

Essential Functions of Nursing Students

Qualified applicants are expected to meet all admission criteria and matriculating students are expected to meet all progression criteria, as well as these essential functions. **Students with documented need for accommodation are to meet with the Disability Resources Center.**

FUNCTION ABILITY CATEGORY

REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITY/ATTRIBUTE

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

Move within confined spaces
Sit and maintain balance
Stand and maintain balance
Reach above shoulders (e.g., IV poles)
Reach below waist (e.g., plug electrical appliance into wall outlets)

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Pick up objects with hands
Grasp small objects with hands (e.g., IV tubing, pencil)
Write legibly with pen or pencil
Key/type (e.g., use a computer)
Pinch/pick or otherwise work with fingers (e.g., manipulate a syringe)
Twist (e.g., turn objects/knobs using hands)
Squeeze with finger (e.g., eye dropper)

PHYSICAL ENDURANCE

Stand (e.g., at client side during surgical or therapeutic procedure)
Sustain repetitive movements (e.g., CPR)
Maintain physical tolerance (e.g., work entire shift)
Move at a pace that will allow the student to answer a patient's emergency needs

PHYSICAL STRENGTH

Push and pull 25 pounds (e.g., position clients)
Support 25 pounds (e.g., ambulate client)
Lift 25 pounds (e.g., pick up a child, transfer client)
Move light object weighing up to 10 pounds (e.g., IV poles)
Move heavy objects weighing from 11 to 50 pounds
Defend self against combative client.
Carry equipment/supplies
Use upper body strength (e.g., perform CPR, physically restrain a client)
Squeeze with hands (e.g., operate fire extinguisher)

MOBILITY

Twist
Bend
Stoop/squat
Move quickly (e.g., response to an emergency)
Climb (e.g., ladders/stools/stairs)
Walk

HEARING

Hear normal speaking level sounds (e.g., person-to-person report)
Hear faint voices
Hear breath sounds, bowel sounds and heart sounds with a stethoscope

VISION

Distinguish colors on a color chart (Able to recognize Changes in skin color, rashes, pallor)

SPEECH

Speak in a tone that can be heard from across the room
