Northeast Ohio Au.D. Consortium (NOAC)

DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM (Au.D.)

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The technical standards of the NOAC, a joint program of The University of Akron, Kent State University and The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, reflect the essential qualities and abilities that are considered necessary to a student’s academic and clinical performance. Ability to meet these Technical Standards is required for admission and also must be maintained throughout a student’s progress throughout the Au.D. Program. In the event that, during training, a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, then the student may be asked to leave the program.

The Au.D. Degree Program of NOAC is designed to prepare students to enter the profession as a generalist with skills, knowledge, and ability to perform successfully all the required functions associated with the role of an entry-level audiologist. In keeping with applicable federal and state law regarding disabilities and our program philosophy, we are committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities to enable them to perform successfully the skills necessary to fulfill the role of an audiologist. If a student has a disability that they feel may require special accommodation to perform any of the tasks identified as essential to the clinical practice of audiology, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the Student Disability Services Offices of the student’s enrolling university so appropriate steps can be taken to accommodate the student’s needs.

Students should carefully review the “technical standards” below to determine whether or not they can meet these standards (with or without accommodation).

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

To perform the essential functions of a clinical audiologist and be successful in the Au.D. Program, an individual must possess specific skills and abilities in the following four areas:

1. Observation Skills
2. Psychomotor Skills
3. Cognitive Abilities
4. Affective/Behavioral Skills

1. Observation Skills

◆ Observe patients’ activity and behavior accurately during assessment and treatment procedures.

◆ Read, comprehend, and interpret information accurately from diagnostic test, equipment, and patient records.
♦ Accurately monitor through both visual and auditory modalities, equipment displays and controls, including those of hearing instruments, used for assessment and treatment of patients.

2. **Psychomotor Skills**
   ✔ Attend lecture and laboratory classes, and access laboratories, classrooms, and work stations.
   ✔ Attend clinical internships/externships in assigned locations.
   ✔ Accomplish required tasks in clinical and academic settings.
   ✔ Have the fine motor coordination to accurately and efficiently use equipment used for assessment and treatment of patients.

3. **Cognitive Abilities**
   ✔ Comprehend, integrate, and synthesize a large body of information/knowledge in a short period of time.
   ✔ Analyze complex patient problems.
   ✔ Reflect on clinical and academic performance and self assess performance accurately.
   ✔ Utilize appropriate and effective spoken, written and non-verbal communication. Students must be able to understand and speak the English language at a level consistent with competent professional practice.

4. **Affective/Behavioral Skills**
   ✔ Demonstrate appreciation and respect for individual, social, and cultural differences in fellow students, colleagues, staff, and patients.
   ✔ Demonstrate appropriate behaviors, to protect the safety and well-being of patients and classmates.
   ✔ Possess and demonstrate empathy, and demonstrate commitment to the role of health care provider.
• Demonstrate ability to appropriately handle situations that may be emotionally, physically, or intellectually stressful.

• Demonstrate flexibility and the ability to adjust to changing situations and uncertainty in academic and clinical situations.

• Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and professionalism.

• Maintain confidentiality of patient information.

Admission to the NOAC Program will be contingent on the student’s verification that they understand and meet these technical standards either with or without accommodation. Students who may have a disability and believe they can meet the Technical Standards with accommodation are encouraged to contact the Student Disabilities Services Office to discuss and identify reasonable accommodations the University or program would need to make so the candidate may be able to meet these standards.
PLEASE SIGN ONE OF THE STATEMENTS BELOW:

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS LISTED ABOVE AND THAT I BELIEVE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT I MEET EACH OF THESE STANDARDS WITHOUT ACCOMMODATION. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I AM UNABLE TO MEET THESE STANDARDS I MAY BE DISMISSED FROM THE PROGRAM.

_____________________________  ________________________
Signature of Applicant         Date

Alternative statement for students requesting accommodations.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS LISTED ABOVE AND THAT I BELIEVE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT I CAN MEET EACH OF THESE STANDARDS WITH CERTAIN ACCOMMODATIONS. I WILL CONTACT THE STUDENT DISABILITIES OFFICE TO DETERMINE WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS MAY BE AVAILABLE. I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I AM UNABLE TO MEET THESE STANDARDS WITH OR WITHOUT ACCOMMODATIONS, I MAY BE DISMISSED FROM THE PROGRAM.

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Signature of Applicant         Date