



Medical Student Oath

College of Medicine
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

In order to contribute to a spirit of moral and intellectual development; affirming that honor, integrity, and compassion are my highest ideals; and endeavoring to create a community of sensitivity and commitment, I (name of student), pledge to my future patients, my colleagues and my mentors the following:

That in all instances I shall maintain a state of sensitivity and compassion; realizing always that my greatest commitment is to my patients. I will henceforth preserve the confidentiality of my patients, and I will render to them the highest possible standard of care. In short, I will conduct myself with unquestionable integrity in all of my professional relations.

Realizing the power of cooperation, and the common bond between practitioners of the healing arts, I will respect the contributions of my brothers and sisters in medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and in the health related professions. I will in no way breach this bond of respect, and I will strive to realize our collective commitment to heal and comfort the poor of body and spirit.

I will honor the rich tradition embodied in learning the art and the science of medicine. I will always seek to learn from the knowledge, wisdom, and experience of my mentors. May I never forget that medical education is a privilege bestowed on me by those who have entrusted their well-being and the well-being of others to me. Further, let me never forget that it is my responsibility to learn the science and the art of medicine; and that my learning within the noble profession of medicine is a lifelong process. May I be worthy of this trust and may I always remember that henceforth I must put others before myself.

I affirm this day before my future colleagues in medicine that I, (name of student), will be true to this pledge.

White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony was established in 1993 by Dr. Arnold Gold at the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University to impress upon students, physicians and the public the important symbolic role of the white coat in patient-doctor interactions. It provides a mechanism by which values of compassion, excellence and integrity can be openly articulated and carefully considered in the company of friends, family and faculty.



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or the Medical School Applicant

Certain personal attributes are of fundamental importance to the individual who desires to enter the medical profession. These include curiosity, compassion, integrity, stamina, dedication to human service and a sustained ability to learn. Beyond these are the cognitive needs and requirements of an adequate intellectual capacity. A physician is expected to have a large fund of information in the disciplines of medical science in order to fulfill the basic expectations of his/her patients. Thus, the student of medicine must have the ability to absorb, integrate and use a large body of knowledge. Physicians likewise must understand the role of socio cultural and environmental events in illness and the impact of sickness on the family and community. Premedical education contributes significantly to an understanding of the interaction of these factors.

It is therefore valuable to have as broad an education as possible to prepare for the intensified study of human biology encountered in medical school. A minimum of three years (90 semester hours) of college work is required to provide this and four years leading to a baccalaureate degree are strongly recommended. If only three years of work are presented at application, at least 18 semester hours must be in courses of junior or senior standing. However, it should be noted that 100% of applicants admitted to medical school in 2008 have at least a baccalaureate degree.

Applicants with “premedical” majors will have no particular advantage over applicants majoring in other fields. The value of a broad cultural background for each student cannot be overemphasized. Some of the paramount goals of the premedical experience should be mastery of the art of study and the intellectual maturity to understand, utilize and synthesize facts into concepts.

Pre-matriculation Requirements

Students who wish to enter the College of Medicine must successfully complete the following course requirements prior to matriculation.

Biology	2 semesters
General Chemistry	2 semesters
Organic Chemistry	2 semesters
Physics	2 semesters
Mathematics	2 semesters or through Calculus I
English	2 semesters

Advanced Placement credit may be used to satisfy pre-matriculation course requirements listed above, provided the AP credit is accepted by your university/college and posted on your transcript. One AP credit will be the equivalent of one semester of coursework. However, the Admissions Committee strongly encourages those using AP credit to satisfy the pre-matriculation requirements to then pursue the opportunity to take more advanced level courses leading to the baccalaureate degree. The Admissions Committee looks favorably on the advanced level courses an applicant successfully completes during his/her undergraduate training. CLEP, exempt, correspondence courses, or online courses cannot be used to satisfy the pre-matriculation requirements.

In addition to the specific pre-matriculation courses required for admission, the College of Medicine faculty believes the following courses would be beneficial and are therefore strongly recommended: **BIOLOGY:** Embryology, Histology, Genetics, Cellular and Molecular Biology. **CHEMISTRY:** Biochemistry. **PHYSICS** and **MATH:** Statistics and Computer Science with special emphasis on excellent keyboarding skills. **BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE:** Sociology, Physical or Cultural Anthropology, Human Ecology, General and Special Psychology. **HUMANITIES:** Facility in understanding written and spoken English is fundamental to precise communication.

