Technical Standards of the Cal State LA AuD Program

The AuD program at Cal State LA has a responsibility to the public to assure that its graduates can become fully competent and caring audiologists, capable of providing benefit and committed to doing no harm. It is important that persons admitted and retained in the AuD program possess the intelligence, integrity, compassion, humanitarian concern, physical and emotional capacity, communication skills, and professionalism necessary to practice audiology.

Graduates of the Cal State LA AuD Program must possess the essential knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care safely and effectively. The Cal State LA AuD Program has specified the following nonacademic criteria ("technical standards") that applicants and enrolled students must meet with or without accommodations to participate in the education program and the practice of audiology. To this end, the AuD Program may dismiss a student who is unable to perform any of the essential functions, skills, and abilities, with or without a reasonable accommodation.

1. Observation
    - The student must participate actively in all demonstrations and laboratory exercises in the academic and clinical curricula. The student must assess and comprehend the condition of all patients assigned to him or her for examination, diagnosis and treatment.
    - Such observation and information acquisition usually requires the functional use of visual, auditory and somatic sensation.

2. Communication
    - The student must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and assess non-verbal communications.
    - The student must be able to effectively and efficiently transmit information to patients, fellow students, faculty, staff, family and other professionals.
    - Required communication skills include speaking, reading and writing, as well as the observation skills described above.

Text approved by University Counsel, 3-1-22

3. Motor

- The student must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients.
- Students must be capable of performing basic diagnostic tests, possess all skills necessary to carry out diagnostic procedures, and execute the movements reasonably required to provide care to patients.

4. Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities

- The student must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize, and apply the critical thinking skills required of a health care professional.
- The student must have the capacity to problem-solve in a timely fashion.

5. Behavioral and Social Attributes

- The student must be able to fully utilize his/her intellectual abilities and exercise good judgment. Prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients is required.
- Students must be capable of developing mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and others.
- Students must also be able to tolerate taxing workloads, function effectively under stress, 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, commitment and motivation are personal qualities which each student should possess.
- The student must show respect for individuals with disabilities and for persons with different age, ethnic background, race, religion and/or sexual orientation.

Students are required to notify the program of any changes in their ability to perform the essential functions of AuD students.

At Cal State LA, we recognize that some students may need accommodations to meet these standards. Students who are unsure of their capacity to meet these standards may inquire about reasonable accommodations through the office of student disabilities (https://www.calstatela.edu/osd). Cal State LA will engage in an interactive process with the student to determine if an accommodation, one that will help the student but not fundamentally alter the nature of the AuD program or cause an undue burden, is appropriate.