

University of Michigan Medical School Technical Standards

I. Purpose

A candidate for the M.D. degree at the University of Michigan Medical School must demonstrate the ability to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to complete the core UMMS educational requirements, including those Technical Standards in this document, achieve the UMMS competencies in the basic and clinical sciences and be able to graduate as skilled and effective practitioners of medicine with or without reasonable accommodations. 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.

The University of Michigan is committed to the full and equitable inclusion of qualified learners with disabilities. We have a rich history of training and employing physicians and researchers with disabilities, developing and employing leaders with disabilities, and engaging in innovative technology that reduces clinical barriers to physicians with disabilities.

II. Policy

Fulfillment of the technical standards for graduation from medical school does not mean the graduate will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific residency program.

A. Observational Skills

Students must be able to obtain information from demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences. Students must be able to assess a patient and evaluate findings accurately.

B. Communication Skills

Students must be able to skillfully (in English) communicate verbally and in written form with faculty members, other members of the healthcare team, patients, families, and other students, in order to:

- Elicit information
- Convey information
- Clarify information
- Create rapport

- Develop therapeutic relationships
- Demonstrate the University of Michigan Medical School Competencies required for graduation

C. Examination and Diagnostic Skills

Students must possess the capacity to perform a physical examination and diagnostic examination and to provide or direct general care and the provision of emergency treatment to patients.

D. Intellectual-Conceptual Skills

Students must be able to assimilate detailed and complex information presented in both didactic and clinical coursework, and engage in problem solving. Students are expected to possess the ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and transmit information. In addition, students must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures and to adapt to different learning environments and modalities. Students must be able to effectively learn, participate, collaborate and contribute as a part of a team. Students will need to synthesize information effectively both in person and via remote technology. Students must be able to interpret causal connections and make accurate, fact-based conclusions based on available data and information. Students must be able to formulate a hypothesis, investigate the potential answers and outcomes and formulate appropriate and accurate conclusions.

E. Behavioral Attributes, Social Skills and Professional Expectations

Students must exhibit sufficient maturity and emotional stability required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, which includes, but is not limited to, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completion of responsibilities associated with the diagnosis and care of patients. Students must exhibit integrity, honesty, professionalism, compassion, and are expected to display a spirit of cooperation and teamwork. Students are expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within the law and ethical standards of the medical profession. Students must interact with patients and their families, health care professionals, colleagues, faculty, and staff in a courteous, professional, and respectful manner. Students accept responsibility for learning and exercising good judgment and are expected to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments; accept constructive feedback from others; and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes. Students must possess the physical and emotional endurance to tolerate physically demanding workloads and function in a competent and professional manner in high stress, fast paced situations, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and manage the uncertainty intrinsic in the care of patients and the health care system.

III. Procedure

A. Evaluation and Implementation of Reasonable Accommodations

The University of Michigan is committed to the full and meaningful inclusion of students with disabilities.

Students with disabilities should contact the UMMS Learning Specialist to request accommodations. The Learning specialist will engage in a confidential, collaborative, and interactive process with the student, the Advisory Board on Accommodations and Technical Standards and/or other UMMS faculty members as needed to determine reasonable accommodations. Given the clinical nature of medical education, additional time may be needed to implement accommodations. Timely disclosure and requests by students are essential and encouraged as accommodations are not applied retroactively.

Students may 1) appeal accommodation decisions through the UMMS Competency Committee, and 2) appeal decisions of the UMMS Competency Committee through the Executive Committee of the Medical School.

IV. Statement of Understanding and Agreement

I understand that fulfillment of the technical standards for graduation from the University of Michigan Medical School does not mean that I will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific residency program.

This document applies to all years of my medical school training at the University of Michigan Medical School.

I have read and understood the above policy. I agree to adhere to the stated procedures.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

V. SPG Reference – N/A

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| Original approval: | University of Michigan Medical School Executive Committee |
| Approval date: | August 27, 1992 |
| Reviewed and Approved by: | Clinical Academic Review Board |
| Approved date: | June 2001 |
| Reviewed and Approved by: | Basic Academic Review Board |
| Approved date: | April 2006 |
| Reviewed and | Curriculum Policy Committee |

Approved by CPC (June 19, 2020) and EC (July 30, 2020)
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