

## ***MENTAL & PHYSICAL ABILITIES & SKILLS REQUIRED IN THE NURSING PROGRAM***

The provision of safe patient care necessitates the student's ability to respond to multiple sensory and environmental cues. It is essential that the student be able to read, understand, and apply the information in nursing textbooks and clinical records. It is essential that the student be able to effectively communicate with patients, families, and peers. The student must be able to tolerate stressful and physically taxing workloads. The student may be exposed to communicable or infectious disease, hazardous materials, and injury from performance of assigned duties.

The following abilities and skills are necessary to meet the requirements of the nursing program and for a successful professional nursing career.

1. Perform up to twelve-hours in a clinical/laboratory setting.
2. Work in a standing position and walk frequently.
3. Lift and transfer patients up to 6 inches from a stooped position, then push or pull the weight up to 3 feet.
4. Lift and transfer patients from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed-to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
5. Apply up to 10 pounds of pressure to bleeding sites, or in performing CPR.
6. Respond and react immediately to auditory instruction, request, and/or monitor equipment; perform auditory auscultation without auditory impediment.
7. Perform close and distance visual activities involving objects, people, and paperwork, as well as discriminate depth and color perception.
8. Be able to tolerate various odors.
9. Discriminate between sharp/dull and hot/cold when using hands.
10. Perform mathematical calculation for medication preparation administration. Demonstrate basic computer/information technology skills.
11. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and word usage with patients, families, co-workers.
12. Must be able to use critical thinking skills to interpret and evaluate patient data.
13. Make safe decisions under stressful situations.
14. Perform effectively and professionally in a stressful environment/situation.
15. Must be able to demonstrate the ability to complete assignments within an allotted timeframe.
16. Work well with others.