

Policy Title: **Technical Standards**

Policy Number: *0-04-0612*

Applies to: All current and prospective students

1.0 POLICY STATEMENT

The policy is to ensure that all candidates for an OHSU degree or certificate possess the essential skills and abilities necessary to complete the curriculum successfully. To be qualified for health sciences programs at OHSU those individuals must be able to meet both OHSU's academic standards and the technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations.

Health Sciences programs have a societal responsibility to train competent healthcare providers and scientists that demonstrate critical judgment, extensive knowledge and well-honed technical skills. A number of individuals with disabilities, as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, are qualified to study and work as health care professionals and scientists with the use of reasonable accommodations.

Technical Standards include nonacademic criteria that reflect the ability to:

- Acquire information from experiences and demonstrations conveyed through online coursework, lecture, group seminar, small group activities, and other formats.
- Recognize, understand and interpret required instruction materials including written documents, computer-information systems, and non-book resources.
- Manipulate the equipment, instruments, apparatus, or tools required to collect and interpret data appropriate to the domain of study, practice or research.
- Follow universal precautions against contamination and cross contamination with infectious pathogens, toxins and other hazardous chemicals.
- Solve problems and think critically to develop appropriate products and services (e.g., treatment plan, a scientific experiment).
- Synthesize information to develop and defend conclusions regarding observations and outcomes.
- Use intellectual ability, exercise proper judgment and complete all responsibilities within a timeframe that is appropriate to a given setting.
- Maintain effective, mature and sensitive relationships under all circumstances (e.g., clients, patients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals).
- Communicate effectively and efficiently with faculty, colleagues and all other persons encountered in any OHSU settings.
- Work in a safe manner and respond appropriately to emergencies and urgencies.
- Demonstrate emotional stability to function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments inherent in clinical practice, health care and biomedical sciences and engineering.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

N/A

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

N/A

4.0 PROCEDURES

N/A

5.0 RELATED POLICIES

[OHSU 02-01-002](#), Equal Access for Students with Disabilities

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act

6.0 KEY SEARCH WORDS

Admissions, access, disability accommodations, technical standards, essential skills and abilities, criteria for admissions

7.0 REVISION HISTORY

10/30/2010	Policy Origination Date
5/31/2012	Revised and updated

Responsible Officer: Provost, Office of the Provost

Policy Contact: Office of Student Access and Center for Diversity & Inclusion, 503-494-5657

Supersedes: N/A