

Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy Standards for Admission, Progression and Graduation

The Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy seeks to produce highly skilled and compassionate pharmacists. Students are expected to develop a robust knowledge base and the requisite skills, with the ability to appropriately apply their knowledge and skills to effectively provide patient-centered care across a broad spectrum of pharmacy practice settings. The following technical standards, in conjunction with the School of Pharmacy's academic standards, are requirements for admission, advancement, and graduation. The term "candidate" refers to candidates for admission to pharmacy school as well as current pharmacy students who are candidates for the Pharm.D. degree. These requirements may be achieved either with or without reasonable accommodations.

The School of Pharmacy is committed to diversity and to attracting and educating students who will make the population of healthcare professionals representative of the national population. We provide confidential and individualized disability support and are committed to excellence in accessibility; we encourage students with disabilities to disclose and seek accommodations. Students who, after review of the technical standards, determine that they require accommodation(s) to fully engage in the program, should contact the [Shenandoah University Office of Student Support Services](#) to begin a confidential conversation about what accommodations they may need to meet these standards. Given the clinical nature of the program, additional time may be needed to implement accommodation(s). Accommodations may be applied for at any time in the program but are never retroactive; therefore, timely requests are essential and encouraged.

Developing communication skills:

Candidates must be able to exhibit interpersonal skills to accurately evaluate patient conditions and responses to facilitate patient care. Candidates must be able to accurately interpret verbal and nonverbal communication and record information clearly and accurately. Candidates must demonstrate effective communication in English (in person and written) and must be able to collaborate with patients as well as all members of a multidisciplinary healthcare team.

Acquiring fundamental knowledge:

Candidates must be able to learn through a variety of modalities, including, but not limited to, classroom instruction; remote instruction; laboratory instruction (e.g., sterile and nonsterile compounding lab); physical demonstrations (e.g., patient assessment and immunization administration); small-group, team, and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and delivery of presentations; use of computer technology; and off-campus clinical education.

Interpreting data and applying knowledge:

Candidates must be able to effectively receive, process, and record large volumes of written and verbal information both in person and via remote technology. Candidates must also be able to synthesize, interpret, and retain information in order to prioritize and complete tasks in a timely manner appropriate for each stage of the pharmacy education.

Candidates must be able to provide or direct someone else to provide care and emergency treatment for patients. Candidates must be able to respond to emergency situations in a timely manner. Candidates must also be able to meet applicable safety standards for the environment and follow universal precaution procedures.

Developing appropriate professional attitudes and behaviors:

Candidates must be able to exercise good judgment; promptly complete all responsibilities related to the care of patients; and develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients. The skills required to do so include: the ability to effectively handle and manage heavy workloads, function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in pharmacy practice.

Candidates must have the ability to exhibit professionalism, personal accountability, compassion, integrity, concern for others, as well as interpersonal skills including the following: accepting and applying feedback, respecting boundaries, and caring for all individuals in a respectful and effective manner. This care must be provided regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other protected status.

Candidates must be able to understand, and function within the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of pharmacy and maintain and display ethical and moral behaviors appropriate for the role of a pharmacist in all interactions. Interest and motivation throughout the educational processes are expected of all candidates.