This is valuable to the student not only in classroom activities, but also in dealing with individuals as patients and colleagues. Courses in Composition and other communication skills, including Speech, are excellent. A background in foreign languages is helpful to the prospective physician who will encounter an ethnically and culturally diverse population. Studies in World Literature and World History are desirable to enhance the student's understanding and appreciation of human heritage, societal forms, values past and present and the intrinsic merits of scholarship and lifelong learning. A course in Logic will be advantageous in understanding the approach to sound reasoning and systematic thought in the solution of problems.

Arkansas Residency Requirements

Arkansas law mandates at least 150 students must be admitted to each entering Freshman class. For the 2008-09 academic year, the class size is 160. Preference is given to Arkansas residents. State law permits the Admissions Committee to accept a limited number of non-Arkansas resident applicants, provided no qualified resident applicant is displaced. Preference is given to non-Arkansas residents demonstrating strong ties to the state of Arkansas. Non-Arkansas resident applicants with less than 3.5/4.0 grade point average and MCAT scores below the national average are rarely considered. Individuals with strong ties must communicate this information to the Office of Student Admissions by November 15.

All applicants who declare Arkansas as their legal state of residence on the AMCAS application will be sent a UAMS Supplemental Application and a "Certificate of Resident Status" form. Applicants must send the "certification" form to the office of the UAMS Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor determines if the applicant will be considered an Arkansas resident for admissions and tuition purposes. The Office of Admissions will verify the applicant's congressional district. Applicants are forewarned that the falsification of one's application with regard to either Arkansas residency or congressional district is a serious matter and will be closely scrutinized by the Admissions Committee.

The following guidelines for residence have been established: the individual must have a domicile in the State of Arkansas for a period of six consecutive calendar months in a non-student status immediately prior to the consideration of an application. During that period the individual must take steps that would support intent to become a resident of the state, for example, voter registration, automobile registration, state driver's license, paying state taxes, etc. Fulfilling one or more of these examples does not necessarily guarantee certification of residency. An out-of-state student who merely lives in Arkansas while attending school does not fulfill residency requirements. Individuals who have already established residency may be temporarily absent from home to attend school or for service in the Armed Forces.



Permanent Residents

An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or a Permanent Resident of the U.S. at the time of application. Permanent residents must provide the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid with the required documentation prior to being granted a faculty interview. The Admissions Committee will not review an applicant's file until the Office of Admissions verifies the applicant's Permanent Residency status. Contact the Office of Admissions regarding the specific criteria required by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and UAMS to determine Permanent Residency status.

Application Procedures

AMCAS APPLICATION: The College of Medicine at UAMS requires applicants to submit the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) application to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). AMCAS is a non-profit centralized application service operated by and as a part of the AAMC. Currently, 119 of the 126 US medical schools participate in this centralized application service. All applicants must apply online at the Association of American Medical College's website, www.aamc.org. Applicants may begin to certify and submit their AMCAS application beginning June 1. The deadline for submitting your AMCAS application to AMCAS is **November 1**. However, we strongly recommend that applicants, particularly non-Arkansas residents, submit their AMCAS application by no later than September 30.

MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TEST (MCAT): The MCAT is required of all applicants and must have been taken no earlier than three years prior to the year of application, i.e., applicants applying for the 2009 freshman class must have taken the MCAT after January 1, 2006. It is the responsibility of the applicant to register and take the exam. AMCAS will forward the applicant's MCAT scores to the College of Medicine. Applicants must register for the MCAT electronically through the AAMC's web site at www.aamc.org/mcat. The MCAT test dates and testing center locations for the calendar year are posted on the AAMC website.

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS: You must submit an official transcript to AMCAS from each college of registration in the United States and Canada. AMCAS is responsible for ensuring that the application materials are complete and correct by verifying information on your application against the official transcripts. You should contact your registrar's office(s) and obtain a personal copy of your transcript(s). You should resolve any questions about your transcript with the appropriate registrar **before** you submit the AMCAS application. You will need your transcripts when you complete the academic record in your AMCAS application. After any problems with your transcripts have been resolved, have the registrar forward an **official copy** to AMCAS. All official transcripts must be received at AMCAS by our deadline of November 15. AMCAS will verify the official transcript grades, as well as the MCAT scores, and forward their report to the College of Medicine.

