

## **Program Requirements: Functional Capabilities**

The student must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admission and education process.

It is assumed that an applicant or a student enrolled in the Department of Nursing Education will be able to independently:

1. Physical senses
  - Functionally use the senses of vision, hearing, smell, and touch with or without technical (mechanical) compensation.
  - Observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand.
  - Observation necessitates the functional use of the sense of vision and somatic sensation. It is enhanced by the functional use of the sense of smell.
2. Psychomotor skills
  - Execute functional psychomotor movements to provide general nursing care and emergency treatments.
  - Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.
3. Communication abilities
  - Hear, observe, and speak to patients to elicit information; describe changes in mood, activity, and posture; and perceive nonverbal communication.
  - An applicant must be able to communicate with patients effectively and with sensitivity.
  - Communication includes not only speech but reading and writing.
  - The applicant must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written form with all members of the health care team.
4. Intellectual capabilities
  - Utilize intellectual abilities, exercise good judgment, complete task, and comprehend spatial relationships.
  - Comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures.
5. Emotional stability
  - Demonstrate the emotional health required for full utilization of intellectual abilities and exercise good judgment.
  - The applicant must be able to complete promptly all responsibilities attendant to the care of patients and develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with them.
  - An applicant must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and function effectively under stress.