

Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression

For admission and progression, an applicant to the nursing programs must have abilities and skills according to the standards listed below. The applicant must be able to perform in an independent manner, and if a student believes that he or she cannot meet one or more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the nursing program will determine, on an individual basis, whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably.

ISSUE	STANDARD	SOME EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, develop nursing care plans.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces	Moves around in patient's rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas, administer cardio-pulmonary procedures.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care	Observes patient/client responses.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertions of a catheter.

Adapted from Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression of Southern Council of Collegiate Education for Nursing Prerequisites for Admission.