

Core Performance Standards for Nursing Programs

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students must be, with reasonable accommodation, physically and mentally capable of performing the essential functions of the program.

The Core Performance Standards adopted by the Health Sciences/ECE Division include the following:

Physical Demands - Must be able to:

- be on your feet 6-12 hours at a time and perform activities that include reaching, balancing, carrying, pushing, pulling, stooping, bending and crouching;
- lift and transfer adults and children from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed-to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers;
- lift and adjust positions of bedridden patients, including pulling as much as 12 inches toward the head of the bed;
- physically apply up to ten pounds pressure to bleeding sites or to chest in the performance of CPR using hands, wrists and arms;
- maneuver in small spaces quickly and with ease;
- perform fine motor skills that require hand-eye coordination in the use of small instruments, equipment, and syringes;
- feel and compress tissues to assess for size, shape, texture, and temperature.

Senses - Must be able to:

- visually read calibrated scales in increments of one-hundredth of an inch in not more than a three-inch space;
- be able to read a glass thermometer (oral and rectal)
- perform close and distinct visual activities involving persons and paper work;
- visually discriminate depth and color perception;
- identify and distinguish odors that are pungent, or the products of infection or metabolic imbalance (e.g., ketones);
- respond and react immediately to auditory instruction, requests, signals, and monitoring equipment;
- perform auditory assessments requiring the distinguishing of variances in sounds (e.g., tones and pitches).

Attitudes/Aptitudes - Must be able to:

- perform mathematical calculation for medication preparation and administration in a timely manner;
- communicate effectively in English, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and word usage as well as medical terminology;
- Work and make competent/safe decisions in stressful situations.