

APPENDIX H

NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL OF THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION, MATRICULATION AND CONTINUED PROGRESSION IN THE NURSING PROGRAM

Nursing is a practice discipline and successful completion of the nursing program requires that students demonstrate ability to effectively and safely perform several essential skills. All students are assessed in practice labs and clinical practicums throughout the program to confirm adherence to the technical standards, with or without accommodation. Technical standards must be met for admission to, matriculation in and progression through the Nursing program. These requirements pertain to all student conduct regardless of setting (e.g. classroom/didactic, office, on-campus simulation or off-campus clinical, email communication, etc.). According to the Board of Nursing Rules & Regulations, accepted standards of nursing practice include “behaviors indicating honesty, accountability, trustworthiness, reliability, and integrity”. In addition, as clearly described in various clinical evaluation tools and course guidelines, students must be able to provide safe competent patient care.

The standards include personal and professional traits and include the following areas:

- Intellectual
- Psychomotor
- Observation
- Communication
- Emotional Coping Skills
- Professional Traits

Students are held to the following Professional and Technical Standards:

- American Nurse Association (ANA) Standards of Practice & Standards of Professional Performance (ANA 2015)
- American Nurse Association (ANA) Code of Ethics (ANA, 2015)
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Program Essentials and Accreditation Standards (AACN, 2013)

A student entering the nursing program will be able to demonstrate the following technical competencies:

- **Intellectual**
 - Critical thinking is an important part of clinical judgment needed to provide safe patient care. Students must be able to problem solve creatively, to master abstract ideas and to synthesize information in order to handle the challenges of the academic, laboratory and clinical settings. Students must be able to measure, calculate, reason and quickly analyze information

- **Psychomotor**

Students must have the physical coordination to be able to handle moving clients and to direct clients in varied practice settings. Visual acuity and independent mobility, fine and gross movement, equilibrium and the use of touch are essential to assure safety of clients, significant others and staff. Nursing students must be able to provide general care (including preparing medications and administering treatment, and completing patient assessments). Students must be able to perform basic life support (CPR), and function in an emergency situation. Students must be able to travel to and from classes and clinical assignments on time, and possess the organizational skills and stamina for performing required tasks and assignments within allotted time frames. Students must be able to meet the challenges of a health care environment which requires a readiness for immediate and appropriate response without interference of personal or medical problems

- **Observation**

Students must be able to observe patients accurately to assess their condition and perceive signs of disease and responses to treatments through physical examination, including visual cues, auditory information (patient voice, heart tones, bowel and lung sounds) and palpable changes in certain organs and tissues.

- **Communication**

The ability to communicate verbally and in writing, using appropriate grammar and vocabulary, in order to build relationships with faculty, advisors, fellow students, colleagues and clients and their significant others. Proficiency in communication includes transactions with individuals and groups in learner, collegial, consultative, leadership and tasks roles. Students must be able to elicit information, gather information, describe findings and understand non-verbal behavior. Students must be able to process and accurately convey information about the patient status to faculty, staff, and other health care providers in a timely manner.

- **Emotional Coping**

Emotional health for full utilization of intellect, the exercise of good judgment, prompt completion of responsibilities and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with others. Working with persons in need often requires taxing workloads and adaptation to changing and challenging environments requiring flexibility and a spirit of cooperation. Essential emotional coping skills include: ability to demonstrate the mental health necessary to safely engage in the practice of nursing as determined by professional standards of practice.

- **Professional Traits**

Students must have a commitment to adherence of policies of the college, of the nursing program and of the clinical sites. This includes a commitment to the code of ethics of the profession and behavior which reflects a sense of right and wrong in the helping environment. These rules include matters relating to professional dress and behavior. Students must have a commitment to work in an intense setting which challenges the individual to meet the needs of

people of diverse cultures and age groups who are ill, severely injured, limited by cognitive, emotional and functional deficits, and whose behavior may create at times an aversive reaction. The ability to interact with these individuals without being judgmental or prejudiced is critical in establishing a therapeutic relationship. Students must demonstrate professional competence and moral character that meets state licensure guidelines.

I have reviewed the Technical Standards for the Nursing Program at the New York Institute of Technology, and had an opportunity to discuss them with a faculty member.

My signature below indicates that, to the best of my knowledge, I am presently able to meet the technical standards of the program. I also understand that should there be a change in my status with regard to meeting these standards, I am obligated to share this with the Chair of the Department of Nursing, so that appropriate action can be taken with regard to my continuing to pursue my interest in the nursing program.

Student Signature	Date	Print Student Name
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Faculty Signature	Date
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References:

- American Nurse Association (ANA) Standards of Practice & Standards of Professional Performance (ANA, 2015)
- American Nurse Association (ANA) Code of Ethics (ANA 2015)
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