



**College of Applied Health Sciences  
Coordinated Program in Dietetics Technical Standards**

*Revised 9/4/2022*

**Introduction:**

The mission of UIC is to provide the broadest access to the highest level of intellectual excellence, to create knowledge that transforms our views of the world, and through sharing and application, transforms the world. UIC is focused on eliminating disparities in health, education, and economic opportunity. Community engagement is a centerpiece of UIC's urban mission. Furthermore, UIC is committed to increasing access to education, employment, programs, and services for all and maintaining a barrier-free environment for individuals with disabilities. UIC collaborates with students to develop innovative ways to ensure accessibility throughout the educational experience.

The Coordinated Program in Dietetics provides the following technical standards to inform incoming and enrolled students of the performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of the curriculum and provide effective and safe health care. To matriculate (enroll) the student must meet technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations and maintain related satisfactory demonstration of these standards for progression through the program.

**1) Observation:**

The student must be able to acquire information from demonstrations and experiences in the classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings. This includes materials presented in lectures, presentations, and audiovisual instruction. The student must be able to observe patient characteristics demonstrating nutritional status.

**2) Communication:**

The student must be able to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity, and posture, and perceive and interpret nonverbal communication. The student must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with students, faculty, preceptors, staff, and patients. Additionally, the student must be able to present to large and small groups in the classroom, clinical, food service, and community settings.

**3) Motor:**

The student must have sufficient motor capacities and motilities to be able to generate, calculate, record, and evaluate information. Examples include but are not limited to preparing assignments, delivering public presentations to large and small audiences, collecting specimens and perform basic tests and physical assessments on individuals (e.g., nutrition focused physical exams, body measurements, finger sticks for blood glucose testing, using glucometers, assessing skin fold thickness, and taking blood pressure), and working in institutional and food demonstration kitchens to prepare foods and direct employees involved in food services. The student must be able to conduct patient visits individually and with health care team members to provide nutrition care. The student must be able to travel to and from supervised practice and other program experiences.

**4) Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative Abilities:**

The student must be able to measure, calculate, reason, and synthesize information to apply to clinical experiences. Problem solving is a critical skill involved in all aspects of the program and requires all these intellectual abilities.

**5) Behavioral and Interpersonal Attributes:**

The student must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities related to the care of patients and cooperative relationships with peers, faculty, and other health professionals. Students must be able to tolerate periods of taxing workloads, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the case of uncertainties inherent to the clinical situations presented by patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the education processes.

**6) Academic Performance:**

The student must obtain information from lectures, labs, audiovisual, and written materials. Students must be able to take essay and/or multiple-choice exams, complete papers, deliver presentations and perform lab experiments. The student must demonstrate professional attitudes and behaviors and must perform in an ethical manner in dealing with others. Personal integrity is required and the adherence to standards that reflect the values and functions of the profession of dietetics. The student is required to abide by the professional code of ethics for dietetics and student honor codes.

**Conclusion:**



UIC is committed to full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of university life. *[Per the Student Accommodation Policy]*, students who face or anticipate disability-related barriers related to meeting the above technical standards should connect with the **Disability Resource Center (DRC) at [drc.uic.edu](http://drc.uic.edu), [drc@uic.edu](mailto:drc@uic.edu), or at (312) 413-2183** to create a plan for reasonable accommodations.

The implementation of accommodations is in an interactive and iterative process, meaning that during this process the DRC may seek information from appropriate University personnel regarding essential standards for courses, degree programs, and/or activities; conversely, University personnel may seek information from the DRC regarding how best to facilitate a student's accommodations in their program. All student disability information, including documentation of disability, will be kept secure and confidential by the Disability Resource Center and is not released to others at the University without the student's express permission. In the event that an accommodation as written is determined to be unreasonable or inappropriate for a certain course or program, efforts will be made by the DRC and the program to explore a suitable alternative reasonable accommodation where possible. Students may appeal accommodation decisions based on the DRC [Accommodations Complaint Process](#). A non-comprehensive list of commonly approved accommodations is available on the DRC's [Guide to Accommodations](#), though determinations are always made on a case by case basis and may look different in a clinical or applied setting.

