Marshall University

Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

BS/MD Program – Interviewing Applicants

Technical Standards

These technical standards for admission are set forth by the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine (MUJCESOM) to establish the expectations and requisite abilities considered essential for students admitted to its educational and training programs to achieve the levels of competency stipulated by MUJCESOM, its accrediting agency (the Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association), and the Higher Educational Policy Commission of the State of West Virginia.

A practicing physician must possess the physical, mental, behavioral, and social competencies to function in a variety of clinical situations and to render a broad spectrum of patient care in multiple and varied settings.

Students accepted into the BS/MD program must be able to perform the academic and clinical competencies to meet the full requirements of the school’s curriculum, both at the time of initial acceptance into the BS/MD program and at the time of matriculation into the medical school portion of the program.

Accepted students with disabilities which may compromise their educational process, the educational process of classmates or the practice of medicine may be required to undergo appropriate evaluation to assess their ability to meet the school’s competencies and/or continue in the program.

The academic and clinical competencies of the school’s curriculum include the capacity to observe and communicate and demonstrate sufficient motor ability to perform physical examinations and basic laboratory and diagnostic procedures. Students must demonstrate emotional stability, exercise sound judgment, work effectively in stressful situations, and have the intellectual ability to synthesize data and solve problems.

Applicants for admission to the BS/MD program who are invited for an on campus interview are required to sign on the day of their interview that they have read and understand the technical standards described herein. A description of the actual disability and the need for accommodations should not be disclosed at this time. Should the student be accepted into the program, at the end of the second year of undergraduate school, the student will be asked to read the standards again and must sign to certify that they meet the standards as described herein either with or without reasonable accommodations.

Reasonable accommodations will be considered for accepted students with appropriately documented disabilities. An accommodation is not reasonable if it poses a direct threat to the health or safety of self and/or others, if making it requires a substantial modification in an essential element of the curriculum, if it lowers academic standards, or poses an undue administrative or financial burden. Except in rare circumstances, the use by the candidate of a third party (e.g., an intermediary) to perform any of the functions described in the Technical Standards set forth would constitute an unacceptable modification.

A BS/MD student who has met all the requirements to matriculate into the medical school and who has a disability and needs accommodations should initiate discussions with the Associate Dean of Students Affairs as soon as the offer of admissions is received and accepted. It is the responsibility of the BS/MD student to provide sufficiently current information documenting the general nature and extent of his/her disability and the functional limitations proposed to be accommodated. The student must recertify that he/she is able to meet the technical standards with their specific accommodations. The School of Medicine reserves the right to request new or additional information within legal and policy guidelines. Any documentation pertinent to the request for accommodation will be kept in a confidential file separate from the candidate’s student and/or employment file, and may be accessed only by those with a reasonable and legitimate need to know.

Candidates for admission to the BS/MD program:

* Must be able to obtain, process, and learn information presented in classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences, including but not limited to lecture, anatomical dissection, and simulated and real treatment situations;
* Must be able to acquire information from a variety of sources, including but not limited to texts, journals, written documentation, videotapes, films, slides, and advanced media resources;
* Must have the mental capacity to, in a timely manner, assimilate, learn, and communicate large volumes of complex, technically detailed information, to perform clinical problem-solving, and synthesize and apply concepts and information from different disciplines to formulate evaluative and therapeutic judgments;
* Must be able to measure, calculate, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information;
* Must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand spatial relationships of structures;
* Must be able to process information in a timely manner;
* Must be able to solve clinical problems in a timely manner;
* Must be able to observe simulated and real patients accurately close at hand and at a distance;
* Must be able to assess verbal and non-verbal communication from others;
* Must be able to demonstrate effective, efficient, and sensitive verbal, non-verbal, and written communication skills with faculty, peers, patients, and other members of the health care team from different cultural and social backgrounds;
* Must be able to consistently perform a complete history and physical exam on any patient regardless of the patient’s race, religion, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, age or sexual orientation.
* Must be able to tolerate long periods of sitting as well as long periods of physical activity;
* Must be able to manipulate parts of, or whole bodies of, simulated and real patients;
* Must be able to tolerate close physical contact with patients for instructional purposes while maintaining professional deportment;
* Must possess the emotional health necessary for the full use of intellectual abilities, the exercise of sound judgment, and the effective completion of all responsibilities attendant to the educational expectations, assessment and treatment of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, family members, colleagues, and others;
* Must be able to endure physically and mentally stressful workloads and function effectively and professionally under stress;
* Must be able to adapt to changing environments and expectations;
* Must be able to prioritize activities effectively;
* Must possess adequate sensory function to fulfill the minimum competency objectives for auscultation, percussion, and other physical assessment and treatment procedures commonly used in the medical practice;
* Must have the capacity to learn, model and abide by the professional competencies of the profession;
* Must have the ability to record examination and diagnostic results clearly, accurately and efficiently, and communicate them effectively to the patient and colleagues.

*After the original interview- I have read the technical standards as listed herein. I understand that should I require reasonable accommodations, I will be required to meet with the Associate Dean for Student Affairs following my formal acceptance to the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to document the need for reasonable accommodations and to discuss specific accommodations.*

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Applicant/Student Signature

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Applicant/Student Printed Name

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Admissions staff member

*At the end of the second year of undergraduate school I have read and understood the above standards and certify that I am able to meet these standards either with or without reasonable accommodations. I understand that should I require reasonable accommodations, I will be required to meet with the Associate Dean for Student Affairs following my formal acceptance to the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to document the need for reasonable accommodations and discuss specific accommodations.*

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Admissions Staff member

*Document was reviewed and revised by University Counsel and then approved by the Admissions Committee on April 24, 2017*