Columbus State Community College

Nursing Department

Standards Essential for Nursing Students

Columbus State Community College Nursing Department is committed to equal access for all qualified program applicants and has identified standards essential to the delivery of safe, effective nursing care while enrolled as a student in the Nursing Department, including the nursing, practical nursing and nurse certification programs. The following standards are essential to the students’ ability to acquire knowledge and develop the clinical skills required for success at the different levels of the curriculum. The student must meet the standards as they relate to the specific program’s scope of practice.

All students applying to any of the nursing programs within the Nursing Department need to acknowledge their awareness of the Standards Essential for Nursing Students required of the student in order to be considered for admission. The student may sign and submit this form to acknowledge they have read and acknowledge they are able to meet each standard without difficulty or with reasonable accommodation.

**General Abilities:** Must have the general physical abilities and mobility required to provide safe patient care including motor skills, strength, manual dexterity, eye and hand coordination and fine motor skills. Examples include: movements in the process of providing patient care including walking, twisting, stooping, squatting, bending and climbing stairs, lifting and supporting weight of patients and objects, and standing for prolonged periods of time during therapeutic procedures.

**Communication:** Must be able to communicate effectively with both spoken and written English language in learning and patient care environments. Examples include: communication with patients, families, health care professionals, patient and family teaching, documentation and computer literacy.

**Patient Care:** Must be able to perform nursing skills independently and engage in patient care over typical healthcare shifts (6-12 hour clinical shifts). Examples include: supporting patients during transfer, positioning, ambulation, positioning and manipulation of medical equipment, and perform CPR for extended period of time.

**Interpersonal Skills:** Must have the ability to have positive interactions with patients, with patients’ families, coworkers, and other healthcare professionals from multicultural backgrounds. Examples include: care without bias, great customer service, remaining calm in emergency situations, accountable for personal actions, and works well with others.
**Sensory:** Must possess the ability to assess patients in the delivery of safe care. Examples include identification and interpretation of heart, lung, abdominal, BP sounds, detection of audible alarms including call lights, equipment alarms, overhead paging, detection of unusual odors such as smoke, detection of changes in skin temperature, palpation of pulses, edema, fluid and air trapped under skin, visual detection of changes in skin color and integrity, ability to visualize patient’s medical records, computer records, medication vials, syringe calibrations, cardiac monitors, and colors on testing equipment.

**Professional and Ethical Behavior:** Must be morally and ethically responsible and accountable for their actions and behaviors. Examples include: respectful of others, maintains confidentiality, exhibits honesty, integrity, and compassion. Dresses appropriately. Adheres to course syllabi, CSCC Nursing Program Handbook, CSCC Code of Conduct, and CSCC policies, procedures, and requirements in the CSCC Catalog.

**Clinical Judgment:** Must have the ability to critically think, assess, analyze, interpret, problem solve, identify cause and effect relationships, and make clinical judgments and decisions for delivery of safe patient care. Examples include: collecting data, measuring, calculating, prioritizing, reasoning, recognizing urgent and emergent situations, correlate data, and respond appropriately to changes in patients’ conditions.

If you have questions about the accommodations process at Columbus State Community College you may contact the Office of Disability Services, Eibling Hall 101, 550 East Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215, 614-287-2570.

I hereby attest that I have read this form and understand the Standards Essential for Nursing Students necessary for successful program completion. I further attest that I am able to meet these standards, without difficulty or with reasonable accommodations, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Applicant’s signature does not guarantee progression in the nursing program.

__________________________________  _________________________
Applicant Signature     Date

Revised 3/11/2013