

Technical Standards

The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (UGA CVM) seeks to produce highly competent veterinarians who serve society with distinction. To achieve this goal, students must develop a comprehensive veterinary medical knowledge base and the requisite skills, aptitudes and attitudes to effectively serve society across a broad spectrum of veterinary medical settings. Our students must demonstrate compassion for all animals and people, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, high moral and ethical standards, and interact effectively with people of all backgrounds.

The following technical standards, in conjunction with the academic standards of UGA CVM, are requirements for admission, progression through the curriculum, and graduation. The term “candidate” refers to candidates for admission or readmission to UGA CVM, as well as current veterinary medical students. All candidates, regardless of their chosen career path, must meet all technical standards. The Admissions Committee, administrators, and instructors of the UGA CVM are responsible for applying these technical standards with respect to candidates. These requirements may be achieved with or without reasonable accommodations; every candidate will be evaluated according to the same technical standards and criteria.

Qualified candidates with disabilities are encouraged to contact UGA’s Office of Accessibility and Testing (<https://accessibility.uga.edu/> or 706-542-8719) to register for services and engage in a confidential conversation about what accommodations they may need to meet these technical standards.

An accommodation is not reasonable if it poses a direct threat to the health or safety of self and/or others, if it requires or results in a substantial modification to essential elements of the curriculum or causes a fundamental alteration of the program, if it lowers academic standards, or if it poses an undue burden on the college.

Category	Technical Standard
Acquiring Fundamental Knowledge	<p><i>Candidates must learn foundational and clinical science knowledge.</i></p> <p>Candidates must acquire and retain information as presented through a variety of learning modalities in classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings. This may include physical demonstrations; one-on-one, small group, and team activities; independent study; use of current medical literature; clinical case management; preparation and presentation of reports; and use of advanced technology.</p>
Interpreting Data	<p><i>Candidates must effectively synthesize, understand, and interpret the complex information required to function successfully and efficiently in the veterinary medical school curriculum.</i></p> <p>Candidates must identify causal connections to reach appropriate and accurate conclusions by understanding the spatial relationships of structures; synthesizing information both in person and via technology; and correctly interpreting historical information, physical examinations, and diagnostic test results.</p>
Developing Clinical Skills	<p><i>Candidates must safely perform or direct others to perform a comprehensive patient assessment and implement diagnostic and treatment plans.</i></p> <p>Candidates must conduct or direct acquisition of relevant patient health and medical information from owners and record systems.</p> <p>Candidates must conduct or direct routine physical examinations and diagnostic procedures.</p> <p>Candidates must synthesize the conclusions gained through data interpretation with the acquired knowledge to formulate appropriate diagnostic and treatment plans.</p> <p>Candidates must provide or direct general care and emergency treatment for patients and respond to emergency situations in a timely manner such that the safety of patients, self, and other individuals is not compromised.</p> <p>Candidates must utilize observational skills to accurately evaluate patient conditions and responses and enable safe and effective veterinary medical caregiving.</p> <p>Candidates must meet appropriate and applicable safety and biosecurity standards.</p> <p>Candidates must be able to clearly and accurately document information in the medical record.</p>

<p>Developing Appropriate Professional Attitudes and Behaviors</p>	<p><i>Candidates must exhibit professionalism, personal accountability, compassion, integrity, empathy, and interpersonal skills, including communication and the ability to accept and apply feedback.</i></p> <p>Candidates are expected to attend all classes, laboratories, clinical rotations, and other appropriately assigned duties.</p> <p>Candidates must exercise good judgment and promptly complete all assigned preclinical and clinical responsibilities. This requires the physical and mental stamina to effectively manage time, manage heavy workloads and extended workdays, function effectively under stress and time constraints, adapt to changing environments, and work in the face of uncertainties.</p> <p>Candidates must recognize signs of stress in self and colleagues, engage in self-care, and recognize when professional support is appropriate for self and others.</p> <p>Candidates must understand and function within legal, regulatory, and ethical parameters during the preclinical and clinical program of study and maintain ethical behaviors commensurate with the veterinary medical profession.</p> <p>Candidates must meet applicable safety standards, as identified in course syllabi and college policies and follow appropriate procedures in order to assure the safety of self, colleagues, faculty, staff, clients, patients, and the public.</p> <p>Candidates must demonstrate effective and professional verbal, non-verbal, and written communication. Candidates must be able to develop effective collaborative relationships with colleagues, faculty, staff, and clients. Candidates must treat all individuals in a respectful manner regardless of gender identity, age, sexual orientation, social and cultural background, religion, race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, or any other protected status.</p>
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I have read and understand this document on the technical standards required for matriculation at the University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine. I am eighteen years of age or older, and have full capacity to enter into this agreement and do so voluntarily.

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Approved by the Accommodation Working Group 3-5-2020, updated May 2025, Sept 2025.

Initial Here: _____