



Medical Clearance for Core Performance Standards

The USC College of Nursing sets forth its essential eligibility requirements for its nursing program by citing the core performance standards. The standards describe requirements in six dimensions of ability/performance (see below). An example would be if a student's condition requires that they use a crutch, walker, cane or arm cast, they will not be allowed to participate in clinical activity until the student submits a statement from their provider of care stating they may resume all activities without any assistive devices.

Critical Thinking and Related Mental Abilities:	Must have critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not an all-inclusive list): Has the ability to interpret, investigate, communicate, and comprehend complex situations; identify cause and effect relative to clinical situations under varying degrees of stress; must be able to read and comprehend detailed charts, reports, journal articles, books, etc.; and capable of performing all arithmetic functions (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, ratios, and simple algebraic equations).
Communication and Interpersonal Abilities:	Must be able to read, write, speak, and comprehend English with sufficient skill to communicate effectively verbally and non-verbally. Must have interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not all inclusive): Has the ability to establish rapport with clients and their families, peers, agency personnel, and faculty; explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching; and document and interpret nursing actions and client responses.
Physical Activities:	Must have physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces with gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not all inclusive): Able to move around a client's room, work spaces, treatment areas and administer CPR; calibrate and use equipment; position and transfer clients; capable of pushing up to 200 pounds independently; capable of reaching 18 inches above head without the use of mechanical devices to elevate themselves; capable of sitting, standing, walking for extended periods of time; experience no limitations when bending, stooping, sitting, standing, walking (i.e. uses no mechanical devices to assist themselves which would impede the safety of a client), ability to move to and respond to an emergency situation in a timely manner, and able to document in a clear, legible manner.
Hearing:	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not all inclusive): Able to auscultate sounds, monitor alarms and emergency signals; able to tolerate loud noises for extended periods of time. Assistive devices must correct hearing to this degree and must always be worn during practicums.
Visual:	Must have the visual ability sufficient for observation, assessment, and intervention necessary for nursing care. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not all inclusive): Observe client response, accurately read equipment, gauges, and monitors, vision correctable to 20/40, normal depth perception, and ability to distinguish colors and ability to tolerate offensive visual situations.
Smell:	Smelling ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. Examples of necessary functional abilities associated with this standard include (not all inclusive): Having ability to differentiate between various types of smells, and ability to tolerate offensive odors.

I have read the above physical activities requirements to participate in class and/or clinical setting as required by the University of South Carolina, College of Nursing for my patient _____.
(print patient's name)

YES. My patient has no current medical problems or diagnoses that are a contraindication to participating in _____ class and/or _____ clinical. This includes, but is not limited to, infection, viruses, clinical manifestations, etc.

NO(a). My patient is not eligible to participate in _____ class and/or _____ clinical due to his/her current medical status OR his/her inability to perform to the above standard. (Complete No(b) section below)

NO(b). Check one: My patient can participate in class and/or clinical without restrictions starting on: _____.
My patient does not have a return to class and/or clinical date established at this time.

Provider's Printed Name

Contact telephone number

Provider's Signature

Date

AT TIME OF SUBMISSION, STUDENT MUST SUBMIT A BUSINESS CARD, PRESCRIPTION PAD OR LETTERHEAD REFLECTING THE PROVIDER'S INFORMATION.

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