



Technical Standards

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine (OSU CVM) indicates that the individual is a veterinarian who is competent to practice veterinary medicine and is generally capable to apply for and maintain veterinary medical licensure. All CVM students are required to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to provide safe and effective veterinary medical care. Thus, each candidate for admission and each continuing student must possess and maintain the skills, qualities and attributes required to practice direct patient care regardless of his or her intended career pathway. The list of clinical competencies required to attain graduation is available at <http://vet.osu.edu/education/clinical-competencies>.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the OSU CVM requires that matriculates (OSU CVM students in years I-IV), students who complete their senior year at OSU CVM, interns and residents (collectively referred to as STUDENT(S)) meet and maintain the ability to meet the following technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation as a condition of participation in the veterinary medical education program. Reasonable accommodations include those assistive devices and strategies that do not change the essential requirements of the curriculum and do not change the standards of performance judged to be acceptable. Assistance strategies that use trained intermediaries to obtain and interpret data from patients or owners on behalf of the STUDENT will not be accepted as reasonable.

Standard I - Conceptual, integrative, qualitative, quantitative abilities:

- The STUDENT must be able to observe, measure, calculate, and utilize information to engage in critical thinking, data analysis and assimilation, and problem solving in both individual and group contexts that are essential to the function of a veterinarian. They must be able to demonstrate these procedures in potentially stressful situations and in a timely fashion across the range of clinical conditions and time frames.
- The STUDENT must be able to comprehend the relationship between tissue histology, gross anatomy and function in biological systems.

Standard II - Stamina:

- The STUDENT must possess the physical and mental stamina necessary to reliably and fully participate across the curriculum, including small group learning activities, computer based learning activities and examinations, and clinical rotations.
- The STUDENT must be able to demonstrate sustained activity to master the large volume of material needed to meet the OSU CVM performance standards.
- The STUDENT must be able to work variable and irregular shifts, including evenings, over-nights and weekends, and function as a collaborative, effective and productive team member within the work hours defined by OSU CVM.



Standard III - Observation:

- The STUDENT must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand, acquire information from written documents, actively participate in instructional activities, observe patients for signs of disease, and to interpret visual diagnostic tests including but not limited to electrocardiograms, radiographs, and histology slides.
- The STUDENT must be able to perceive and interpret signs of fear, aggression, and other potentially dangerous behaviors made by various animal species, and sense and interpret warning sounds and signs in the veterinary health care environment in order to safely work around and with such animals.

Such observation and information acquisition is typically accomplished through the use of visual, auditory and somatic sensation while being enhanced by the functional use of other sensory modalities, including smell. In any case where one's ability to observe or acquire information through typical sensory modalities is compromised, the STUDENT is expected to acquire and effectively use this essential information through the use of reasonable accommodations, including the use of approved auxiliary aids and services. All STUDENTS are held to the same standards regardless of ability.

Standard IV - Communication:

- The STUDENT must be able to understand and interpret patients' clinical presentations in order to obtain information, describe changes in behavior, activity and posture, and perceive non-vocal communications.
- The STUDENT must be able to respond in a timely manner to directions given in emergency situations and during clinical and surgical procedures for providing safe and effective treatment and care.
- The STUDENT must be able to communicate independently with peers and other members of the health care community.
- The STUDENT must be able to communicate efficiently and effectively in both oral and written forms using English.

Standard V – Clinical Skills:

- The STUDENT must be able to independently perform, within an appropriate time frame, procedures that include, but are not limited to the following: a comprehensive physical exam on a patient, apply appropriate restraint procedures, palpation, percussion, auscultation and other diagnostic maneuvers, laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures, manipulate patients, equipment and tissues, and maneuver in the field or operating room.
- The STUDENT must be able to independently provide general and emergency medical care, within an appropriate time frame, including, but not limited to the following: airway management, placement of intravenous catheters, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, application of pressure to control bleeding, suturing of wounds, and other diagnostic and therapeutic (medical and surgical) procedures.



Standard VI - Professional Interactions:

- The STUDENT must conduct him/herself with integrity, respect, compassion, tolerance and acceptance of others in his/her interactions with patients, owners, peers, faculty and other members of the CVM community at all times, including under stress and after limited and/or interrupted sleep.
- The STUDENT must be able to respond quickly to demands within the clinical environment.
- The STUDENT must be able to demonstrate flexibility with regard to the demands of the curriculum and must be able to manage clinical uncertainty.

Signing this document indicates that the STUDENT is able to meet the technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations throughout the duration of his/her training at the OSU-CVM. If at any point during veterinary training, the STUDENT is unable to meet the Technical Standards of the OSU CVM he/she must notify the OSU CVM ADA Coordinator immediately. The OSU CVM ADA Coordinator, in collaboration with the Office of Disability Services, will determine if reasonable accommodations can be made. Once a determination has been made as to whether or not reasonable accommodations can be made, a new technical standards attestation must be signed and submitted. Following receipt of the attestation, STUDENTS who are unable to meet the technical standards of the OSU CVM with or without reasonable accommodations will be dismissed.



Applicant's Certification of Ability to Meet Technical Standards

I have read and understand the above technical standards, and I hereby certify that (please select one):

_____ I am **able** to meet these technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations. If reasonable accommodations are required, I will contact a University representative at the Office of Disability Services (ODS) (614-292-3307) **prior** to the start of the current academic year. Upon notification from ODS, I will provide the OSU-CVM with documentation for all approved accommodations.

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

_____ I am **unable** to meet these technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations. I understand that because I cannot meet the required technical standards, I cannot continue in the veterinary curriculum at the OSU CVM.

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

If you are unable to determine whether or not you are able to meet the technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations, or if you require additional information before signing this form, please contact OSU CVM Professional Program Support at 614-292-1171.

Approval Date: December 1, 2011