

## **Technical Standards and Immunization requirements for Admission, Matriculation and Program Completion**

Candidates who are accepted for admission by Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) and who matriculate as candidates for the M.D. degree must be able to demonstrate skills and abilities that will enable them to complete the Medical School curriculum. Upon completion of the required curriculum, NJMS, as part of Rutgers Biomedical & Health Sciences recommends to the Board of Trustees that it grant the degree of M.D., which indicates that the holder of such a degree is prepared for entry into the practice of medicine within postgraduate training programs. Therefore, all applicants and matriculated students possess certain essential abilities and characteristics required for completion of the MD degree that consist of certain minimum physical and cognitive abilities and emotional characteristics to assure that candidates for admission, matriculation, and graduation are able to complete the entire course of study and participate fully in all aspects of medical training, with or without reasonable accommodation.

A candidate for the M.D. degree must have abilities and skills of five varieties including: observation; communication; motor; intellectual–conceptual abilities; and behavioral and social attributes.

Candidates can request reasonable accommodations if needed to meet these technical standards by following the University policies and procedures and contacting the Office for Disability Services as outlined at the end of this document. A candidate must be able to perform these outlined technical standards in a reasonably independent manner.

### **Technical (non-academic) standards:**

#### **1. Observation**

Candidates must be able to acquire a defined level of information in both the clinical and basic sciences. Students must be able to obtain information from demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences. Students must be able to assess a patient and evaluate findings accurately. The observation and information acquisition noted above will require candidates to have functional use of visual, auditory and touch sensations or the functional equivalent.

#### **2. Communication**

A candidate must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently, and to observe patients in order to elicit information, detect and describe changes in mood, activity, and posture; perceive nonverbal communications; and establish a therapeutic relationship. A candidate must be able to respectfully communicate effectively, efficiently and sensitively with patients, their families, faculty, peers and all other members of the health care team. Communication includes speech, reading and writing or the functional equivalent.

#### **3. Motor**

Candidates must, after a reasonable period of training, possess the capacity to perform physical examinations and diagnostic maneuvers. They must be able to respond to clinical situations in a timely

manner and provide general and emergency care. These activities require some physical mobility, coordination of both gross and fine motor neuromuscular function and balance and equilibrium. Such actions require coordination of gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision or the functional equivalent.

#### **4. Intellectual-Conceptual Abilities**

Candidates must possess measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of physicians, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, candidates and students must be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and to understand and be able to work within the spatial relationships of structures. They must have the intellectual capability to increase their fund of information and knowledge base through various media as well as from course materials, scheduled conferences, lectures, rounds, current literature and journals; and to make appropriate evaluations of clinical circumstances. Analytical problem-solving skills are critical in medicine and candidates must be able to perform in a timely manner, tasks utilizing such skills.

#### **5. Behavioral and Social Attributes**

Candidates must possess the emotional and physical health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients. Candidates must be able serve (in an appropriate manner), all persons in need of assistance, regardless of the person's age, class, race, ethnicity, religious affiliation (or lack thereof), gender identification, ability, sexual orientation, and value system. Candidates must be able to function effectively under stress, and must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical findings of many patients. Candidates are also expected to possess the stamina, energy and endurance to complete the full curriculum of required courses, electives and other activities under the established School policies.

#### **6. Ethics and professionalism**

Students must maintain and display ethical and moral behaviors commensurate with the role of a physician in all interactions with patients, faculty, staff, students and the public. The student is expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within the law and ethical standards of the medical profession (NJMS Code of Professional Conduct). NJMS is committed to diversity and to attracting and educating students who will make the population of health care professionals representative of the national population.

A student whose behavior or performance raises questions or concerns pertaining to his or her ability to fulfill these technical standards may be required to obtain evaluation and/or testing by a health care provider designated by the School, and to provide the results to the Campus Student Health Service, the Dean of the New Jersey Medical School and/or the Associate Dean for Student Affairs of the New Jersey Medical School for the purpose of determining whether the student is fit to pursue the educational program. If the student is deemed fit to pursue the program, the School reserves the right to require



actions recommended by the health care provider, including further testing, counseling, monitoring, leave of absence, etc.

**Note about Immunizations:**

Enrollment and continued enrollment of accepted students at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School is conditional, based on the results of certain laboratory tests and fulfillment of current immunization and health requirements (as determined by Rutgers and/or NJMS) in order to determine their ability to perform all essential functions.

**I have read and understand** these Technical Standards and Immunization requirements for Admission, Matriculation and Program Completion at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

**By submitting this document**, I hereby certify that I am able to meet, with or without accommodations, the technical standards, which are required for admission, matriculation, and completion of the NJMS program. If I require any accommodation in order to perform these functions. I agree to request accommodation, if needed, by promptly following the established policies and procedures set forth by the University.

If you have any general questions about this form or its contents, please contact the NJMS Admissions Office at 973-972-4631 or email at [NJMSAPPLICANT@njms.rutgers.edu](mailto:NJMSAPPLICANT@njms.rutgers.edu)

**If you are in need of reasonable accommodations** in order to meet the Technical Standards for Admission, Matriculation and Program Completion policy, **please contact the RBHS Office of Disability Services at 973-972-5396 or email [ODSRBHS@rutgers.edu](mailto:ODSRBHS@rutgers.edu)**

Additional information about the RBHS Office of Disability Services may be found at <https://go.rutgers.edu/ODSRBHS>. If my circumstances should change related to these technical standards, I will promptly notify the Office of Student Affairs at the New Jersey Medical School and/or the Office of Disability Services if reasonable accommodations are required at any point in my time at NJMS.