

# **NURSING TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

Galen College of Nursing will make academic adjustments and provide auxiliary aids and services deemed necessary and appropriate to facilitate enrollment and participation of qualified individuals with disabilities. A student must be able to demonstrate, with or without reasonable accommodation, all functional (e.g., physical, sensory, cognitive, and behavioral) abilities required for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the program curriculum and clinical agency requirements. Candidates who gain admission to the program should not assume that the College has assessed a student's ability to meet the nursing technical requirements. The technical standards include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

#### **GENERAL ABILITIES:**

The student is expected to possess functional use of the senses of vision, touch, hearing, and smell so the information can be integrated, analyzed, and synthesized in a consistent and accurate manner. A student must also possess the ability to perceive pain, pressure, temperature, position, vibration, and movement that are important to the student's ability to gather significant information needed to effectively evaluate patients. A student must be able to respond promptly to urgent situations that may occur during clinical training activities and must not hinder the ability of other members of the health care team to provide prompt treatment and care to patients.

#### **MOTOR ABILITY:**

The student must be able to perform gross and fine motor movements with sufficient coordination needed to perform complete physical examinations utilizing the techniques of inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation, and other diagnostic maneuvers. A student must develop the psychomotor skills reasonably needed to perform or assist with procedures, treatments, administration of medication, management and operation of diagnostic and therapeutic medical equipment, and such maneuvers to assist with patient care activities such as lifting, wheelchair guidance, and mobility. The student must have sufficient levels of neuromuscular control and eye-to-hand coordination as well as possess the physical and mental stamina to meet the demands associated with extended periods of sitting, standing, moving, and physical exertion required for satisfactory and safe performance in the clinical and classroom settings including performing CPR or prevent a patient from falling, if necessary. The student must possess sufficient manual dexterity abilities to perform required activities, such as drawing up solutions in a syringe and adjustment of intravenous (IV) supplies and equipment.

#### INTELLECTUAL, CONCEPTUAL, AND QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES:

The student must be able to develop and refine problem-solving skills that are crucial to practice as a nurse. Problem-solving includes the ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize objective and subjective data, and to make decisions, often in a time urgent environment, that reflects consistent and thoughtful deliberation and sound clinical judgment. Each student must demonstrate mastery of these skills and possess the ability to incorporate new information from peers, teachers, and the nursing and medical literature to formulate sound judgment in patient assessment, intervention, evaluation, teaching, and setting short and long-term goals.



#### **OBSERVATIONAL ABILITY:**

The student must have sufficient capacity to make accurate visual observations and interpret them in the context of laboratory studies, medication administration, and patient care activities. In addition, the student must be able to document these observations and maintain accurate records.

## **COMMUNICATION ABILITY:**

The student must communicate effectively both verbally in English and non-verbally to elicit information and to translate that information to others. Each student must have the ability to read, write, comprehend, and speak to facilitate communication with patients, their family members, and other professionals in health care settings. In addition, the student must be able to maintain accurate patient records, present information in a professional, logical and confidential manner and provide patient counseling and instruction to effectively care for patients and their families. The student must possess verbal and written communication skills that permit effective communication with course faculty and students in both the classroom and clinical settings.

## **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL ABILITIES:**

The student is expected to work within a team structure and to accept supervision, including constructive criticism. The student is expected to be prompt, courteous and respectful of others, including those with different points of view. The student must abide by the student conduct code, including maintaining appropriate behavior with faculty, staff, patients, their families and others, including respect for their civil and privacy rights, in classroom and clinical settings. The student is expected to demonstrate characteristics associated with honesty and integrity in all aspects of the educational experience.

# REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATION

Students with disabilities who may need reasonable accommodation may contact their campus Section <u>504/Title IX Coordinator.</u>