

AUBURN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM
TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The AuD program strives to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become competent, qualified, and caring practitioners. In addition to academic and clinical requirements, students are expected to acquire behaviors and attributes, which are essential to function as a clinical audiologist. These essential standards include communication skills, observation skills, psychomotor skills, cognitive abilities, and behavioral/social skills. Prior to applying to and throughout the program, students should determine if they can meet these standards (with or without accommodations).

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

A student must possess communication skills to:

- Communicate proficiently in both written and oral English
- Communicate professionally and intelligibly with patients, faculty, colleagues, other healthcare professionals, community groups, or professional groups
- Communicate accurately, effectively, and legibly on patient documentation, reports, and scholarly papers
- Demonstrate non-verbal communication, which is appropriate for culture sensitivity and situation

SENSORY/OBSERVATION SKILLS

A student must possess sensory skills of hearing, vision, and touch to:

- Visually perceive and identify anatomical structures
- Visually perceive and identify text, numbers, tables and graphs associated with diagnostic instruments, electroacoustic devices, written information and tests
- Accurately observe patient's activity and behavior during assessment
- Accurately monitor, through visual and auditory modalities, equipment displays and controls (including hearing aids) used for assessment and treatment

PHYSICAL SKILLS

A student must possess physical skills to:

- Sustain stamina to complete the program in audiology
- Participate in classroom activities and clinical assignments
- Complete required tasks, both in the classroom and in the clinical environment
- Manipulate equipment in a safe and effective manner
- Respond quickly to provide a safe environment for patients in emergency situations
- Access non-public transportation to clinical and academic placements

INTELLECTUAL/COGNITIVE ABILITIES

A student must possess cognitive abilities to:

- Comprehend, acquire, synthesize, integrate and apply a large body of written and verbal information, sufficient to meet curricular and clinical requirements
- Think critically, make sound clinical judgments, in accordance with accepted clinical standards of care, and solve complex problems
- Reflect on and evaluate academic performance and clinical skills in order to identify strengths, weaknesses, and limits of one's own knowledge and abilities
- Identify and utilize resources in order to successfully change, improve, and increase one's knowledge and skills

BEHAVIORAL/SOCIAL SKILLS

A student must possess behavioral qualities to:

- Sustain emotional health sufficient to carry out required tasks
- Behave in a professional, reliable, responsible, and respectful manner with patients, faculty, classmates, and other healthcare professionals
- Be sufficiently flexible to successfully function in changing and uncertain academic and clinical situations
- Demonstrate ability to successfully cope with emotionally, physically, or intellectually challenging and stressful situations
- Accept and act positively in response to constructive criticism
- Adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Academy of Audiology

Performance standards, as described above, must be met throughout the AuD program. If concerns arise, the student will be notified to meet with faculty members to discuss their issues. Specific examples, in which the student's limitations interfered with the academic and/or clinical performance, will be provided. Resources may be suggested to the student for appropriate intervention. If a student fails to meet these performance and/or disciplinary standards, as determined by the majority of audiology faculty, the student may be denied permission to continue in the audiology program.

I have read and understand the technical standards as described above.

Applicant/Student

Date