

# Core Performance Standards Required for Nursing

The MTSU School of Nursing seeks to provide, in as much as possible, a reasonably safe environment for its health career students and their patients. A student may be required, during the course of the program, to demonstrate his/her physical and/or emotional fitness to meet the essential requirements of the program. Such essential requirements may include freedom from communicable diseases, the ability to perform certain physical tasks, and suitable emotional fitness. Any appraisal measures used to determine such physical and/or emotional fitness will be in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, so as not to discriminate against any individual on the basis of disability.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Some Examples of Necessary Activities (Not all inclusive)</b>
Critical	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical thinking situations, develop nursing care plans
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces	Move around in patients' rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas; administer cardiopulmonary procedures
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hear monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care	Observe patient/client responses
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination, and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g. insertion of a catheter