

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND MATRICULATION

Technical Standards

The holder of the degree must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care. In order to carry out the activities described below, candidates for the degree must be able to consistently, quickly and accurately integrate all information received, and they must have the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data.

A candidate for the degree must have the abilities and skills of four varieties, including: observation; communication; conceptual, integrative and quantitative; behavioral and social. Technological compensation can be made for handicaps in some of these areas, but a candidate must be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner.

- I. **Observation and Sensory Skills:** Candidates and students must have sufficient vision to be able to observe demonstrations, experiments, and laboratory exercises in a broad range of settings. They must be able to observe a client accurately at a distance and close at hand for proper evaluation and treatment integration.
- II. **Communication Skills:** Candidates and students should be able to speak, hear and observe clients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive non-verbal communications. They must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with peers, instructors and clients. Communication includes not only speech but also reading and writing. They must also be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with all members of the health care team.
- III. **Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Skills:** These skills include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis and synthesis. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of psychologists, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, candidates and students should be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.
- IV. **Behavioral and Social Skills:** Candidates and students must possess the emotional 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 clients, and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with clients. Candidates and students must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and 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 clients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and educational processes.

Reasonable Accommodation and Documentation

PCOM is committed to making its programs accessible to all qualified students. Reasonable accommodation will be made when necessary. In determining what constitutes a reasonable accommodation, the College will consider costs of the requested accommodation and the impact on

the educational program. PCOM will evaluate each situation on an individual basis.

Once accepted for admission, students must take the responsibility for providing appropriate documentation of the disability and requesting accommodations. The documentation must clearly identify the disability and also provide specific information on the manifestations of the disability and any accommodations needed to remedy those manifestations.

A student who requires an accommodation must make that need known to the College Administration before the accommodations are needed. Progress monitoring will be coordinated through regular meetings with the Dean's Office.

PCOM reserves the right to ask for specific types of documentation in order to ascertain the nature and scope of any disability and associated accommodation.

Sample Accommodations

Listed below are examples of certain accommodations that may be appropriate. This is not an exhaustive list of possible accommodations, but is merely for illustrative purposes.

- Extended time for testing in courses
- Special testing locations and proctors
- Tape recorded lectures
- Tutoring and supplemental instruction services