

<i>Policy: Faculty</i> <b>Technical Standards: Pharmacy</b>	<i>Formatted:</i> 9/11/2007	<i>Revised:</i> 4/15/2011	<i>Page 1 of 3</i>
--	--------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

### **Technical Standards: Pharmacy**

In addition to the academic requirements for admission, students must possess skills and abilities that will allow them to successfully complete the curriculum and practice the profession of pharmacy. The professional program leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree and eligibility for pharmacist licensure requires a level of cognitive, behavioral, and technical skill and ability as well as personal and professional integrity inherent in a professional education. The purpose of technical standards is to delineate the psychomotor, cognitive, and affective skills and abilities deemed essential for matriculation into, continuation in, and completion of the educational program. Technical standards are necessary to create specific expectations for student performance in the classroom, laboratory, and clinical education environments. Technical standards must be met with or without reasonable accommodations consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The primary role of a pharmacist is to provide safe and effective health care for patients. Therefore, patient safety must be considered in the selection and education of pharmacy students. In addition, pharmacy students must reasonably contribute to a safe environment in all educational settings through their personal and professional integrity, physical health, mental health, and social behavior.

The School is committed to enabling students with disabilities, by reasonable means of accommodations, to complete the course of study leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Some accommodations cannot be made because they are not reasonable. For example, the use of a trained intermediary is not acceptable. Trained intermediaries are not acceptable; as such use would imply that a student's judgment must be mediated by someone else's power of selection and observation.

**Observation.** Students must be able to observe and interpret presented information. This will necessitate the functional use of vision, hearing, and somatic senses.

**Communication.** Students must be able to communicate effectively with patients, caregivers, faculty/staff, and all members of the health care team. These skills include adequate hearing, reading comprehension, and the appropriate use of spoken and written English. Additionally, students must demonstrate appropriate use and recognition of nonverbal communication cues.

**Motor.** Students must have sufficient motor function and skills necessary to perform basic tasks in the training and practice of pharmacy. Examples of such tasks may include compounding and preparation of medications, administering medications, use of diagnostic equipment for patient assessment, use of a computer, and the provision of basic cardiac life support. Such actions require the coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses.

<i>Policy: Faculty</i>	<i>Formatted:</i> 9/11/2007	<i>Revised:</i> 4/15/2011	<i>Page 2 of 3</i>
<b>Technical Standards: Pharmacy</b>			

**Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities.** Problem solving and critical thinking are key skills required for proper performance of the responsibilities of a pharmacist. Students must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and integrate information that is essential to fully develop these skills. In the provision of patient care, students must have the ability to incorporate new and changing information obtained during didactic training and from the practice environment.

**Behavioral and Social Attributes.** Students must be of sufficient emotional and mental health to utilize fully his or her intellectual ability, to exercise good judgment and act in accordance with ethical standards to complete patient care responsibilities promptly and to relate to others with courtesy, compassion, maturity, and respect. The ability to participate collaboratively as a professional team member is essential. Students must display emotional health in spite of stressful work, changing environments, and clinical uncertainties. Students must exhibit behavior and intellectual functioning, which does not differ from acceptable standards.

### **Attainment of Technical Standards**

Inability to comply with these technical standards may result in course failure. Applicants are encouraged to voluntarily discuss their disabilities with the Director of Admission and the Assistant / Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School in order to consider and prepare for the accommodations that may be needed. After enrollment, a student with a disability who wishes to request reasonable accommodations may directly contact the Assistant / Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School or the Creighton University Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. Verification and documentation of the disability by a qualified professional, such as a physician or psychologist, will be needed before reasonable accommodations are made. Accommodations will not be considered reasonable if they affect the substance of the Doctor of Pharmacy educational program, compromise the School's educational standards, and/or negatively affect the safety of students and/or other people, including patients, with whom they may come into contact in the course of their studies. If accommodations are provided, this information will be kept in strict confidence.

Students must evaluate themselves for compliance with these technical standards. A handwritten signature is required prior to starting the pharmacy curriculum and once yearly while the student is in good standing in the program. If the student's ability to comply with these standards changes unexpectedly at any time during his/her enrollment in the pharmacy program, he/she has the obligation to inform the Assistant/Associate Dean for Academic Affairs immediately for a determination of the need to seek temporary or long term accommodations.

Signing this document will serve as testimony that the student is in compliance with these standards and understands the responsibilities it outlines. A student who is dismissed from the program and subsequently reinstated must re-sign this document as testimony that the student is in compliance with these standards.

<i>Policy: Faculty</i> <b>Technical Standards: Pharmacy</b>	<i>Formatted:</i> 9/11/2007	<i>Revised:</i> 4/15/2011	<i>Page 3 of 3</i>
--	--------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Approved by Pharmacy Faculty on 4/15/11*