



2023-2024 TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR PRACTICAL NURSING CERTIFICATE

To the student: As you complete this form please consider your physical and mental/attitudinal ability to meet the Technical Standards associated with the health professions program that you are about to enter. Please carefully consider the General Job Description as you evaluate your ability to meet the Technical Standards specified.

General Job Description: Utilizes the nursing process to participate in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating patient needs. Applies critical thinking skills in performing safe, competent nursing care. Communications effectively with patients, families, and the healthcare team. Instructs patients regarding appropriate health teachings.

Throughout the performance of your duties as a healthcare provider, you will be exposed to infectious diseases in all practice settings. Although you will learn practices and procedures to minimize the risk of exposure, you should be aware of the risk and take it into consideration when deciding to enter this program and profession.

PHYSICAL STANDARDS		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
LIFT:	patients, equipment up to 25 lbs safely	F	
CARRY/MOVE:	equipment, objects up to 25 lbs safely	F	
KNEEL:	to perform CPR, work with patients, assist patients who fall	O	
STOOP/BEND/TWIST:	assist in ADL; perform transfers, operate low level equipment	F	
BALANCE:	safely maintain while assisting patients in ambulation, and transfer	C	
CROUCH:	to locate and plug in equipment	O	
REACH:	to adjust equipment, to guard patient, to reach supplies	F	
WALK:	for extended periods of time and distances over an eight (8) hour period	C	
STAND:	for extended periods of time over an eight (8) hour period	C	
HANDLE:	equipment such as syringes, Bp cuffs, IV infusions, buttons, switches and touch pads	F	

PHYSICAL STANDARDS CONTINUED		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
DEXTERITY:	to perform fine motor skills, manipulate and fine tune knobs, dials, blood pressure cuffs, equipment, scales and stretchers. Don and remove protective clothing. Safely handle sterile supplies to prevent contamination.	F	
PUSH/PULL:	wheelchairs, stretchers, patients, Hoyer lifts	F	
TACTILE STANDARDS		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
PALPATE:	pulses, skin texture, bony landmarks	C	
DIFFERENTIATE:	between temperature and pressure variations	F	
VISUAL STANDARDS		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
READ:	accurately read numbers, letters, cursive writing in fine and other print in varying light levels	C	
DETECT:	changes in skin color, patient facial expressions, atrophy, forms of non-verbal communication (gestures)	F	
OBSERVE:	Patient and environment in order to assess conditions or needs	C	
SEE:	BP manometer, small print on vials, syringes, dials, gauges and computer screens	C	
COMMUNICATION STANDARDS		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
SPEAK:	in English language in clear, concise manner; to communicate with patients, families, significant others and the health care team	C	
RESPOND:	to patient with communication disorders (aphasia, hearing loss), or those who use ELL	C	
COMPREHEND:	oral and written language, including health care terminology in order to communicate with patients, families, significant others, health care providers, and community	C	
WRITE/WORD PROCESS:	in English, clearly, legibly; for charts, computer input of data	C	
AUDITORY STANDARDS		Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
HEAR:	heart sounds, breath sounds, patient distress sounds, machine timer bells and alarms; verbal directions and requests from health care team and patients	C	

MENTAL/COGNITIVE/BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS	Expected Performance Level *	Self-Assessed Performance Level
Function safely, effectively, and calmly under stressful situations.	F	
Remain alert to surroundings, potential emergencies; respond to patient situations; i.e. falls, burns, pain, change in physical status.	F	
Integrate information, and make decisions based on pertinent data, in a collaborative manner.	C	
Interact effectively, appropriately and exhibit respect for cultural and ethnic differences of clients, peers and individuals in the classroom setting.	C	
Interact effectively and appropriately with patients, families, supervisors, and co-workers of the same or different cultures with respect, politeness, tact, collaboration, teamwork, and discretion in both the clinical and classroom settings.	C	
Communicate an understanding of basic principles of supervision, ethics, and confidentiality.	C	
Display effective interpersonal skills necessary to interact in situations requiring close, personal contact.	C	
Display attitudes/actions consistent with the ethical standards of the profession.	C	
Maintain personal hygiene consistent with close personal contact associated with patient care.	C	
Maintain composure while managing multiple tasks simultaneously.	C	
Prioritize multiple tasks.	C	
Remain free from alcohol and/or chemical impairment in the clinical and classroom settings.	C	
IMMUNIZATIONS		
<p>Health science students must meet immunization requirements under state law, MGL Chapter 76, Section 15C and its regulations at 105 CMR 220.000 – 220.700. Students must also meet any additional immunization requirements required by clinical affiliates. https://www.mass.gov/info-details/school-immunizations</p> <p>According to MGL Chapter 76, Section 15C, a health science student who is in contact with patients may be exempt from the immunization requirements imposed under state law pursuant to a medical or religious exemption. Submission of documentation will be required and, if sufficient to qualify for a medical or religious exemption, it will be granted. PLEASE BE ADVISED that, while the college will make a reasonable effort to place you in a clinical facility, clinical placement cannot be guaranteed in light of an un-immunized status. If a clinical placement cannot be secured, then you will be unable to complete the program's clinical requirement. Thus, you will be unable to progress and will fail out of the program.</p>		

*Performance Level: O = occasionally 50-74%; F = frequently 75-89%; C = constantly 90-100%

Applicants who are offered admission must document their ability to perform all essential tasks with or without reasonable accommodation in order to begin the professional courses. If you are an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who seeks a reasonable accommodation, you need to contact Accessibility Services for eligibility determination for reasonable accommodation(s). For those applicants offered admission into the program, you will be asked to self-certify that you meet the Technical Standards.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS – PRACTICAL NURSING

Applicants must acknowledge and self-certify by initialing and signing the Technical Standards form that they have read and understand the need to perform all essential tasks with or without reasonable accommodation. This form is required to be uploaded to the applicant’s online application in order to be considered for admission.

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS	INITIAL
PHYSICAL STANDARDS	
TACTILE STANDARDS	
VISUAL STANDARDS	
COMMUNICAITON STANDARDS	
AUDITORY STANDARDS	
MENTAL/COGNITIVE/BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS	
IMMUNIZATIONS	

I certify that I am able to perform the above Technical Standards and that the above information is true and correct. If, at any time, during my enrollment in the program, I am unable to meet the above performance requirements, please see below.

Student Signature

Date

OR

I will be seeking a reasonable accommodation for the following technical standard/s

and will make an appointment with accessibility services at accessibility@northshore.edu if I am admitted to the Practical Nursing program.

Student Signature

Date