

Essential Functions Required of Students for Admission and Progression in a Health Sciences Program

Applicants and students should be able to perform these essential functions or with reasonable accommodations, such as the help of compensatory techniques and/or assistive devices, be able to demonstrate ability to become proficient in these essential functions.

Essential Function	Technical Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)	Yes	No
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations; evaluate patient or instrument responses; synthesize data; draw sound conclusions.		
Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients and colleagues. Use therapeutic communication (attending, clarifying, coaching, facilitating, teaching). Function (consult, negotiate, share) as a part of a team.		
Communication Ability	Communication abilities sufficient for effective interaction with others in spoken and written English	Explain treatment procedures; initiate health teaching; document and interpret instructions. Listen attentively.		
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces; full range of motion; manual and finger dexterity; and hand-eye coordination	Move around in patients' rooms, work spaces and treatment areas. Stand/Walk for extensive periods of time.		
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care and operate equipment	Calibrate and use equipment; transfer and position patients; lift 50 pounds.		
Adequate Height	Ability to reach and operate overhead equipment	Turn wall mounted monitors/gauges on and off.		
Hearing Ability	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.		
Visual Ability	Visual ability (corrected 20/40) sufficient for observation and assessment.	Observe patient/responses, secretions, color. Read manometer, thermometer, chart, computer screen, digital printouts, label and gauges.		
Tactile Ability	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention; e.g., insertion of IV catheter.		
Olfactory Ability	Olfactory senses (smell) sufficient for maintaining environmental and patient safety	Distinguish smells which are contributory to assessing and/or maintaining the patient's health status or environmental safety (fire).		
Professional Attitude and Demeanor	Ability to present professional appearance and implement measures to maintain own physical and mental health, and emotional stability	Work under stressful conditions and irregular hours. Be exposed to communicable diseases and contaminated body fluids. React calmly in emergency situations. Demonstrate flexibility. Show concern for others.		

Note: Students requiring reasonable accommodations may contact the Office of Counseling and Career Development Services, Counselor for Students with Disabilities, at 574-6131.

Adapted from: Red Alert: The Americans with Disabilities Act Implications for Nursing Education (March, 1993).

I certify that I have read and understand the above essential functions and that I meet each of them, with or without reasonable accommodation. I understand that a two-step PPD test and mandatory immunizations (no exclusions) are required for enrollment in a Health Sciences program. Each immunization or titer must have a specific date and results verified by a healthcare provider.

Signature _____

Date _____

Print Name _____