If you are accepted for admission to the College of Medicine, you must contact the appropriate registrars and request official academic transcripts, complete with degree(s) conferred, be forwarded to the Office of Student Admissions. All transcripts must be received in the Office of Admissions by July 1. Any applicant who fails to meet all pre-matriculation requirements will not be allowed to register and his/her position in the entering freshman class will be given to the next highest-ranking applicant on the Alternate List.

UAMS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION: Upon notification from AMCAS that you have applied, we will send you a UAMS College of Medicine Supplemental Application that provides an itemized list of other steps you must follow to complete your medical school application. A non-refundable fee of \$100.00 must accompany your Supplemental Application to the College of Medicine. A wallet-size photograph will be requested at the same time. The Supplemental Application includes a section for self-reporting felony or misdemeanor convictions, actions by a college, university, or professional school for unacceptable academic performance or a violation of an Institutional Code of Conduct, disciplinary action by a licensing agency, authority or board, etc. The College of Medicine reserves the right to perform a criminal background check on all applicants accepted for admission and Alternates placed on the Alternate List.

PREMEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPOSITE EVALUATION: (Mandatory) If it has been two years or less since you last attended or graduated from a college, you must request a letter of evaluation from the school's Premedical Advisory Committee. It is your responsibility to investigate and determine if your school has a Premedical Advisory Committee. You must meet all established deadlines of that committee for requesting a letter be sent to the College of Medicine Office of Admissions. Applicants who fail to satisfy this pre-matriculation requirement will not be allowed to proceed with their application. Therefore, their application will be rejected. If it has been over two years since you last attended or graduated from a college, you have the option to either request a letter of evaluation from the Premedical Advisory Committee or to ask three individual faculty members to submit letters of evaluation. If your school does not have a Premedical Advisory Committee, you must ask three individual faculty members to submit letters of evaluation.

PERSONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: (Optional) In addition, you may include three personal letters of recommendation in your file, letters that attest to your performance outside the classroom, i.e., motivation, integrity, leadership abilities, work ethic, professionalism, volunteerism, etc., from individuals who know you well, preferably over an extended period of time. Personal letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the Office of Admissions by November 15.

GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PROGRAM: If you are enrolled in a Graduate and/or Professional Degree Program at the time the AMCAS application is received in the Admissions office, you must have a letter in file from your Program Director/Major Advisor stating that it is acceptable for the College of Medicine to review your file during that admissions cycle. Without this letter, the Admissions Committee will not review your file. A letter of recommendation from your Program Director/Major Advisor will be considered by the College as constituting such a letter. If you are accepted to the college under the conditions noted above and then do not complete the Graduate and/or Professional Degree program, the College of Medicine Admissions Committee will review the circumstances. The Admissions Committee most likely will rescind the offer of acceptance. If an applicant who applies to medical school during the first year of a two-year graduate degree program is offered an acceptance, he/she will be required to defer admission to medical school for one year, complete the two-year graduate degree program, and then enter medical school following the completion of the graduate degree.

FACULTY INTERVIEWS: Each Arkansas resident applicant, who is a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident of the U.S., is personally interviewed by members of the College of Medicine faculty. The interview gives applicants an opportunity to relate facts about themselves that cannot be conveyed by the AMCAS application form and to visit and ask questions about the College of Medicine. The College of Medicine conducts team interviews (two faculty members will interview the applicant at the same time – with some teams including a senior medical student) on designated admissions interview days (Saturday mornings during the Fall). Our interviews are “blind,” meaning the interviewers do not have access to your records—they will not know your MCAT or GPA, etc. Applicants should plan to spend approximately four hours on campus for their admissions interview. The interview morning will include an orientation by the Dean, a question and answer session regarding admissions and financial aid, and a campus tour led by medical students. It is the responsibility of each Arkansas resident applicant to contact the Office of Admissions to schedule a faculty interview. Applicants should call beginning July 15, after certifying and submitting their AMCAS application, but not later than November 1, to schedule a faculty interview. Arkansas residents who submit their AMCAS application in July and August and are interviewed in September or October are much more likely to have their application reviewed for possible early acceptance at the December and January Admissions Committee meetings. Applicants who indicate on the AMCAS application that they are not an Arkansas resident must submit a letter by November 15 demonstrating strong ties to the state of Arkansas. It is strongly suggested that non-Arkansas residents submit their AMCAS application to AMCAS well in advance of the November 1 deadline, i.e., September 30. The College of Medicine supplemental application, along with the application fee, should be submitted to the Office of Admissions within two weeks following receipt, but by no later than November 15. With regard non-Arkansas resident interviews, the Admissions Committee will determine at its December meeting which non-Arkansas residents will be extended an invitation to come to UAMS for faculty interviews and be considered for admission. Letters will be mailed by December 15 to let non-Arkansas residents know if they will be invited for interviews conducted in early January. ***It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that his/her application is complete by the established deadlines.***

