



Performance Standards for Baccalaureate Nursing

A candidate for the B.S.N. must have abilities and skills in the areas of critical thinking, communication, mobility, and motor, tactile, visual, hearing, and behavioral function. Reasonable accommodation can be made for some disabilities. However, a candidate is expected to perform in a reasonably independent manner.

Standard	Examples of Activities
Critical Thinking: Critical thinking ability sufficient for critical judgments.	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, develop nursing care plans, calculate medications.
Communication: Communication abilities sufficient for effective interaction in verbal and written form with other members of the health care team and the public.	Able to obtain information, explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, describe patient situations, perceive nonverbal communications.
Mobility: Physical abilities (including standing, walking, bending, range of motion of extremities) to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.	Able to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation, move around in patient room, work spaces, and treatment areas.
Motor: Gross and fine motor function sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Able to ambulate patient, administer intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous and oral medications, calibrate and use equipment.
Hearing: Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Able to hear monitor alarm and emergency signals, able to listen to breath and heart signs.
Visual: Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.	Able to observe patients, visualize appearance of a surgical wound.
Tactile: Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Able to perform palpation of a pulse, perceive temperature or other functions of a physical examination.
Behavioral: Emotional health sufficient to totally utilize his or her intellectual abilities. Able to function effectively during stressful situations.	Able to adapt to ever-changing environments, displaying flexibility, appropriately interacting with others, learning to function in the case of uncertainty that is inherent in clinical situations involving patients/clients.

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