Maine College of Health Professions
Technical Standards

The term 'technical standards' refers to all non-academic admission criteria that are essential to participation Healthcare programs at Maine College of Health Professions

The Maine College of Health Professions (MCHP) is committed to diversity and to attracting and educating students who will make the population of healthcare professionals' representative of the national population. We actively collaborate with candidates to develop innovative ways to ensure accessibility and create a respectful, accountable culture through our confidential disability support. Candidates are expected to develop a robust healthcare knowledge base and the requisite clinical skills, with the ability to appropriately apply their knowledge and skills, effectively interpret information, and contribute to patient-centered decisions across a broad spectrum of healthcare situations and settings.

The following technical standards, in conjunction with the academic standards, are requirements for admission, promotion, and graduation. The term "candidate" refers to candidates for admission to MCHP and current students who are candidates for retention, promotion, and graduation. These requirements may be achieved with or without reasonable accommodations. Candidates with disabilities are encouraged to contact the ADA Coordinator early in the application process to begin a confidential conversation about what accommodations they may need to meet these standards. Fulfilling the technical standards for graduation from MCHP does not guarantee that a graduate will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific healthcare career.

Motor Skills

- Candidates should have sufficient motor functions such that they are able to execute the movements required to provide general care and treatment to patients in all healthcare settings.
- Candidates must be able to perform basic life support (including CPR), transfer and position patients, and position and re-position themselves around patients.
- Candidates must also be able to operate equipment typically found in the healthcare environment (For example, IV pumps, cardiac monitors, electric and manual blood pressure equipment, stethoscope, safe patient handling equipment, imaging equipment, etc.).
- Candidates are required to possess the motor skills necessary for assessment and therapeutic procedures. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional uses of the senses of touch, vision, and hearing.

Sensory/Observation

- Candidates should be able to obtain information from demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences.
- Candidates should be able to assess a patient and evaluate findings accurately. These skills require the use of vision, hearing, and touch or the functional equivalent.

Communication

- Candidates must exhibit interpersonal skills to accurately evaluate patient conditions and responses and enable effective caregiving of patients.
- Candidates must be able to record information clearly and accurately and accurately interpret patients' verbal and nonverbal communication.

- Candidates must demonstrate effective communication, participation, and collaboration with all members of the multidisciplinary healthcare team, patients, and those supporting patients in person and in writing.

Cognitive

- Candidates must be able to measure, calculate, reason, prioritize, analyze, integrate, synthesize information, and act with integrity and judgment (ability to manage impulsivity).
- Candidates must have the ability to sustain attention and memory to maintain patient safety.
- Candidates must be able to read and comprehend extensive written materials.
- Candidates must also be able to evaluate and apply information and engage in critical thinking in the classroom, lab, and clinical setting within the time constraints unique to each setting.

Behavioral/Emotional

- Candidates must be able to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning and working environments, accept constructive feedback from others, and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes.
- Candidates also need to possess the emotional stability and maturity to fully apply their intellectual skills, exercise good judgment, and complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients.
- Candidates should be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of multiple patients.
- Candidate must show all personal qualities of compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, professionalism, interest, and motivation during the education process.

Professional Conduct

- Candidates must be willing to learn and abide by professional standards of practice.
- Candidates must possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, altruism, integrity, honesty, responsibility, and tolerance.
- Candidates must be able to engage in patient care delivery in all settings and be able to deliver care to all patient populations, including but not limited to children, adolescents, adults, individuals with disabilities, medically compromised patients, and vulnerable adults.

The technical standards delineated above must be met with or without accommodations.

Candidates who, after review of the technical standards, determine that they require accommodations to fully engage in the program should contact Melissa Wetherby, MCHP ADA Coordinator (Melissa.Wetherby@mchp.edu) to confidentially discuss their accommodations needs. Given the clinical nature of the program, additional time may be needed to implement accommodations.

Accommodations are never retroactive; therefore, timely requests are essential and encouraged.