

College of Pharmacy Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD/IPBP) Program

Personal Competencies for Admission and Matriculation

A candidate for admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy program must possess, or be able to achieve through a reasonable accommodation, certain intellectual, emotional, and physical abilities, that would enable the individual to acquire the knowledge, technical and clinical skills needed to complete, successfully, the curriculum in order to pursue a career in pharmacy practice. Upon matriculation to the program, the student must continue to possess, or be able to achieve through a reasonable accommodation, the personal competencies outlined below throughout their progression in the Doctor of Pharmacy program. The practice of pharmacy requires the performance of specific functions that fall into five broad skills categories, including, but not limited to the areas outlined below.

For candidates or students who require a reasonable accommodation in order to meet the competencies outlined below, please contact the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy/Accommodation and Resource Center (CDHP/AARC) at (909) 469-5297.

Under all circumstances, a candidate or student should be able to perform the following in a reasonably independent manner, with or without a reasonable accommodation:

Observation Skills

Candidates must be able to observe lectures, demonstrations and experiments in all types of settings. A candidate must be able to observe a patient's condition and elicit information using appropriate physical assessment techniques in order to evaluate, recommend and initiate therapy. Pharmacy practice requires the ability to visually interpret prescription and medication orders and accurately distinguish one produce from another.

Communication Skills

Candidates must be able to communicate effectively in both academic and health care settings. This requires the ability to understand, write and speak fluent English. The candidate must also be able to recognize nonverbal communication cues.

Motor Skills

Candidates must possess both fine and gross motor skills necessary to fulfill all types of medication orders, to utilize diagnostic equipment for patient assessment and to deliver or administer patient therapies. Patient therapies include, but are not limited to, immunizations and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Candidates must be able to use pharmacy equipment, technologies and computer-based information systems. Candidates must have sufficient physical stamina to complete the rigorous didactic, laboratory and clinical experiences, which consist of long periods of sitting, standing or moving.

Interpretative, Conceptual and Quantitative Skills

Candidates must be able to utilize learning techniques that will allow mastery of the pharmacy curriculum when delivered through a variety of modalities including didactic instruction, group-based learning, independent learning, projects, reports, experiential training and computer assisted learning. Candidates must demonstrate a fundamental and continuing ability to use analytical reasoning independently and in collaboration with others to assimilate knowledge, solve problems and explain health care situations. The candidate must be able to use information to develop appropriate drug therapy and monitoring plans in a reasonable amount of time.

Behavioral and Social Skills

Candidates must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completion of all academic and patient care responsibilities. The candidate must demonstrate professional and ethical demeanor appropriate to his/her educational level and the ability to work in an interprofessional environment. Candidates must also be able to adapt to changes, function in the face of uncertainty, display flexibility and be able to ensure prompt and safe completion of all responsibilities. Compassion, integrity, interpersonal skills, motivation and concern for others are humanistic qualities that will be assessed during the admissions process.