NON-DISCRIMINATION: Technical standards for admission are described at the end of this section. Applications are evaluated on the basis of academic qualifications, special achievements and personal attributes only, without preference to race, color, creed, sex, ethnic background, handicap or economic situation. Members of under-represented minority groups are encouraged to apply and such applications will be given consideration equal to all other applicants. Once accepted, all students are eligible to apply for financial assistance and may be awarded financial aid on the basis of financial need and/or merit within the resources available to the College of Medicine for that purpose.

Admissions Committee Review and Action

The Admissions Committee is appointed annually by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas as provided by state law. According to the law, the committee consists of two persons from each of the four congressional districts, six members of the faculty of the College of Medicine and one person from the state at large, making a total of fifteen. Members of the committee may be re-appointed only three times in succession.

All information, both objective and subjective, is reviewed by each member of the Admissions Committee when determining the relative strength of an applicant's qualifications. The Committee is responsible for selecting those individuals best qualified on a competitive basis from the total applicant pool. Admissions Committee recommendations are submitted to the Dean who has the final authority in admissions decisions. Applicants who have been approved will be notified by letter. Notices are mailed in three allotments: approximately December 15, January 15 and February 15. After that time, acceptances are offered to Alternates as positions are vacated by applicants declining their offers or deferring entry for one year. Applicants who receive notice of acceptance are expected to accept or decline their place in the class, in writing, within two weeks.

Arkansas law mandates the College of Medicine admit at least 150 students to the entering freshman class. Preference is given to Arkansas residents. Seventy percent (70%) of the first 150 enrollment positions must be equally distributed among the four federal Congressional Districts. The remaining 30% of the first 150 enrollment positions may be from any Congressional District or up to 15% of the first 150 allotted positions may be non-Arkansas residents. Preference is given to non-Arkansas residents who have "strong ties" to Arkansas. Any enrollment positions exceeding 150 may be granted to the best qualified applicants, regardless of Arkansas residency or congressional district. The College of Medicine may increase the number of freshman enrollment positions as deemed necessary to address a projected shortage of practicing physicians in the state. The number of allotted positions in the 2009 freshman class is 160. The College of Medicine reserves the right to increase class size as deemed necessary for the 2009-10 academic year.

After acceptance, an applicant is expected to complete his/her proposed educational program, maintain the same level of scholarship and continue to demonstrate the high moral standards required for entrance to the College of Medicine. The application folder will be kept current. In the event that a college degree will be awarded prior to matriculation in medical school all accepted applicants must provide a transcript verifying that requirements have been met and that the degree has been or will be awarded. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities from which degrees have been received and/or from which college credit has been received after the application is filed at AMCAS must be received prior to matriculation. The College of Medicine reserves the right to perform a criminal background check on all applicants accepted for admission as well as Alternates placed on the Alternate List.

When an applicant is accepted by the Admissions Committee into the College of Medicine, the Admissions Committee makes the decision to accept the applicant based on the applicant's file at the time of consideration. If an applicant's circumstances change from what could have been reasonably expected from the application file, i.e., fails or withdraws from a course, has a failing grade, drops out of a program, fails to obtain a degree or a major or minor, that they indicated they would receive, or in general does not sustain the level of academic achievement upon which the Admissions Committee made their initial decision, then the facts of the application are no longer valid and the acceptance will be reviewed and possibly withdrawn.

In addition to those applicants approved for the incoming class, a group of additional applicants will be designated as alternates. Alternates may be promoted to full acceptance status should there be subsequent withdrawal of any of the students from the class previously selected. Legislation designed to increase the number of physicians in rural Arkansas gives preference to Alternates who contract to practice medicine in rural underserved communities in Arkansas. Applicants must be Arkansas residents to participate in the Arkansas Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Program. Please refer to the section on Student Financial Aid "Service-Connected Scholarships" for additional information.



