

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences
Doctor of Audiology Program

Technical Standards

The technical standards of the Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences reflect the functions that are considered essential to the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. Ability to meet these technical standards is required for admission to the graduate programs and must be maintained throughout the time a student is enrolled in the program. Due to changes in healthcare and/or professional scope of practice, these technical standards may be amended over time and are subject to change.

In keeping with applicable federal and state law regarding disabilities, we are committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities to enable them to perform successfully in our department. Any student with a disability who is accepted to the graduate program must contact the 504 coordinator in the TTUHSC Office of Student Services as soon as possible. The 504 coordinator will evaluate the student, confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws, and determine what accommodations are reasonable.

To successfully complete the Doctor of Audiology program in the Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences, an individual must meet the following technical standards:

1. Observation
 - Observe patients' activity and behavior accurately during assessment and treatment procedures
 - Accurately monitor, through both visual and auditory modalities, materials and equipment used for assessment and treatment of patients
2. Communication
 - Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) at a level which will support competent professional practice
 - Communicate professionally on papers required as part of coursework and during clinical work (i.e., clinical interactions and documentation) to ensure patient safety
 - Use technology to meet requirements of courses and practicum (e.g., computer skills, including but not limited to: internet access, learning management systems, electronic health records)
3. Cognition
 - Comprehend, integrate, and synthesize a large body of information in a short period of time
 - Read, comprehend, record, and interpret information accurately from diagnostic tests, equipment, and patient records to ensure patient safety
 - Accurately self-assess clinical skills and academic performance

4. Social/behavioral skills

- Demonstrate respect for individual, social, and cultural differences in fellow students, faculty, staff, patients, and patients' families during clinical and academic interactions
- Demonstrate flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in academic and clinical situations
- Conduct oneself in an ethical and legal manner, demonstrating honesty, integrity, and professionalism in all interactions and situations

5. Motor skills

- Sustain necessary physical activity level in required classroom and clinical activities for the defined workday
- Efficiently manipulate testing and treatment environment, materials, and equipment
- Access transportation to attend academic courses and clinical placements

- ☐ I understand and acknowledge that I must meet the technical standards required for this degree program in order to complete the program.