



## REQUIRED STANDARDS POLICY

Front Range Community College has adopted the following standards for admission, progression and graduation of all Nursing Program students in clinical courses involving direct client care. Candidates for these degrees must be able to meet these minimum standards with or without reasonable accommodations for successful completion of degree requirements.

### **Observation**

The student must be able to observe lectures, demonstrations, research, and practice situations in nursing. She/he must be able to observe health assessments and interventions, diagnostic specimens, digital and waveform readings to determine a client's condition and the effect of therapy. Observation necessitates the functional use of vision, hearing, tactile and somatic senses.

### **Communication**

A student must be able to communicate effectively in English with clients, faculty and all members of the health care team. He/she must communicate with clients to elicit information regarding history, mood and activity, and to perceive nonverbal communication. Communication includes speech, hearing, reading, writing and computer literacy. A student must be able to report to members of the health care team, express appropriate information to clients, and teach, explain, direct and counsel a wide variety of individuals.

### **Motor**

A student must have sufficient gross and fine motor skills, physical endurance, physical strength, mobility, vision, tactile abilities and sense of smell to carry out nursing procedures and operate equipment safely. He/she must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion and other diagnostic maneuvers. A student should be able to do basic laboratory tests (e.g., point of care testing) and perform patient care procedures (e.g., tracheotomy care, urinary catheterization, insertion of intravenous catheters, invasive injection techniques and use of oxygen/respiratory equipment). He/she must be able to execute motor movements reasonably required in a prompt, timely fashion to provide routine and emergency care and treatment including cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administration of intravenous medication, application of pressure to stop bleeding, and opening of obstructed airways. The student should be able to lift and/or support at least 50 pounds in order to reposition, transfer, and ambulate clients safely. Students must be able to stand and/or walk for up to four hours at a time.

### **Intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities**

The student must be able to read and understand written documents in English and to solve problems involving measurement, calculation, reasoning, memory, analysis and synthesis in a timely manner. He/she must be able to synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a client's history, physical findings and diagnostic studies. The student must be able to use this information to develop a diagnosis, establish priorities and monitor treatment plans and modalities. The student must be able to demonstrate the ability to focus on relevant information in noisy and/or stimulating environments. In addition, he/she must be able to comprehend three-dimensional and spatial relationships.

### **Behavioral and social attributes**

A student must have the capacity to demonstrate full utilization of her/his intellectual abilities, emotional stability, exercise good judgment under stressful, crisis and non-crisis situations and promptly complete all responsibilities pertinent to the diagnosis and care of clients in a variety of settings. A student must have the capacity to develop mature, sensitive, and effective therapeutic relationships with clients. He/she must be able to tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads and function effectively under stress. As a component of nursing education, the student must be able to demonstrate ethical behavior, including adherence to the professional nursing and student honor codes.

### **Reasonable Accommodation**

It is the policy of Front Range Community College to provide reasonable accommodation to qualified students with disabilities so they can meet these required standards. Students who need reasonable accommodations must contact the Office of Special Services directly. There are services available to students with disabilities and special needs. It is the individual students' responsibility to request such services and to provide appropriate current documents of the need for such services.