TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR LSUHSC SAHP-
Department of Counseling

Graduate education requires that the accumulation of knowledge be accompanied by the acquisition of skills and professional attitudes and behavior. Graduate school faculties have a responsibility to society to matriculate and graduate the best possible students, and thus admission to graduate school is offered to those who present the highest qualifications for the study and practice of counseling. Technical standards presented in this document are prerequisite for admission, progression, and graduation from the Department of Counseling at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - School of Allied Health Professions in New Orleans. All courses in the curriculum are required so that students can develop the essential knowledge and skills necessary to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care.

The Department of Counseling complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and has determined that certain technical standards must be met by prospective candidates and students. A candidate for the Master of Health Sciences in Counseling must possess aptitude, abilities, and skills in the five areas discussed below. Reasonable accommodations will be made for otherwise qualified persons with disabilities. All individuals must be able to perform independently; or with an approved accommodation in accomplishing curricular requirements in the five skill areas specified below.

Observation:
The individual must have the ability to make accurate observations, both close at hand and at a distance independently or with an approved accommodation. The individual must be able to observe physical characteristics and behaviors of individuals. The individual must have the ability to read reports and results from diagnostic tests.

Communication:
Communication includes not only speech, but reading and writing. The individual must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in oral and written form with patients and with members of the health care team independently or with an approved accommodation. The individual must be able to use functionally receive and transmit information and observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and to perceive nonverbal communications.

Motor Function and Coordination:
Individuals must have sufficient motor function to obtain information from patients by writing, typing and manipulation of assessment materials independently or with an approved accommodation. The individual must have sufficient motor function to utilize computer applications to conduct statistical procedures. An individual must be able to perform motor activities required in providing general treatment to patients that require both gross and fine muscular movements, and equilibrium.

Intellectual Abilities: Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative:
Intellectual abilities include measuring, calculating, reasoning, analyzing, and synthesizing information independently or with an approved accommodation. Problem solving, a critical skill demanded of physicians, may require all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, individuals must be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships in order to understand the spatial relationships of anatomic structures.

Behavioral and Social Attributes:
Individuals must possess the emotional health required for the appropriate use of their intellectual and mental abilities, including logical thinking, good judgment, impulse control, empathy, interest, and motivation independently or with an approved accommodation. These abilities should be

sufficient to assure the development and maintenance of therapeutic relationships with patients and those who care for them. Individuals must be able to maintain emotional health despite stress, uncertainty, and physically taxing workloads and to adapt to changing situations while handling the responsibilities associated with graduate education and patient care.

The Department of Counseling will consider for admission, progression, and graduation individuals who demonstrate the knowledge and the ability to perform or learn to perform the skills described in this document. Individuals will be assessed not only on their scholastic accomplishments, but also on their physical and emotional capacities to meet the requirements of the school's curriculum and to graduate as skilled and effective practitioners.

Therefore, the following technical requirements apply either independently or with an approved accommodation:

1. The ability to observe and participate in experiments in the basic sciences.
2. The ability to analyze, synthesize, extrapolate, solve problems, and reach diagnostic and therapeutic judgements in a timely manner.
3. The ability to observe, communicate, and manipulate assessment materials/ technical equipment necessary to perform a biopsychosocial examination and a mental status exam.
4. The ability to establish and maintain professional relationships with patients, faculty, and peers.
5. The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients and colleagues.
6. The ability to perform routine behavioral health diagnostic procedures.
7. The ability to perform appropriately in emergency and crisis situations.
8. The ability to display good judgment in the assessment and treatment of patients.

Guidelines for individuals with disabilities may be found at:
https://alliedhealth.lsuhsc.edu/admin/studentswithdisabilities.aspx
and
https://www.lsuhsc.edu/administration/academic/ods/

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND I AM IN COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS.

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DATE SIGNATURE