TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A student admitted into the TTUHSC Physician Assistant Program must meet basic and essential requirements that are necessary for obtaining employment and performing as a Physician Assistant. The technical standards each student must master include cognitive, physical and behavioral characteristics that are identified in the following:

1. Must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in the written and verbal forms of English with supervising or consulting physicians, program professors, colleagues, instructors, patients and other members of the health care team.

2. Must possess physical and motor skills for use in areas such as auscultation, palpation, percussion, medical procedures (i.e., suturing, venipuncture, intravenous therapy, thoracentesis, endotracheal intubation, etc.) and other diagnostic maneuvers.

3. Must possess and appropriately utilize sensory skills in areas such as viewing demonstrations, obtaining a medical history directly from a patient, observing a patient’s medical condition and non-verbal behavior.

4. Must have intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities necessary for problem solving and diagnosis.

5. Must be able to conduct activities that have an appropriate behavioral and social context to include expressing professional responsibility and compassion to patients, managing typical daily workloads and working in an environment that is subject to rapid change.

6. Must have ethical and professional attitudes that are reflected in appropriate professional conduct.

Candidates for selection to the PA Program will be required to verify that they understand and meet these essential functions or that they believe that, with certain accommodations, they can meet the standards. The 504 coordinator in the Office of TTUHSC Student Services will evaluate a student who states he/she could meet the program's essential functions with accommodation(s) and confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws. If a student states he/she can meet the essential functions with accommodation, then the University will determine whether it agrees that the student can meet the essential functions with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review as to whether the accommodations requested are reasonable, taking into account whether accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety, or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all coursework, clinical experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation.