

## CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

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**PURPOSE:** To provide information to students on the functions of professional nurses.

**POLICY:** All students accepted into the School of Nursing are expected to have the capability of completing the entire nursing curriculum. The nursing curriculum requires demonstrated proficiency in a variety of nursing skills. All students should be able to complete each activity, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Requirements	Standards	Examples of Necessary Activities (not all-inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability for effective clinical reasoning and clinical judgement consistent with level of educational preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identification of cause/effect relationships in clinical situations</li> <li>▪ Use of the scientific method in the development of patient care plans</li> <li>▪ Evaluation of the effectiveness of nursing interventions</li> </ul>
Professional Relationships	Interpersonal skills sufficient for professional interactions with a diverse population of individuals, families and groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establishment of rapport with patients/clients and colleagues</li> <li>▪ Capacity to engage in successful conflict resolution</li> <li>▪ Peer accountability</li> </ul>
Communication	Communication adeptness sufficient for verbal and written professional interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explanation of treatment procedures, initiation of health teaching</li> <li>▪ Documentation and interpretation of nursing actions and patient/client responses</li> </ul>
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient for movement from room to room and in small spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Movement about patient's room, workspaces and treatment areas</li> <li>▪ Administration of rescue procedures- cardiopulmonary resuscitation</li> </ul>

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Examples of Necessary Activities (not all-inclusive)</b>
Motor skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient for providing safe, effective nursing care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Calibration and use of equipment</li> <li>▪ Therapeutic positioning of patients</li> </ul>
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for monitoring and assessing health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to hear monitoring device alarm and other emergency signals</li> <li>▪ Ability to discern auscultatory sounds and cries for help</li> </ul>
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in-patient care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to observe patient's condition and responses to treatments</li> </ul>
Tactile Sense	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ability to palpate in physical examinations and various therapeutic interventions</li> </ul>

### Reference

Southern Regional Education Board (2020). *The Americans with disabilities act: Implications for nursing education*. Retrieved July 7, 2021, <https://www.sreb.org/publication/americans-disabilities-act>