

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Associate Degree Nursing Program
Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression

Core Performance Standards will be used to assist each student in determining whether accommodations or modification are necessary. The standards provide an objective measure upon which a student and the advisor base informed decisions regarding whether the student is “qualified” to meet requirements. Admission to the nursing program is not based on these standards.

If a student believes that he or she cannot meet one or more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the nursing program will determine whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably, on an individual basis. Reasonable accommodation is defined by the ADA Act to include:

- (A) making existing facilities...readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities; and
- (B) job restructuring, part-time or modified work schedules, acquisition or modification of equipment or devices, appropriate adjustment or modifications of examinations, training materials or policies, the provision of qualified readers or interpreters, and other similar accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

Issue	Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical 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 places	Move around in patient's room, work space and treatment area, 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	Observe patient/client responses
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., insertions of a catheter

Revised 2/05/07