

Functional Requirements for Program Participation

The role of a Registered Nurse is both rewarding and demanding. The following essential functions are required of all students who enroll in the Nashville State Nursing Program.

Motor

- Independently move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces
- Participate in transfers of patients (children to adult) from a variety of heights and surfaces
- Guard and assist patients with functional mobility
- Be able to physically manage self so as not to be a danger to others
 - Trunk control adequate for independent balance and function
 - No muscle spasms that consistently affect movement or stability
- Manipulation skills adequate to participate in clinical skills
- Perform CPR, including the ability to remain at a position located above the client and perform chest compressions for a minimum of 2-5 minutes consistently
- Travel to and from academic and clinical sites
- Physically participate in an active, 8–10 hour school/work day, consistently.
- Be able to lift objects weighing at least 20lbs.

Communication Skills

- Use verbal, non-verbal, and written communication to effectively explain and/or demonstrate tasks and techniques to others
- Communicate effectively in English with patients, families and other healthcare providers, both verbally and in written form
- Effectively adapt communication for intended audience
- Speak with enough volume to be reasonably heard by intended audience
- Perceive, understand, and appropriately act on non-verbal communication, such as changes in mood, activity, facial expressions and postures
- Assume the role of an effective member of a health care team
- Function effectively under supervision, including collaboration as well as effectively receiving and providing feedback
- Interact and establish rapport with individuals and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds

Problem Solving/Critical Thinking

- Function effectively under stress
- Respond appropriately to emergencies
- Use sound judgment to adhere to infection control and safety procedures
- Demonstrate problem-solving skills that reflect consideration of multiple forms of information: written, verbal, observation, etc. Must be able to reason, measure, calculate, prioritize and synthesize information
- Address problems or questions to the appropriate person at the appropriate time
- Consistently follow policies and procedures required by clinical and academic settings, governmental regulations, and requirements of reimbursement sources
- Demonstrate the capacity to consistently, effectively, and efficiently plan, organize, and perform job duties within limited time frames according to current industry standards

Academic Ability

- Read and understand information from textbooks, online resources, and other materials
- Synthesize information effectively to be able to demonstrate knowledge and skills through written work, tests and demonstrated performance: Student should be able to synthesize this information from a variety of formats. These formats include, but are not limited to text, lecture, video/computer, and demonstration.
- Data collection from a variety of sources and interpretation of materials that include, but are not limited to text, notes, online resources, observation, and clinical records
- Pay attention, without prompting, to teachers, guest speakers and other classmates during verbal presentations
- Effectively use a computer and computer programs. These include, but are not limited to: email, PowerPoint, search engines, up/downloading of documents, YouTube, and other online resource sites.

Sensory Capability

- Visually observe with enough acuity (in a variety of lighting conditions) to participate in lab activities, lectures and clinical experiences
- Read small print information—such as that can be found on medical equipment
- Hear sufficiently to perceive normal tone of voice to follow directions, participate in conversations, answer phones and intercoms
- Assess and treat all assigned clients, including use of the nursing process.
- Monitor vital signs
- Auditory, visual, and tactile abilities sufficient to assess patient status and perform treatments
- Perform responsibilities while in close proximity or in physical contact with others

Professional Behaviors

- Emotional health and stability sufficient to complete complex patient care responsibilities within an allotted time
- Flexibility to function and remain calm under stressful conditions, including emergency situations, taxing academic, and clinical workloads
- Consistently demonstrate compassion, empathy, tact, honesty, responsibility, integrity, and strong work ethic
- Follow safety precautions
- Perform tasks and interventions within competency level and seek assistance and training when additional knowledge or competency skills are required
- Actively seek and participate in continuing professional education opportunities in order to maintain and improve knowledge and competence
- Utilize evidence based nursing and nursing theories, models, and frames of reference to provide the most effective interventions for clients and patients
- Independently track and complete multiple tasks, meeting deadlines and priorities as set by self and others
- Effectively interact with diverse populations and personalities
- Document and report activities accurately according to the requirements of the setting as well as external regulations, policies or procedures, and professional ethics