

**ASHEVILLE BUNCOMBE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**ALLIED HEALTH DIVISION FUNCTIONAL ABILITIES**

**Nursing**

A prospective nursing program candidate must demonstrate the physical and psychological ability to provide safe, competent patient care. Every prospective student must assess his or her ability prior to choosing nursing as a career. To understand the physical and psychological qualifications needed for success in the nursing program, the functional abilities have been listed below.

In the case of a qualified individual with a documented disability, appropriate and reasonable accommodations will be made unless to do so would fundamentally alter the essential training elements, cause undue hardship, or produce a direct threat to the safety of the patient or student.

Students must certify the ability to meet the functional abilities of the profession by a signed statement in the beginning of the program.

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
<b>CRITICAL THINKING</b>	Ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate client or instrument responses, synthesize data, and draw sound conclusions.</li> <li>• Collect data, prioritize needs, and anticipate reactions.</li> <li>• Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations.</li> <li>• Develop and implement a nursing care plan.</li> </ul>
<b>INTERPERSONAL SKILLS</b>	Abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish rapport with clients, instructors, staff, and colleagues.</li> <li>• Respect and care for clients whose appearance, condition, beliefs, and values may conflict with your own.</li> <li>• Deliver nursing care regardless of client's race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or diagnosis.</li> <li>• Establish and maintain therapeutic boundaries.</li> <li>• Exhibit ethical behavior and exercise good judgement.</li> </ul>
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	Abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document and interpret actions and client responses in a clear, professional, and timely manner.</li> <li>• Gives verbal directions or follows verbal directions from other members of the healthcare team.</li> <li>• Convey information to clients and others as necessary to teach and direct in an accurate, effective and timely manner.</li> <li>• Recognize and report critical client information to other caregivers.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLES
<b>MOBILITY</b>	Physical abilities sufficient to move in one's environment with ease and without restriction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move around in work and treatment areas.</li> <li>• Administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</li> <li>• Manually resuscitate clients in emergency situations.</li> <li>• Stand and/or walk up to 12 hours per day.</li> </ul>
<b>MOTOR SKILLS</b>	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calibrate and use equipment.</li> <li>• Reposition immobile clients.</li> <li>• Push/pull 100 pounds or greater.</li> <li>• Lift/move heavy objects up to 50 pounds.</li> </ul>
<b>HEARING</b>	Auditory abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hear auscultatory sounds.</li> <li>• Hear auditory alarms (monitors, fire alarms, call bells)</li> <li>• Hear cries for help.</li> </ul>
<b>VISUAL</b>	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe client responses, see a change in skin color, and read calibrations on a syringe.</li> <li>• See objects up to 20 feet away.</li> <li>• Read electronic medical record and/or associated paper medical records.</li> </ul>
<b>TACTILE</b>	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform functions of the physical assessment and/or those related to therapeutic intervention (e.g. Insertion of catheter, palpation of pulse, detect temperature changes).</li> </ul>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>	Possess the ability to tolerate environmental stressors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safely work with potentially harmful chemicals used in health care settings.</li> <li>• Practice Standard Precautions in the clinical setting.</li> <li>• Work in areas that are close, crowded, and/or noisy.</li> <li>• Anticipate exposure to communicable diseases, body fluids, and toxic substances.</li> </ul>
<b>EMOTIONAL</b>	Possess emotional stability sufficient to maintain composure in stressful situations and assume responsibility / accountability for actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapt rapidly to changing environment and/or stress.</li> <li>• Calmly receive feedback.</li> <li>• Demonstrate honesty and integrity beyond reproach.</li> </ul>

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College is invested in full ADA compliance. The Disability Services Office is part of the K Ray Bailey Student Services Center. For detailed information contact the Disability Support Services Office at [supportservices@abtech.edu](mailto:supportservices@abtech.edu) or (828) 398-7581. An appointment with the Disability Services Coordinator is recommended in order to discuss any special concerns.