

## LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

### TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSIONS, PROMOTION AND GRADUATION

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy candidates for the PharmD degree must have abilities, skills and professional attitudes that ensure that the School educates graduates of the highest qualifications for the study and practice of Pharmacy. These technical standards are requirements for admission to, promotion within, and graduation from the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. Technological compensation can be made for some disabilities in certain areas but a candidate should be able to perform in an independent manner without the use of a surrogate. Abilities, skills and professional attitudes in the following areas are required:

**OBSERVATION** – Candidates must be able to observe demonstrations and conduct exercises in a variety of areas related to pharmacy practice. Observation necessitates the functional use of the senses of vision, hearing and somatic sensation (i.e. sensations arising from the skin such as touch, pressure, cold, warmth and pain; and from the muscle, tendons and joints such as the position of the limbs and pain.). Observation is also enhanced by the functional use of the sense of smell. A student must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and at proximity, noting nonverbal as well as verbal signals. The student must be able to observe and interpret presented information.

**COMMUNICATION** – Candidates should be able to speak, hear, and observe patients in order to elicit information, communicate effectively and sensitively with patients, colleagues, and other personnel. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written English with all members of the health care team.

**MOTOR** – Candidates should have sufficient motor function and skills necessary to perform basic tasks in the practice of pharmacy and to elicit information from patients by various screen maneuvers. A candidate should be able to execute motor movements as required to provide general care and emergency treatment of patients (e.g. CPR, AED). These actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the somatic sensations and vision. Required functions include standing for extended periods of time, performing basic laboratory tests, administering immunizations and accessing drug and disease information sources within a reasonable time frame. Candidates must have the ability to don and doff personal protective equipment (PPE) and function as a patient care provider while wearing PPE necessary to provide safe, effective patient care.

**INTELLECTUAL-CONCEPTUAL INTEGRATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES** – The candidate should possess sufficient intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities to complete a rigorous and intense didactic and experiential curriculum. These abilities include measurement, calculation, rational reasoning, problem analysis and solving, decision-making, judgment, numerical recognition, information integration, and solution synthesis. The candidate must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relations of structures. Problem solving and critical thinking skills must be at a level that allows for efficient and effective performance in routine settings as well as during emergencies. Candidates must be able to accurately perform complex and diverse mental tasks on a sustained basis while under stress.

**BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ATTRIBUTE** – Candidates must possess the emotional and mental health required for full use of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, colleagues and other personnel of differing cultures and backgrounds. Candidates must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Empathy, integrity, honesty, concern for others, kindness, patience, good interpersonal skills, interest and motivation are all personal qualities required of candidates. The highest level of professional behavior that allows candidates to perform in an ethical manner in all dealings with patients, colleagues and other personnel is mandatory. In order to participate in key components of the curriculum the accepted student must be able to obtain and maintain a valid Intern Pharmacist License (i.e. "Clear", not "Probation") from the California State Board of Pharmacy and pass yearly background checks and random illegal drug screens required by the Board of Pharmacy affiliated clinical institutions of Loma Linda University.

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and am able to comply with the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy's Technical Standards for Admissions, Promotion and Graduation.