

<b>Title: Technical Standards Policy - DMSc Program - PA Studies (WFUSM)</b>		<b>Document Number: 42914</b>
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<b>Scope:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> MW Region <input type="checkbox"/> SE Region <input type="checkbox"/> WI <input type="checkbox"/> IL <input type="checkbox"/> Greater Charlotte Market <input type="checkbox"/> Navicent Market <input type="checkbox"/> Wake Market <input type="checkbox"/> Floyd Market <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entity Only (Entity Name): Wake Forest University School of Medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Department Only (Department Name):		

## I. PURPOSE

These technical standards for DMSc Program admission, continuation and graduation specify the intellectual, physical, and behavioral capabilities essential for successfully completing the DMSc curriculum and achieving the levels of competence required by the faculty at Wake Forest University School of Medicine (School of Medicine).

The School of Medicine DMSc Program will consider for admission any applicant who meets its academic and nonacademic criteria and who can perform the skills listed in this document, with or without reasonable accommodation consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. Our institution does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or physical or mental disability and is committed to the full and equitable inclusion of qualified learners.

## II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all DMSc Program applicants and enrolled DMSc program students who are candidates for promotion and graduation.

## III. DEFINITIONS/ABBREVIATIONS

- A. ***Applicant/Candidate:*** For purposes of this document and unless otherwise defined, an applicant for admission to the DMSc program as well as an enrolled DMSc student who is a candidate for promotion and graduation.
- B. ***Technical Standards:*** Nonacademic requirements for participation in an educational program or activity. They include physical, cognitive, and behavioral abilities required for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum and for entry into the profession.

## IV. POLICY

**A. Technical standards for DMSc Program admission, continuation, and graduation**

Students in the DMSc Program must possess the intellectual, physical, and behavioral capabilities necessary to undertake the required curriculum in a reasonably independent manner and must be able to achieve the levels of competence required by the faculty. A candidate for the DMSc degree must have abilities and skills in the areas described below:

1. **Observation:** The candidate must be able to observe and obtain information in an online format.
2. **Communication:** Candidates must be able to communicate effectively both in person and in online formats with classmates and faculty. Candidates must be able to record information accurately and clearly and to communicate effectively in English.
3. **Technological:** Minimum hardware specifications as outlined on the DMSc Program website, as well as a basic knowledge of computer and internet skills, are required to be successful in an online course.
  - a. **Students must possess the capacity to perform basic computer operations such as:**
    - i. Using keyboard and mouse.
    - ii. Managing files and folders: save, name, copy, move, backup, rename, delete and check properties.
    - iii. Software installation, security, and virus protection.
    - iv. Using software applications, such as Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel).
    - v. Knowledge of copying and pasting, spell-checking, and saving files in different formats.
    - vi. Using email, including sending and downloading attachments.
    - vii. Internet skills (i.e., connecting, accessing, using browsers) and ability to perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
    - viii. Familiarity with and use of online educational resources (i.e., podcasts, Webex, video calls).
    - ix. Communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a classroom website.
    - x. Allowing pop-ups from websites (i.e., Canvas).
    - xi. Knowledge of terminology, such as browser, URL and application.
4. **Intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities:** These abilities include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis and synthesis. Problem-solving, and the ability to learn, retrieve,

analyze, sequence, organize, synthesize and integrate information efficiently and to reason effectively is required.

5. The DMSc program integrates principles of adult learning, encourages students to engage in self-directed learning, apply their professional experience, and collaborate meaningfully with peers and faculty.
6. **Behavioral and social attributes:** Candidates must possess the maturity and emotional health required for full use of their intellectual abilities. They must accept responsibility for learning, exercise good judgment and promptly complete all responsibilities. Candidates must demonstrate netiquette and interact effectively, respectfully, and professionally with faculty and peers. Candidates must be able to contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments; accept constructive feedback from others; and take responsibility for making appropriate positive changes.
7. **Ethical and legal standards:** Applicants for admission must acknowledge and provide a written explanation of any felony offense or disciplinary action taken against them prior to matriculation. Students convicted of any felony offense while in the DMSc Program should immediately inform the Program Director. Failure to disclose prior or new offenses can lead to disciplinary action that may include withdrawal of an offer of admission or dismissal from the DMSc Program.

#### **B. Process for assessing compliance with the technical standards**

1. By applying to the Wake Forest University School of Medicine DMSc program and by accepting an offer to matriculate, applicants are attesting that they have read and can meet these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations. After admission, students must continue to meet these standards until program completion and may be asked formally to re-attest that they continue to meet the requirements. These standards are not intended to deter any student who might be able to complete the requirements of the curriculum with reasonable accommodations.

#### **C. Accommodation for students with disabilities**

1. A candidate or student who, after review of the Technical Standards for their program, determine that they require reasonable accommodation to fully engage in the program should contact the Center for Learning, Access, and Student Support to confidentially discuss their accommodations needs.
  - a) Reasonable accommodations may include and are not limited to technological adaptations or trained intermediaries, such as

interpreters, who facilitate without supplanting, the student's performance of an essential skill.

- b) Reasonable accommodations should not include an intermediary whose powers of selection and observation mediate the student's judgment.
- 2. Accommodation is not granted retroactively and may take time to develop and implement; timely requests are essential to maximize the student's chances to perform well in the curriculum.
- 3. It is the responsibility of a student with a disability, or a student who develops a disability, and who requires accommodations in order to meet these Technical Standards, to self-disclose to the Center for Learning, Access, and Student Support and request accommodations.

**V. PROCEDURE / GUIDELINE**

Not Applicable

**VI. CROSS REFERENCES**

Student Disability Accommodations Requests Policy and Procedures (WFUSM)

**VII. RESOURCES AND REFERENCES**

Not Applicable

**VIII. ATTACHMENTS**

Not Applicable

**IX. REVISION DATES**

3/2025