

KCU COM Minimum Technical Standards

All candidates and enrolled medical students must meet health and technical standards to be admitted to, participate in, and graduate from the medical education programs of KCU. Because the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree signifies that the holder is a physician prepared for entry into the practice of a broad range of medical practice, and that he/she has met the requirements to enter a variety of diverse postgraduate training programs, KCU graduates must have the knowledge, skill, and capability to fully perform and function in a broad variety of clinical situations. KCU students and graduates are trained and must demonstrate competency to provide a wide spectrum of acute and chronic patient care, including emergency care in a variety of settings (The emergency room, the surgery suite, in the hospital, in a clinic, and as a first responder to a disaster are a few examples).

A candidate as well as an enrolled medical student for the DO degree must have abilities and skills in the areas described below and meet the standards described as an obligation to patients that they will interact with as a student physician and to society as the recipient of a DO degree upon graduation.

Reasonable accommodations will be made as required by law; however, the candidate/student must be able to meet all technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation. Please refer to the section on the Americans with Disabilities Act. The use of a trained intermediary necessarily requires that a candidate's judgment be mediated by someone else's power of selection and observation, and is not a permissible accommodation. Enrolled students who are unable to meet these standards may be asked to appear before the Student Performance Committee and may be subject to dismissal. Requests for accommodations should be directed to the KCU Disability Services Coordinator. Further information can be viewed at <https://www.kansascity.edu/student-experience/student-services/student-disability-services---resources>

Immunizations

Candidates and enrolled medical students must satisfy all requirements for immunizations at the time of admission and throughout their medical school career. Student physicians, interacting with patients in hospitals and in clinics, are exposed to a variety of infectious agents. Although universal precautions are required in many of these encounters, the risk of infection is still increased. In order to protect the student physician, and to prevent the spread of disease to patients, student physicians must satisfy the immunization requirements. Failure to do so will prevent matriculation or in the case of an enrolled student, lead to dismissal.

Observation

Physical diagnosis is based upon a physician's ability to see, hear, touch, and interact with patients. Candidates and enrolled student physicians must be able to directly observe patients in order to diagnose. Direct observation of body stature, body position, ambulation, facial expression, skin color, range of motion, eye color, etc. are just a few examples of the necessary capability a student physician must have to master the requirement of physical diagnosis. Candidates must be able to observe demonstrations, experiments, and patients in the basic and clinical sciences. This includes but is not limited to the ability to observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand. Observation requires the functional use of the sense of vision and somatic sensations.

Communication

Candidates and enrolled student physicians must be able to speak, hear and observe patients in order to elicit information; describe changes in mood, activity and posture; and perceive nonverbal communications. A candidate must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and other health care professionals. Student physicians must be able to hear and speak in emergency situations (a member of a cardiac arrest team, emergency surgery, trauma in the emergency room; are some examples). Communication (in English) includes speech, hearing, reading and writing. A candidate must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively in verbal and written form with all members of the health care team.

Sensory/Motor

Candidates and enrolled student physicians must have sufficient motor function to elicit information by palpation, auscultation, percussion as well as other diagnostic and therapeutic maneuvers. A candidate should be able to perform basic laboratory tests (urinalysis, CBC, blood glucose testing, etc.), carry out diagnostic procedures (endoscopy, paracentesis, etc.), and read EKGs and X-rays. A candidate should be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care, osteopathic manipulation and emergency treatments to patients. Examples of emergency treatment reasonably required of physicians are cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administration of intravenous medication, application of pressure to stop bleeding, opening of obstructed airways, suturing of simple wounds, the Heimlich maneuver, and performance of basic obstetric maneuvers are some

examples. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, the ability to stand, and equilibrium with the functional use of the senses of touch and vision. Candidates must be able to lift a minimum of 40 lbs. and stand for a minimum of one hour.

Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities

Candidates and enrolled student physicians must possess conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities, including measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis and synthesis. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of physicians, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, candidates must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationship of structures. Candidates and enrolled student physicians must be able to sit in a classroom and participate in a full eight-hour day. The practice of medicine requires periods of distinct concentration in surgery, trauma, emergency room care, and other patient settings. Candidates and enrolled student physicians must be capable of extended periods of intense concentration and attention.

Behavior and Social Attributes

Candidates and enrolled student physicians must have the emotional health required for full use of the 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 and enrolled student physicians must be able to tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admission and educational processes.

Osteopathic Principles and Practices (OPP) and Principles of Clinical Medicine (PCM) Laboratory Policies

All courses that include osteopathic manipulation and clinical skill courses include didactic presentations, demonstrations, practical laboratory experiences and clinical opportunities. During these activities, students establish their knowledge and ability to recognize and utilize the relationships between structures and function that are integral to osteopathic medicine.

The student must develop the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate the principles and coordinate the proper osteopathic and clinical techniques to prevent and treat pathology and dysfunction. Concurrently, the students will learn other medical approaches to the treatment of disease and dysfunction in the systems courses. Each course provides education on the principles, philosophy and history of osteopathic medicine, examination and evaluation of the patient, and the proper selection and application of osteopathic treatments and techniques. These courses require the active participation of all students in the laboratory setting where the student, through the active and tactile examination of others along with reciprocal examination, will learn and demonstrate the ability to evaluate and proficiently treat their future patients.

The training of an osteopathic physician requires the ability to perform tactile examinations and osteopathic manipulative techniques on members of the same and opposite sex. The training of an osteopathic physician also requires that a student experience and understand tactile diagnostic exercise and manipulative treatment. Students are required to participate both as patients and as trainees in the OPP laboratory and PCM laboratory, and examine and be examined by members of the same and opposite sex.

A graduate from the College of Osteopathic Medicine has the ability to apply for licensure as a physician in all fifty states. Their license is not restricted to any one particular sex, and candidates for graduation must demonstrate the ability to practice medicine on both males and females.

I, the Student indicated below, acknowledge that I am able to meet the above listed minimum health and technical standards for admission, continuation, and graduation with or without reasonable accommodations.

Questions regarding the content or interpretation of any KCU Policy or Procedure can be directed to the Vice Provost for Enrollment and Student Services or, for Title IX Issues, the Chief Compliance Officer.