I. Policy Summary
University of California Riverside School of Medicine (UCR SOM) seeks to produce highly skilled and compassionate doctors. Students are expected to develop a robust medical knowledge base and their knowledge, and contribute to patient centered decisions across a variety of medical situations and settings. For purposes of this policy, “candidate” means individuals applying for admission, and current medical students who are candidates for retention, promotion and graduation. A candidate for the M.D. degree at UCR SOM must demonstrate the ability to acquire UCR SOM educational objectives and academic standards, including those Technical Standards in this document and be able to graduate as skilled and effective practitioners of medicine with or without reason accommodations.

II. Definitions
N/A

III. Policy Text
UCR SOM Academic Standards should not serve as a deterrent to any candidate with disabilities who decides to pursue education at the UCR SOM. Candidates with disabilities bring unique perspectives which contribute to the diversity of the UCR SOM and university community and will create a diverse health-care workforce of culturally competent practitioners who are able to meet the needs of their patients. Candidates with disabilities are encouraged to contact Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) early in the application process to begin a confidential conversation about possible reasonable accommodations candidates may need to meet these standards.

For purposes of this document and related procedures, “reasonable accommodations” means academic adjustments and auxiliary aids that enable students with disabilities to have access to education equivalent to that of their peers which do not fundamentally alter the nature of the educational program. Candidates with disabilities should review the SDRC’s policy and procedures and familiarize themselves with the reasonable accommodations process. Candidates should also review UCR SOM policy on the Impact of Disease or Disability on Medical Student Learning.
The School of Medicine intends for its students and graduates to become competent and compassionate physicians who are capable of entering residency training (graduate medical education) and meeting all requirements for medical licensure.

**Equal Access to the School of Medicine’s Educational Program**
As a part of the UCR SOM has adopted the [University of California Riverside Non-Discrimination Policy](#) which applies to admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in University programs and activities. In furtherance of UCR commitment to the principles of equality and equal opportunity, this policy may be invoked by students, applicants, visitors, faculty, staff, employees, and former employees of the UCR.

UCRSOM is committed to complying with state and federal laws regarding individuals with disabilities, including, but not limited to: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Act, the Vietnam-Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.

**Technical Standards**
These standards described herein are referred to as technical (or non-academic) standards. They are described below in several broad categories including: observation; communication; clinical skills; intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities; and social and behavioral skills.

Delineation of technical standards is required for the accreditation of U.S. medical schools by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The following technical standards, which in conjunction with academic standards established by the faculty, are requirements for admission, promotion, and graduation.

**Observation:**
Candidates must be able to observe demonstrations and participate in experiments of science, including but not limited to such things as dissection of cadavers; examination of specimens in anatomy, pathology, and neuroanatomy laboratories; and microscopic study of microorganisms and tissues in normal and pathologic states. Candidates must be able to accurately observe patients and assess findings. They must be able to obtain a complete or focused medical history and perform a complete physical examination in order to integrate findings based on these observations and to develop an appropriate diagnostic and treatment plan. These skills require the use of vision, hearing, touch or the functional equivalent.

**Communication:**
Candidates must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently with patients, their families, and members of the health care team. They must be able to obtain a medical history in a timely fashion, interpret non-verbal aspects of communication, and
establish therapeutic relationships with patients. Candidates must be able to record information accurately and clearly; and communicate effectively in English with other health care professionals in a variety of patient settings.

**Clinical Skills:**
Candidates must possess the capacity to perform physical examinations and diagnostic maneuvers. They must be able to respond to emergency situations in a timely manner and provide general and emergency care. Such activities require physical mobility, coordination of both gross and fine motor neuromuscular function, and balance and equilibrium.

**Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities:**
Candidates must have sufficient cognitive (mental) abilities and effective learning techniques to assimilate the detailed and complex information presented in the medical student curriculum. They must be able to learn through a variety of modalities including, but not limited to, classroom instruction; small group, team and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; and use of computer and information technology. Candidates must be able to memorize, measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and transmit information by multiple mechanisms. They must recognize and draw conclusions about three-dimensional spatial relationships and logical sequential relationships among events. They must be able to formulate and test hypotheses that enable effective and timely problem-solving.

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**Behavioral Attributes, Social Skills, and Professional Expectations:**
Candidates must demonstrate the maturity and emotional stability required for full use of their intellectual abilities. They must accept responsibility for learning, exercising good judgment, and promptly completing all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients. They must understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within both the law and ethical standards of the medical profession. Candidates must be able to interact with patients, their families, and health care personnel in a courteous, professional, and respectful manner. They must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and long work hours, to function effectively under stress, and to display flexibility and adaptability to changing environments. Candidates must be able to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments; accept constructive feedback from others; and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes. They must adhere to universal precaution measures and meet safety standards applicable to inpatient and outpatient settings and other clinical activities.
Ethical and Legal Standards:
Candidates must meet the legal standards to be licensed to practice medicine in the State of California. As such, candidates for admission must acknowledge and provide written explanation of any felony or misdemeanor offense(s) action taken against them prior to matriculation at the School of Medicine. In addition, should the student be convicted of any felony or misdemeanor offense(s) while in medical school, they agree to immediately notify the senior associate dean for student affairs as to the nature of the conviction. Students must be of the highest ethical and moral behavior. Felony conviction or failure to disclose prior or new offenses can lead to disciplinary action by the school that may include dismissal.

IV. Responsibilities
Within the Office of Student Affairs, the Director of Student Success serves as the UCRSOM point person for accommodation request and coordination of communicating approved accommodations to Undergraduate Medical Education.

V. Procedures
A. Candidates must sign and acknowledge they can meet these technical standards at matriculation and at the beginning of each academic year.

B. Accommodation request must be submitted to Student Disability Resource Center to initiate the interactive process with UCRSOM.

Approvals:

MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (12/16/2021)

DocuSigned by:
Emma M. Simmons
EMMA SIMMONS M.D., M.P.H.
SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN, STUDENT AFFAIRS,
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

8/5/2022 | 3:24 PM PDT

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CHIEF COMPLIANCE AND PRIVACY OFFICER,
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8/5/2022 | 1:14 PM PDT

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VICE CHANCELLOR, HEALTH SCIENCES
DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

8/7/2022 | 9:04 PM PDT