Option to Defer Admission

ARKANSAS RESIDENTS: An Arkansas resident who is offered a position in the freshman medical class can enter the next class as customary or can elect **to defer the start of medical studies for one year**, knowing that a position is guaranteed in the next subsequent class. Notification to the Dean's Office should be given as soon as the student has reached a decision to defer admission, but notice must be received in the Office of Admissions no later than May 15 for the year he/she is accepted. Students offered positions in the freshman class after May 15 must provide notice of their intent to defer no later than July 15.

In the event an Arkansas resident, who exercised his/her option to defer for one year, wishes to request a one-time extension, he/she must submit a detailed written request to the Office of Admissions by January 31. The request will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee at its February meeting to determine if the request will be approved or denied. For example, if an Arkansas resident is accepted in February 2009 for admission to the 2009 freshman class, he/she has until May 15 to request permission to defer for one year. If approved, the College of Medicine will reserve a position for that applicant in the 2010 entering freshman class. However, if that applicant wishes to extend the deferment for one additional year, he/she must submit a letter to the Office of Admissions by January 31, 2010. The Office of Admissions will advise the applicant on February 15 if his/her request has been approved or denied. If the request to extend the deferment is denied, the applicant will be expected to matriculate in August 2010 or relinquish his/her position in the class.

Note: The Arkansas Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Board determined that the option to defer admission does not apply to Alternates accepted for admission who have been approved for the Arkansas Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Program. Alternates advanced on the Alternate List and subsequently admitted to medical school due to their contractual agreement to the Rural Practice Program will be required to matriculate in the next subsequent class.

NON-ARKANSAS RESIDENTS: Beginning with the 2009 admissions cycle, non-Arkansas residents do not have the option to defer admission. Non-Arkansas residents offered positions in the 2009 entering freshman class will be expected to matriculate in the next subsequent class, August 2009.

Accreditation, Degree and Licensure

The Doctor of Medicine program offered by the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. The College of Medicine, through the University of Arkansas, grants the M.D. degree to those students who successfully complete its requirements. However, in order to practice medicine, a license to practice must then be obtained. The license to practice is issued by the Arkansas State Medical Board, an entity separate and distinct from the University of Arkansas. The issuance of the academic degree does not confer upon the recipient any guarantee of licensure.



Advanced Standing or Transfer Policy

The University of Arkansas will sometimes consider a few well-qualified applicants for potential transfer into the third year of the college. Transfer applicants must be Arkansas residents or have strong ties to the state of Arkansas. Applicants must be in good standing and making satisfactory academic progress at an LCME-accredited allopathic medical school located within the United States. Applicants will be considered beginning March 1. The deadline for receiving all application materials is April 1 of the year in which request for transfer is considered. Since such transfers are rare, interested individuals should contact the Office of Admissions for more detailed information.

Data on 2008 Entering Class

- 160 of 1542 applicants have been accepted as of February 15, 2008.
- The undergraduate grade point average for accepted applicants was 3.63 based on a 4.0 scale.
- Average scores on the MCAT were 9.9, 9.4 and 9.9 respectively, in Verbal Reasoning, Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences.
- Of those accepted, approximately 40% were female.
- The science disciplines represented 75% of the undergraduate majors. 52% of those accepted majored in biology. Other majors included accounting, anthropology, architecture, biochemistry, broadcasting, business, chemistry, engineering, computer science, English, history, international relations, music, neuroscience, psychology, political science, and theology.
- Of those accepted, 66% obtained all or part of their undergraduate education at colleges in Arkansas.
- 76% of the 2008 applicant pool were first-time applicants.
- The average age of those accepted was 23.3 – age range was 21-42.

Policies

Each student admitted to the College of Medicine at UAMS receives a Student Handbook containing detailed policies and procedures of the College. Students are responsible for everything in the Student Handbook. Before individuals may register for the freshman year, they are required to acknowledge in writing (on a form supplied by the College) that they have received the handbook, understand the policies and procedures contained therein and agree to abide by them. Further, they acknowledge that policies and procedures of the College may be changed and that new policies supersede old ones as soon as notification occurs. Anyone having questions concerning these policies and procedures is encouraged to contact the Executive Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs.

Registration

During the summer, information will be mailed to each student concerning the registration process, payment of tuition and fees and other matters. Financial Aid application packets are mailed in February to students accepted for admission. For this reason the Office of Student Admissions must have on file a current mailing address at which mail can be received with certainty. Each accepted applicant must submit transcripts of all college, university and professional school records to the Office of Student Admissions prior to registration. Applicants accepted to the freshman class must appear for registration at the place and time prescribed. Failure to appear for registration at the appointed time will result in forfeiture of that individual's place in the class to the next eligible alternate.

Payment of Tuition

Tuition is charged by the semester. The fall semester's tuition is due in full on the day of registration. The College of Medicine does not hold a registration day for the spring semester (our students register for the entire year when they register in the fall). Therefore, it is each student's responsibility to pay their spring semester's tuition by January 15th each year. Tuition payments are made to the Office of Student Financial Services. Students who fail to pay tuition by the established due dates will be placed on administrative leave of absence and will not receive credit for any classes attended until tuition is paid. The treasurer's office will not send tuition due notices for payment of the second installment of tuition.

Housing

The Office of Student Activities and Housing advises students to go to www.uams.edu/studentlife and "Off Campus Housing Options" for information. A new multistory residence hall was completed in August, 2006.

Special Students

An individual will be permitted to enroll as a special student in basic science courses of the College of Medicine for purposes of enhancing his/her vocational potential provided there is agreement of (1) the department chair concerned; (2) the Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; and (3) the Admissions Committee of the College. The applicant should be employed full-time and have academic prerequisites appropriate for the requested basic science course(s).

Students enrolled in any Graduate School program of the University of Arkansas or in a UAMS college other than Medicine are permitted to enroll as special students (1) with the permission of his/her major professor, (2) the approval of the chair of the department offering the course, (3) the approval of the Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (4) the permission of the Admissions Committee.

Technical Standards for Admission

The College of Medicine at UAMS believes that earning a Doctor of Medicine degree requires mastery of a coherent body of knowledge and skills. Because the M.D. degree signifies that the holder is a physician prepared for entry into the practice of medicine within postgraduate training programs, it follows that graduates must be prepared to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care. Therefore, there are certain minimum technical standards for physicians and medical students that must be met by applicants and students. A medical student must acquire substantial competence in the principles and facts of all of the curriculum's required basic science courses, must understand and appreciate the principles and practice of all of the basic fields of clinical medicine and must be able to relate appropriately to patients and other health care professionals. The following technical standards describe the non-academic qualifications, required in addition to appropriate academic achievements which the College considers essential for successful completion of the educational objectives of its curriculum. This list of required skills and qualifications is not all inclusive, but is meant to be representative:

Attitudinal, Behavioral, Interpersonal and Emotional Attributes: Because the medical profession is governed by ethical principles and by state and federal laws, a medical student must have the capacity to learn and understand these values and laws and to perform within their guidelines. Medical students should be able to relate to patients, as well as staff and colleagues, with honesty, integrity, non-discrimination, self-sacrifice and dedication. Medical students must be able to develop mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients. Medical students must be able to identify personal reactions and responses, recognize multiple points of view and integrate these appropriately into clinical decision making. Medical students must be able to communicate and care for, in a non-judgmental way, persons whose culture, sexual orientation, or spiritual beliefs are different than their own. A medical student must be able to examine the entire patient, male or female, regardless of the medical student's social, cultural, or religious beliefs. A medical student must be of sufficient emotional health to utilize fully his/her intellectual ability, to exercise good judgment, to complete patient care responsibilities promptly and to relate to patients, families and colleagues with courtesy, compassion, maturity and respect for their dignity. The medical student must display this emotional health in spite of stressful work, changing environments and clinical uncertainties. The medical student must be able to modify behavior in response to constructive criticism. He/she must be capable of being non-judgmental when caring for a patient and not let his/her own personal attitudes, perceptions and stereotypes compromise care of the patient. An individual with a diagnosed psychiatric disorder may function as a medical student as long as the condition is under sufficient control to allow accomplishment of the above goals. In the event of deteriorating emotional/behavioral functioning, it is essential that a medical student be willing to acknowledge the disability and accept professional help.

Intellectual Skills: Medical students must possess a range of intellectual skills that allow them to master the broad and complex body of knowledge that comprises a medical education. They must be able to recall large amounts of information, perform scientific measurements and calculations and understand and cognitively manipulate three-dimensional models. Medical students must be able to learn effectively through a variety of modalities including, but not limited to: classroom instruction, small group discussion, individual study of materials, preparation and presentation of written and oral reports and use of computer based technology. The ultimate goal of the student will be to solve difficult problems and to make diagnostic and therapeutic decisions. Reasoning abilities must be sophisticated enough to analyze and synthesize information from a wide variety of sources.

Communication: Medical students must be able to communicate in an appropriate fashion with a patient in order to obtain a medical history. This communication with patients must, at times, involve hearing the patient and speaking with the patient because some patients do not read or write, or at least they may not be able to do so under certain medical situations. Medical students must be able to read and write in patients'

charts in standard format and must be able to interact with a variety of standard computers networked to hospital information systems to obtain patient information, order tests and document patient progress. Medical students must be able to prepare a legible, comprehensive patient work-up and present a new patient's case orally in a focused manner to fellow classmates, resident physicians and attending physicians as appropriate.

Observation: Medical students must be able to observe a patient and detect and interpret non-verbal communication from the patient. Each student must be able to use a microscope to, as examples, view and interpret a blood smear, a bacterial stain, a urine sample, identify normal tissues and identify pathologic changes in tissues which are brought about by disease processes, as well as studying other microscopic specimens. Medical students must be capable of viewing and interpreting such diagnostic modalities as various radiological imaging techniques (X-ray films, angiograms, CT scans, etc.) and electrocardiograms, in order to assess the accuracy and importance of the examination. Medical students must be able to perform auscultation of the patient and do such things as describe normal and abnormal heart sounds, detect bruits (sound of abnormal blood flow) and detect abnormal abdominal sounds. Medical students must be able to hear the history of a patient and respond appropriately to the patient verbally.

Motor Skills: Medical students must be able to position a patient properly for a physical examination. Medical students must be able to perform a physical examination on a patient, including the ability to inspect various physical signs and recognize normal versus abnormal findings, including fine visual differentiations such as the ability to see a non-palpable skin lesion to determine its malignant potential and to perform a fundoscopic examination to evaluate the retina of the eye for changes suggestive of diabetes mellitus or hypertension. They must be able to elicit information from patients using the techniques of palpation, auscultation, percussion and other diagnostic maneuvers. They must be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Examples of treatment reasonably required of physicians are cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the administration of intravenous medication, the application of pressure to stop bleeding, the opening of an obstructed airway, the introduction of intravenous catheters, the drawing of arterial and venous blood samples, the suturing of simple wounds and the performance of simple obstetrical maneuvers. Medical students must be able to utilize gross and fine manual palpation, touch, vibratory sensation and temperature sensation to describe and evaluate lymph nodes, thyroid nodules, breast tissue, the pulse, joints and other body parts.

General: Medical students must demonstrate the ability to tolerate physically challenging workloads and to function effectively under stress. The unpredictable needs of patients are at the heart of becoming a physician. Academic and clinical responsibilities of medical students may require their presence during day and evening hours and on any day of the week.

In evaluating candidates for admission and candidates for the M.D. degree, it is essential that the integrity of the curriculum be maintained, that those elements deemed necessary for the education of a physician be preserved and that the health and safety of patients be maintained. While compensation, modification and reasonable accommodation can be made for some disabilities on the part of the candidate for admission or for the M.D. degree, candidates must be able to perform the duties of a medical student or physician in a reasonably independent manner. The use of a trained intermediary would result in mediation of a candidate's judgment by another person's powers of selection and observation. Therefore, the use of trained intermediaries to assist students in meeting the technical standards for admission or graduation is not permitted.

The College of Medicine will consider for admission any candidate who demonstrates the ability to perform or to learn to perform the skills and abilities specified in these technical standards. Candidates for the M.D. degree will be assessed on a regular basis, according to the Academic Standards of the College of Medicine, not only on the basis of their academic (cognitive) abilities, but also on the basis of their scholastic non-cognitive abilities to meet the requirements of the curriculum.

Approved by the Academic Standards Committee
Approved by the Clinical Clerkship Directors
Approved by the General Faculty, December 2000

Approved by the Basic Science Chairs
Approved by the Executive Committee

CPR Policy

Freshman Medical Students must be certified in Basic Life Support Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), American Heart Association Program, before the end of the Fall Term of their Freshman year. Students already CPR certified must show proof of American Heart Association certification during Freshman Orientation. Students may be certified elsewhere as long as the certification is that of the American Heart Association and certification is documented before the end of the fall term. Students must be ACLS certified to graduate.