MEDICAL CAREERS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Brown University has as its primary aim the education of a highly qualified and diverse student body. The University offers equal educational opportunities and reasonable accommodations for the needs of qualified students with disabilities. Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, reinforced by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, maintains that no qualified individuals with disabilities shall, solely on the basis of their disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity in higher education.

Brown’s Student and Employee Accessibility Services (SEAS) [formerly the Office of Disability Support Services], housed in the Office of Student Life, offers assistance to undergraduate, graduate, and medical students with special needs and helps to facilitate their integration into the campus community. Students who wish to have information regarding accommodations for disabilities should contact SEAS at 401-863-9588. Students recovering from alcoholism or drug addiction may contact the Dean for Issues of Chemical Dependency, housed in the Office of the Dean of the College, at 401-863-9800. The Dean provides confidential consultation for all members of the campus community about drug and alcohol issues.

A career in medicine requires that candidates for the M.D. degree be capable of attaining competence in the knowledge, skills, abilities, and personal values expected of all graduates of The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, with reasonable accommodation. Enclosed for your review are Brown’s policies regarding the technical standards for medicine and the procedures for their evaluation. If you have a disability that you believe may affect your ability to meet the technical standards, please contact Dr. Julianne Ip, Associate Dean of Medicine (PLME) at (401) 863-3098, as soon as possible to discuss your situation. If you do not contact Dean Ip, we understand you to be stating that you will be able to meet the competency requirements for medicine without any accommodations.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR MEDICINE

Students applying to the medical degree-granting program at Brown University are selected on the basis of academic achievement, faculty evaluations, evidence of maturity, motivation, leadership, integrity, and compassion. They must be capable of meeting the competency requirements expected of all graduates, with reasonable accommodation, described in the Student Policies Handbook. [Access online a http://www.brown.edu/academics/medical/student-affairs/policy-and-procedure/student-handbook] Technological compensation can be made for some disabilities in certain of these competency requirements. Candidates accepted for admission who will need special accommodations cannot be admitted unless those supportive services are available, as determined by the Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences. The process for assessing whether applicants will be able to meet the competency requirements for the medical degree (MD), with reasonable accommodation, is described below.

Process for Assessing Whether Applicants Meet Technical Standards for Medicine
1. No inquiry will be made on the application forms concerning disability. Brown’s policies regarding technical abilities and skills necessary to meet the competency requirements are included with the letter of admission, and students are asked at that time to contact the Associate Dean for Medical Education if they have any concerns about their ability to meet these standards.

2. Applicants who are identified as having a disability through volunteered information, supporting credentials, or interviews will have an assessment of their ability to meet the competency requirements only after a determination is made of their admissibility to the medical program.

3. Those applicants with disabilities deemed admissible to Alpert Medical School will be requested to have submitted on their behalf appropriate documentation in regard to the disability from a qualified health professional. The health professional will be asked to provide an opinion on the candidate’s ability to meet the competency requirements for the MD degree. The applicant may also be requested to respond to that question.

4. The responses will be submitted to a committee appointed by the Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences. This committee may ask for a review of the supporting documentation by appropriate members of the faculty in regard to the applicant’s meeting the competency requirements. The committee will ascertain what accommodations, if any, the medical program would need to make in order that the applicant might be able to meet the competency requirements, and assess the feasibility of any needed accommodations.

5. The committee will review the information received to determine if the applicant will be able to meet the competency requirements, with reasonable accommodations on the part of the medical program, if necessary.

6. The committee will recommend to the Dean of Medicine and Biological Sciences acceptance of applicants who can meet the competency requirements or will recommend rejection of those applicants who cannot

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

As a senior undergraduate PLME student moving forward into the medical school portion of the program and accepted for admission, you will receive an email from Certiphi Screening, Inc., with directions to the online tool required for submission of information necessary for a background investigation. See https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/faqs/63230/faq_background.html.

Office of Admissions Telephone: (401) 863-2149 Email: MedSchool_Admissions@brown.edu, http://brown.edu/academics/medical/download/technical-standards

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