

Technical Standards
For Students in
Gardner-Webb University School of Nursing

These technical standards are required abilities for effective performance in Gardner-Webb University nursing education programs. The following general abilities have been identified as necessary to meet the technical standards of progression in the undergraduate nursing program. The student will read and sign the Technical Standards form as a requirement of admission to the School of Nursing. Any changes in physical ability will require written notification to the School of Nursing accompanied by physician documentation. Reasonable accommodations may be made for some disabilities. However, a student is expected to perform these standards independently. The following general abilities will be evaluated throughout the program.

A. Visual, Auditory, Tactile and Olfactory Abilities

- Sufficient abilities to allow him/her to gather data from written reference materials, oral presentations, demonstrations and observations of a patient and his/her environment.
- Sufficient ability to perform health assessment and interventions; obtain diagnostic specimens and information from digital, analog and waveform representations of physiologic phenomena to determine a client's condition.

Example of relevant activities:

Detect changes in client and environment through chart review, physical assessment, and other health parameters.

Assess and intervene safely on the client's behalf.

B. Communication abilities

- Ability to communicate, comprehend, read, and write in English at a level that allows for accurate, clear, and effective communication.
- Ability to communicate with accuracy, clarity and efficiency with patients, their families and other members of the health care team (including spoken and non-verbal communications, such as interpretation of facial expression, affect and body language).
- Required communication abilities, including reading, writing, language skills and computer literacy.

Examples of relevant activities:

Retrieve, understand, and use information (i.e. lab reports, computer data, progress reports, care plans) to communicate effectively with others.

C. Motor Abilities

- The student must have the strength, mobility, and endurance to perform psychomotor skills required for nursing care in any setting.

Examples of relevant activities:

Perform CPR
Safely move or transfer clients
Lift or carry objects weighing 25 pounds
Manipulate small equipment such as syringes, vials, and ampules
Complete assigned period of clinical practicum (from 5 to 12 sequential hours)

D. Behavioral, Interpersonal, and Emotional Abilities

- Student must be able to adapt to ever-changing environments displaying flexibility, and function effectively during stressful situations inherent in clinical situations involving clients and families.
- Student must be able to accept criticism and respond by appropriate modification of behavior.

Examples of relevant activities:

Adhere to the professional nursing and student honor code,
Remain calm, exercise good judgment, and promptly complete all responsibilities in care of clients.
Exhibit mature, sensitive, and effective therapeutic relationships with others.

E. Cognitive, Conceptual and Quantitative Abilities

- Student must have the ability to read and understand written documents in English including measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis.
- Student must have the ability to process and understand information and demonstrate the ability to establish a plan of care and set priorities, develop problem-solving skills, and make decisions reflecting consistent and thoughtful analysis of appropriate information throughout the course of the study.

Examples of relevant activities:

Accurately calculate and administer medications.
Collect, analyze and prioritize data.
Synthesize and apply theory to client situations.



I have read, understand and am capable of performing the technical standards of a student in the Gardner-Webb University School of Nursing.

Student _____

Date _____