

## Technical Standards for Nursing Programs

An applicant seeking admission to a nursing program at Southeastern Community College must meet the Technical Standards required for the safe delivery of nursing care to the public. According to the nature of the work required in nursing practice and the educational requirements of the nursing programs curricula, students must be able to meet these standards as defined for admission and successful progression through the nursing program. The standards established are in compliance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

The practice of nursing requires that members of the discipline have the cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor skills necessary to provide safe and effective nursing care to the public. Nursing students should possess and be able to demonstrate the Technical Standards established (examples are not all inclusive).

The following are standards which a student in a Nursing Program major will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program. If an accepted students believes that he/she cannot meet one or more of the standards with or without reasonable accommodations, the student must consult the Disability Services Counselor at 910-788-6327, [disabilityservices@sccnc.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@sccnc.edu). Southeastern Community College will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations.

Standard	Definition	Examples (not all inclusive)
<b>Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Skills</b>	The ability to demonstrate the use of clinical judgement necessary to prioritize responses and interventions that maintain safety while providing client care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate client responses and draw sound conclusions using evidence-based knowledge.</li> <li>Collect/analyze data, prioritize needs, and anticipate client responses.</li> </ul>
<b>Interpersonal Skills</b>	The ability to interact/collaborate effectively with others from diverse backgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain rapport with clients, families, instructors, staff, colleagues, and peers from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.</li> <li>Respect and care for all individuals whose appearance, condition, beliefs, and values may differ/conflict with their own in all situations.</li> <li>Deliver nursing care regardless of a client's race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or diagnosis.</li> <li>Establish and maintain therapeutic boundaries.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Skills</b>	The ability to use therapeutic communication to foster and maintain collaborative relationships and a safe environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal and written skills are sufficient to communicate information and ideas appropriately and safely with clients, families, peers, and the interdisciplinary team.</li> <li>Demonstrates the ability to communicate relevant, accurate, and complete information in a clear and concise manner (i.e., nursing assessments, critical client information, provide client education, documentation of observations, interpretation of healthcare provider orders, give and receive client reports, etc.).</li> <li>Demonstrates appropriate and respectful use of gestures, facial expressions, tone of voice, and body language in communication with clients, families, peers, faculty, and members of the interdisciplinary team.</li> </ul>
<b>Mobility/Motor Skills</b>	The ability to move in one's environment with ease and without restrictions. The ability to utilize gross and fine motor skills to provide safe and effective care for clients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capable of moving safely and efficiently within confined areas to provide client care.</li> <li>Demonstrates physical ability to safely turn, position, lift, and transfer mobile and immobile clients.</li> <li>Physical strength is sufficient to push/pull/position clients/equipment weighing 100 lbs. or more.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical strength is sufficient to lift/move heavy objects up to 50 lbs.</li> <li>Capable of standing/ambulating independently up to 12 hours per day with minimal breaks.</li> <li>Demonstrates ability to perform resuscitative measures during emergent situations, including CPR.</li> <li>Demonstrates sufficient dexterity to manipulate equipment/items safely and accurately for the delivery of client care.</li> <li>Demonstrates necessary dexterity and kinesthetics to perform nursing skills safely (i.e., sterile procedures, wound care, administrations of medications, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>Tactile Skills</b>	The ability to utilize the sense of touch to perform physical assessment and provide client care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tactile skills are sufficient to perform functions of physical assessment and/or those related to therapeutic interventions (i.e., insertion of catheters/cannulas, palpation of pulses, detect changes in temperature, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>Auditory Skills</b>	The ability to utilize the sense of hearing to assess clients and monitor health needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auditory skills are sufficient to detect/identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>internal body sounds with the use of a stethoscope.</li> <li>alarms, cries for help, and other verbal/nonverbal sounds emitted by clients (i.e., equipment/monitor alarms, fire alarms, call bells, overhead codes, etc.).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Visual Skills</b>	The ability to utilize the sense of sight to perform physical assessment, nursing procedures, and maintain a safe environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual ability sufficient to detect environmental hazards and see objects 20 feet away and close at hand.</li> <li>Demonstrates visual ability to accurately read calibrations on equipment/monitors (i.e., syringes, BP cuff, electronic monitors, etc.).</li> <li>Demonstrates visual ability to accurately read electronic/paper medical records and medication labels.</li> <li>Visual ability sufficient to observe client responses, changes in skin color, facial expressions.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Tolerance</b>	The ability to tolerate environmental stressors and potential occupational exposures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to adapt to variations in work schedules, work in areas that are stressful, close, crowded, and/or noisy.</li> <li>Possible exposure to communicable diseases, radiation, medicinal preparations, latex, toxic substances, blood and body fluids, harmful chemicals, etc.</li> <li>Work in areas of potential violence (i.e., physical, verbal, and emotional).</li> <li>Demonstrate standard precautions.</li> <li>Ability to tolerate various odors.</li> </ul>
<b>Behavioral/Emotional Skills</b>	The ability to maintain behavioral and emotional stability, mental alertness, and composure in stressful situations. The ability to assume responsibility and accountability for oneself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responds to and offers feedback in a professional manner.</li> <li>Demonstrates honesty and integrity beyond reproach.</li> <li>Promotes a positive image of professional nursing (including social media presence).</li> <li>Adapts appropriately to high stress situations and rapidly changing environments.</li> <li>Demonstrates behaviors of respect, initiative, and cooperation.</li> <li>Performs duties within scope of practice.</li> </ul>

If a student feels that they cannot meet one of more of these standards without accommodations or modifications, the college must determine, on an individual basis, whether the necessary accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made without placing the public at risk. More detailed information regarding standards is provided in the nursing student handbook.

## Technical Standards for Nursing Programs

**Certification of Ability to Meet the Technical Standards for Nursing Programs**

I certify that I am in good health and that I am both physically and mentally able to withstand the rigors and stress of the nursing program.

I have read the Technical Standards for Nursing Programs and I feel that I can meet the standards described as a nursing student. If at any time, after admission to or progression within the nursing programs, I *cannot* meet the Technical Standards for Nursing Programs, I will immediately notify the Director of Nursing. I acknowledge the necessity of this requirement of notification to protect the individuals under my care as a nursing student.

I understand that Southeastern Community College maintains no healthcare facilities and offers no college-paid healthcare insurance for its students. The responsibility for any medical services or costs incurred as a student rest with me and my parents/guardians/or head of household. This includes any care due to accidents or illnesses incurred while functioning in the role as a student nurse. I understand that if I am not currently insured as a rider on an existing policy, I am strongly encouraged to carry my own healthcare insurance.

**Student with Disabilities**

Southeastern Community College does not discriminate based on disabilities for application, admission, or access to its programs, services, or activities or individuals who meet the Technical Standards for Nursing Programs requirements. The college will provide reasonable accommodation for documented disabilities of individuals otherwise eligible to receive or participate in college programs, services, or activities.

The Executive Vice President/Chief Academic Officer is designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirement contained in the Americans Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Information about provision of the ADA and the rights provided thereunder is available from the ADA counselor in the Student Services department. The ADA counselor is provided to assist students in requesting disability- related accommodations.

Individuals who want to receive reasonable accommodation for a disability should make this request known to the ADA counselor. Individuals accompanied by a personal assistant while on campus must provide the ADA counselor with documentation that includes sufficient reasons related to medical/physical need for the assistance.

---

**Student Signature**

---

**Date**