



CORE COMPETENCIES FOR ENTERING PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL STUDENTS IN HEALTHCARE

(Adapted from the Association of American Medical Colleges' list of core competencies)

Service Orientation

- Showing a commitment to something larger than oneself; demonstrating dedication to service and a commitment to making meaningful contributions that meet the needs of communities.

Empathy and Compassion

- Recognizing, understanding, and acknowledging others' experiences, feelings, perspectives, and reactions to situations; being sensitive to others' needs and feelings; and demonstrating a desire to help others and alleviate others' distress.

Cultural Awareness

- Appreciating how historical, sociocultural, political, and economic factors affect others' interactions, behaviors, and well-being; valuing diversity; and demonstrating a desire to learn about different cultures, beliefs, and values.

Cultural Humility

- Seeking out and engaging diverse and divergent perspectives with a desire to understand and willingness to adjust one's mindset; understanding a situation or idea from alternative viewpoints; reflecting on one's values, beliefs, and identities and how they may affect others; reflecting on and addressing bias in oneself and others; and fostering a supportive environment that values inclusivity.

Interpersonal Skills

- Demonstrating an awareness of how social and behavioral cues affect people's interactions and behaviors; adjusting behaviors appropriately in response to these cues; recognizing and managing one's emotions and understanding how emotions impact others or a situation; and treating others with dignity, courtesy, and respect.

Teamwork and Collaboration

- Collaborating with others to achieve shared goals and prioritizes shared goals; adjusting role between team member and leader based on one's own and others' expertise and experience; sharing information with team members and encouraging this behavior in others; and giving and accepting feedback to improve team performance.

Oral Communication

- Effectively conveying information to others using spoken words and sentences; actively listening to understand the meaning and intent behind what others say; and recognizing potential communication barriers and adjusting approach or clarifying information as needed.

Ethical Responsibility to Self and Others

- Behaving with honesty and integrity; considering multiple and/or conflicting principles and values to inform decisions; adhering to ethical principles when carrying out professional obligations; resisting pressure to engage in unethical behavior; and encouraging others to behave honestly and ethically.

Reliability and Dependability

- Demonstrating accountability for performance and responsibilities to self and others; prioritizing and fulfilling obligations in a timely and satisfactory manner; and understanding consequences of not fulfilling one's responsibilities to self and others.

Resilience and Adaptability

- Persevering in challenging, stressful, or ambiguous environments or situations by adjusting behavior or approach in response to new information, changing conditions, or unexpected obstacles, and recognizing and seeks help and support when needed; recovering from and reflects on setbacks; and balancing personal well-being with responsibilities.

Commitment to Learning and Growth

- Practicing continuous personal and professional growth for improvement, including setting and communicating goals for learning and development; reflecting on successes, challenges, and mistakes; pursuing opportunities to improve knowledge and understanding; and asking for and incorporating feedback to learn and grow.

Critical Thinking

- Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems.

Quantitative Reasoning

- Applying quantitative reasoning and appropriate mathematics to describe or explain phenomena in the natural world.

Scientific Inquiry

- Applying knowledge of the scientific process to integrate and synthesize information, solve problems, and formulate research questions and hypotheses; being facile in the language of the sciences and using it to participate in the discourse of science and explaining how scientific knowledge is discovered and validated.

Written Communication

- Effectively conveying information to others by using written words and sentences.

Living Systems

- Applying knowledge and skill in the natural sciences to solve problems related to molecular and macro systems, including biomolecules, molecules, cells, and organs.

Human Behavior

- Applying knowledge of the self, others, and social systems to solve problems related to the psychological, sociocultural, and biological factors that influence health and well-being.