

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



STUDENTS AND APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES HANDBOOK

AUGUST, 2023

GENERAL STATEMENT

Southern Illinois University (SIU) School of Medicine is committed to fostering an inclusive and accessible environment that ensures access to its facilities, programs and services is available to all students, including students with disabilities as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the ADA of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008). A candidate for the M.D. degree at SIU School of Medicine is expected to develop a robust medical knowledge base and the requisite clinical skills, with the ability to appropriately apply their knowledge and skills, effectively interpret information, and contribute to patient-centered decisions across a broad spectrum of medical situations and settings. Our technical standards, along with academic standards, are requirements for admissions, promotion and graduation. These requirements may be achieved with or without reasonable accommodations.

- 1. Applicants:** Contact a SIU School of Medicine ADA confidential representative at medstudentada@siumed.edu to begin conversations about accommodations that may be needed during the application process. Inquiries will receive a response within 7 business days.
- 2. Medical Students:** Contact a SIU School of Medicine ADA confidential representative at medstudentada@siumed.edu to begin conversations about any accommodations you may need during medical school. Inquiries will receive a response within 7 business days.

PROCEDURE

A. Evaluation and Implementation of Reasonable Accommodations

SIU School of Medicine is committed to the full and meaningful inclusion of students with disabilities. Students should contact a SIU School of Medicine ADA confidential representative at medstudentada@siumed.edu to request accommodations. The ADA representative will engage in a confidential, collaborative, and interactive process with the student. When necessary, the Accommodations Advisory Committee and/or other SIU School of Medicine faculty may be consulted to determine reasonable accommodations, without disclosing detailed personal medical information. Timely disclosure and requests by students are essential and encouraged so accommodations can be applied without undue delay. Students may be required to provide necessary documentation and evaluations in appropriate cases.

B. Grievance Procedures

Students or applicants who request accommodations from SIU School of Medicine and who believe that such accommodations have been impermissibly denied, or who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their disability, should bring the matter to the attention of the SIU School of Medicine Equal Employment Opportunity Officer/Affirmative Action Coordinator. They may be contacted at:

327 West Calhoun
Mail Code 9601
Springfield, IL 62794-9601
217-545-7121

POLICY

Our technical standards, along with academic standards, are requirements for admissions, promotion and graduation. These requirements may be achieved with or without reasonable accommodations.

Fulfillment of the technical standards for graduation from medical school does not mean the graduate will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific residency program.

A. Observational Skills

Students must be able to obtain information from demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences. Students must be able to assess a patient and evaluate findings accurately.

B. Communication Skills

Students must be able to skillfully (in English) communicate verbally and in written form with faculty members, other members of the healthcare team, patients, families, and other students, in order to:

- Elicit information
- Convey information
- Clarify information
- Create rapport
- Develop therapeutic relationships
- Demonstrate the SIU School of Medicine Competencies required for graduation

C. Examination and Diagnostic Skills

Students must possess the capacity to perform a physical examination and diagnostic examination and to provide or direct general care and the provision of emergency treatment to patients.

D. Intellectual-Conceptual Skills

Students must be able to assimilate detailed and complex information presented in both didactic and clinical coursework, and engage in problem solving. Students are expected to possess the ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and transmit information. In addition, students must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures and to adapt to different learning environments and modalities. Students must be able to effectively learn, participate, collaborate and contribute as a part of a team. Students will need to synthesize information effectively both in person and via remote technology. Students must be able to interpret causal connections and make accurate, fact-based conclusions based on available data and information. Students must be able to formulate a hypothesis, investigate the potential answers and outcomes and formulate appropriate and accurate conclusions.

E. Behavioral Attributes, Social Skills and Professional Expectations

Students must exhibit sufficient maturity and emotional stability required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, which includes, but is not limited to, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completion of responsibilities associated with the diagnosis and care of patients. Students must exhibit integrity, honesty, professionalism, compassion, and are expected to display a spirit of cooperation and teamwork. Students are expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within the law and ethical standards of the medical profession. Students must interact with patients and their families, health care professionals, colleagues, faculty, and staff in a courteous, professional, and respectful manner. Students accept responsibility for learning and exercising good judgment and are expected to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments; accept constructive feedback from others; and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes. Students must possess the physical and emotional endurance to tolerate physically demanding workloads and function in a competent and professional manner in high stress, fast paced situations, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and manage the uncertainty intrinsic in the care of patients and the health care system.

STATEMENT of UNDERSTANDING and AGREEMENT

I understand that SIU School of Medicine technical standards, along with academic standards, are requirements for admissions, promotion and graduation. These requirements may be achieved with or without reasonable accommodations. I understand that timely disclosure and requests for accommodations are essential to avoid undue delay and fulfillment of the technical standards for graduation from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine does not mean that I will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific residency program. This document applies to all years of my medical school training at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. I have read and understood the above policy. I agree to adhere to the stated procedures

Printed Name:

Signature:

Date:

Original approval: SIU School of Medicine Educational Policy Committee

Approval date: July 10, 2023

Reviewed and Approved by:

Approved date:

