration of accommodations. The Associate Dean for Student Affairs, under the director of Senior Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs is responsible for maintaining the integrity of The University of Toledo College of Medicine’s Technical Standards. Accepted students who have documented disabilities and are otherwise qualified may request academic adjustments through the Office of Accessibility (OA) along with the proper documentation from a licensed professional to certify individuals as having a disability. The appropriate documentation criteria can be obtained from the OA or the following web address: http://www.utoledo.edu/utlc/accessibility/ The OA determines whether a student’s disability is protected by the aforementioned laws and determines if reasonable academic adjustments can be implemented without fundamentally altering the nature of the medical program or resulting in undue financial or administrative burdens on The University of Toledo. The OA obtains the student’s written consent to notify appropriate faculty and staff members who have an educational need to know, and communicates necessary academic adjustments to them. The actual disability is not disclosed to faculty or staff unless there is potential to harm oneself or others. Students can appeal the academic adjustments decision in writing in accordance with UT policy No. 01-061.

Approved by:

Date

Review/Revision Completed by:

Director, Academic Enrichment Center
Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Associate Dean for Admissions
Associate Dean for Preclinical Medical Education
Associate Dean for Clinical Undergraduate/Medical Education
Director, Office of Accessibility
Chief Legal Counsel, Health Sciences Campus

Policies Superseded by This Policy:

None

Initial effective date: 07/10/97

Review/Revision Date:

- 07/01/99
- 09/30/99
- 08/25/00
- 08/17/01
- 07/23/03
- 09/17/04
- 01/03/06
- 07/16/08
- 03/01/11
- 02/04/12
- 08/20/12

Next review date: 8/20/15 (three years from most recent revision/revision date)