



National University of Health Sciences General Policies

Title: **NUHS Technical Standards -
Allied Health Programs**

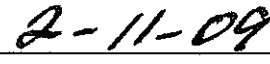
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Date Adopted: 03/18/04

Date(s) Revised:



President



Date

POLICY STATEMENT

All applicants to National University of Health Sciences (NUHS) allied health programs must be able to meet the University's technical standards in order to matriculate. Technical standards are those physical, behavioral, emotional and cognitive criteria that an applicant must already possess as personality traits, life skills or acquired abilities before enrolling in the University. These qualities are regarded as essential requirements needed to participate and complete the entire spectrum of study, training and experiences within each educational program offered by the University. These standards are applied in addition to, and separate from, academic standards of qualification.

Procedures

Students must review the technical standards that apply to the educational program in which they intend to enroll and sign a form certifying they have read, understand and are able to meet the standards (with or without reasonable accommodations) of that program. This information is provided to help every student be more aware of the types of performance and expectations associated with different educational programs that the University offers. The use of technical standards is derived from Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. These laws provide a framework for individuals with documented disabilities to request reasonable accommodations to fulfill their educational objectives.

Reasonable accommodations are defined as any change or modification in the way things are usually done that enables an individual with a disability to participate as fully as possible in an educational program. An effective accommodation for a disability can ensure that an otherwise qualified student with a disability is able to perform and be assessed on their ability rather than by their disability.

Candidates with documented disabilities who wish to request accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act must follow the University's procedure for requesting an accommodation. This procedure, in summary, requires submitting a written request for accommodations and support documentation to a life-limiting disability to the Dean of Students. The Dean will review the request and determine whether a reasonable accommodation can be made.

NUHS does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in the recruitment or admission to its programs, services or activities. Any information disclosed by an applicant regarding disabilities will not adversely affect admissions decisions nor eligibility to remain enrolled.

The University reserves the right to reject requests for accommodations that would fundamentally alter the nature of a University educational program, lower the academic standards, cause an undue hardship on the University, or endanger the health or safety of a student with a disability, other students, clinic patients, or any other member of the University community.

Technical Standards – Allied Health Programs

Students must have abilities and skills of five varieties:

Sensory/Observation: A student must have sufficient sense of vision, hearing, and touch to perform palpation sufficient to note changes in soft tissue tone and consistency and visual observation capable of noting changes in skin and eye color, posture, and gait. A student must also be able to observe classroom and laboratory demonstrations including, but not limited to, demonstrations on human cadavers, animals, microbiologic cultures, and microscopic studies of microorganisms and tissues in normal and pathologic states.

Communication: A student must be able to speak, to hear, and to observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity, and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications. A student must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients. Communication includes not only speech, but also reading and writing. The student must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively in oral and written form with patients and any other members of the health care team.

Motor/Strength/Coordination: Students must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients and perform therapeutic massage procedures on patients by palpation, and by skillful movements of the limbs, head and neck. Also, the strength and coordination to assist patients to assume comfortable positions, and the dexterity to handle equipment, devices, and assistive materials such as sheets, lubricants, orthotic pillows, etc. A student must be able to execute motor movements required to provide emergency and first aid care to patients such as CPR, applying pressure to stop bleeding, and opening an obstructed airway. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and the sense of touch and vision.

Conceptual, Integrative & Quantitative Abilities: These abilities include measurement, calculations, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Problem solving, planning and execution of tasks in group and individual settings, requires all of these intellectual abilities. Testing and evaluation of these abilities in the College of Allied Health Sciences employs periodic examinations as an essential component of the curriculum. Successful completion of these examinations is required of all candidates as a condition for continued progress through the curriculum. Examples of these tests include, but are not limited to, essay, oral and/or multiple choice tests, word processed papers, oral presentations, and lab practicals designed to assess a variety of cognitive and non-cognitive skills in a simulated or supervised clinical setting.

Behavioral & Social Attributes – Professional Programs: An allied health student must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients. Students must be able to function effectively under stress. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities each student must possess to successfully complete the challenges encountered in training to become certified.

