

PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION & PROGRESSION OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING STUDENTS

This technical standards document describes the nonacademic qualifications required in addition to academic qualifications, which the College of Nursing (CON) considers critical for entrance of Registered Nurses into, continuation in, and graduation from the **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** program at St Petersburg College. Candidates must be able to meet these minimum standards for successful completion of degree requirements.

CON Technical Standards

Critical Thinking – Nursing student should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For example, student must be able to identify cause-effect relationships and develop individualized plans of care.

Interpersonal Skills – Nursing student shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, groups, and other members of the healthcare team from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.

Communication Skills – Nursing student shall possess communication abilities in English that are sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.

Emotional Health – Nursing student emotional health is defined as reacting appropriately to stressful situations, understanding one's own ability to cope with stressful situations, and behaving appropriately within the current environment. A student may be denied admission or continued enrollment in the program if they exhibit a problematic behavior(s) that conflicts with safety essential to nursing practice and does not respond to the action plan developed to address the problem behavior(s) within a specified time-period.

Motor Skills – Nursing student shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to perform activities related to course objectives.

Hearing – Nursing student shall possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.

Visual – Nursing student shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation.

Tactile – Nursing student shall possess tactile ability sufficient for activities.

Lifting/Carrying – Nursing student shall possess ability to lift, manipulate, and move five to ten pounds.

Cognitive Abilities – Nursing student shall be oriented to time, place and person; organize responsibilities; and make appropriate decisions. Nursing student shall perform accurate mathematical calculations for course related assignments.

Occupational Exposures – Nursing student may be exposed to communicable disease, body fluids, toxic substances, and/or medicinal preparations and shall use appropriate precautions at all times.

Imminent Threats to Self or Others – SPC and the CON are concerned about nursing students impaired by alcoholism, drug abuse, and emotional illness because these conditions can affect the student's academic and clinical performance. Immediate corrective action, by CON faculty, may include removal from the academic or practicum setting for immediate concerns regarding the student's conduct or performance.

- Service Animals - *Service Animals* as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and in the College Procedure on Service Animals, P6Hx23-1.251, are welcome on all campuses and at all College functions, activities and programs. Student is advised to refer to the Board of Trustees Rule [P6Hx23-1.251 Service Animals](#) then scroll to ***Service Animals – see also Assistance Animals for details***, as well as Federal guidelines for detailed information about service, compared to support, animals. If you use a service animal, please visit our [Service Animals FAQ](#).

Program Related Stressors for Nursing Students

Faculty will work with you to make "reasonable accommodations" in the online classroom. Additional skills and abilities are needed to fulfill the requirements of the bachelor's program and while these skills and abilities can be developed while in the program, we want to present a realistic picture of stressors for nursing students.

- There is a great deal of information that has to be learned and retained. Nursing students must demonstrate knowledge of these concepts. In addition, the student must be able to recall, articulate and demonstrate concepts & skills in a timely manner in the on-line classroom.
- Students must have sufficient emotional stability to perform under stress. Stress is produced by the necessity of performing in various settings while being observed by instructors, other health care professionals, and clients.

Non-discriminatory Patient Care

RN to BSN nursing students will interact with a diverse population without exception.

Accessibility Resources

- If a student cannot demonstrate the abilities identified above, it is the responsibility of the student to request appropriate accommodations with Accessibility Resources. To request Accessibility Services, see a campus [Accessibility Services Coordinator](#) and bring your [documentation](#). If you do not have documentation, the Accessibility Services coordinator can let you know what you need to qualify for [accommodations](#). Schedule your appointment as early as possible so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner. All information will be kept confidential. Determination of a reasonable accommodation will be made on an individual basis and the accommodation cannot fundamentally alter the nature of the program offered, impose an undue hardship, or jeopardize safety.