

Technical Standards for Admission and Continued Enrollment

Candidates for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree must be able to perform the essential functions in each of the following categories: Observation, Communication, Motor, Intellectual, and Behavioral/Social. However, it is recognized that degrees of ability vary among individuals.

Individuals are encouraged prior to application to discuss their disability with the Office of Student Affairs in the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy and consider technological and other mechanisms needed in order to train and perform effectively as a pharmacist.

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy is committed to enabling its students by any reasonable means or accommodations to complete the course of study leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

1. Observation

All students must be able to:

- Observe lectures, demonstrations, experiments, and practice-based activities
- Observe physiologic and pharmacological demonstrations, evaluation of microbiological cultures, and microscopic studies of organisms and tissues in normal and pathological states
- Observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand
- Read information on a computer screen
- Remain fully alert and attentive at all times in clinical settings
- Evaluate visible patient signs and symptoms for the purposes of monitoring drug therapy

2. Communication

All students must be able to:

- Communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, caregivers, instructors, peers and all members of the health care team (communication includes speech, writing, reading and computer literacy)
- Elicit information from patients, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications

3. Psychomotor Skills

All students must be able to:

- Have sufficient motor function to execute all aspects of processing multiple types of drug orders and compounding of medications
- Engage in safe and aseptic handling of sterile preparations
- Safely and effectively operate appropriate equipment (e.g., microscope, computer keyboard, glucose monitors, peak flow meters)
- Engage in basic physical assessment activities (e.g., assessing range of motion of a joint, blood pressure readings, taking a pulse)
- Execute motor movements to provide general and emergency treatment of patients (e.g., first aid treatments, cardiopulmonary resuscitation)

4. Intellectual

All students must be able to:

- Comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures
- Solve problems involving measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a multi-task setting
- Synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a patient's history, physical findings and monitoring studies
- Use information to develop a drug therapy and monitoring plan in a reasonable amount of time

5. Behavioral/Social Attributes

All students must be able to:

- Possess the emotional health required for full use of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt and safe completion of all responsibilities
- Adapt to change, to display flexibility and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties and physically and emotionally stressful situations
- Possess compassion, integrity, interpersonal skills, motivation, empathy, and concern for others
- Demonstrate ethical behavior
- Accept appropriate suggestions and criticism and, if necessary, respond by modification
- Exercise good judgment and prompt completion of all responsibilities involved in the pharmaceutical care of patients
- Have the capacity to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients