Technical Standards

All candidates for the Doctor of Medicine degree must possess the physical and mental skills and abilities necessary to successfully complete the NYU School of Medicine curriculum. To achieve the optimal educational experience, students are required to participate in all phases of our training program. The study of medicine is not a pure intellectual exercise but rather a specific set of minimum physical, mental, emotional, social abilities and professionalism are needed to be a successful student and physician. To successfully complete our medical school curriculum students must possess all of the abilities listed in the following six categories. The use of an intermediary that would, in effect, require a student to rely on another individual’s power of observation and/or communication skills will not be permitted.

The NYU School of Medicine will consider for admission any applicant who meets its academic and non-academic criteria and who demonstrates the ability to perform the skills listed in this document, with or without reasonable accommodations, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act.

**BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES:** Candidates must demonstrate the maturity and emotional stability required for full use of their intellectual abilities. Candidate must be capable of adapting to changing environments, and possess flexibility in learning to function in the face of uncertainty. Candidates must be able to perform under physical, mental and emotional stress. Candidates must exercise good judgment and have the ability to promptly complete patient care responsibilities.

**COMMUNICATION:** Candidates must be able to effectively, in both written and oral English, and efficiently speak, write, hear, read and use technology to communicate with patients, families and members of the health care team. Candidates must be able to identify non-verbal communication, such as changes in facial expression, posture, body language, mood and activity. Candidates must be able to record information accurately and clearly. Candidates must also communicate effectively in English with other health care professionals in a variety of patient settings. Candidates must be able to establish rapport with patients.

**ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM:** Candidate must maintain ethical and moral behavior consistent with professional standards for interactions with students, faculty, staff, patients and the public. 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.
INTELLECTUAL – CONCEPTUAL, INTEGRATIVE, AND QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES: Candidates must have sufficient cognitive abilities to effectively learn, retrieve, assimilate, analyze sequence and organize complex details. Candidates must be able to adapt to multiple learning techniques and environments including, but not limited to, classroom instruction, small group instruction, team and collaborative activities, individual study, preparation and presentation of reports, self-assessment, peer review and use of computer technology.

MOTOR: A candidate must possess sufficient motor function to perform physical examinations and diagnostic maneuvers. A candidate must be able to respond to emergency situations in a timely manner and provide general and emergency care. Candidates must adhere to universal precaution measures and meet safety standards applicable to inpatient and outpatient settings and other clinical activities.

OBSERVATION: Candidates must be able to observe required demonstrations and experiments including, but not limited to, anatomic dissection, microscopic studies, and patient demonstrations. A candidate must be able to use vision, hearing and sensation to accurately observe a patient and assess findings.