Education Support and Student Affairs  
Operating Policy and Procedure

SON OP 60.025 - Essential Eligibility Requirements/Compliance with American Disabilities Act

PURPOSE
To provide guidance to students and faculty about the necessary activities that a nursing student must be able to perform.

REVIEW
The OP shall be reviewed by the Associate Academic Dean of Education Support Services and Student Affairs by October 1st of each even numbered year (ENY), with recommendation for revision forwarded to the Dean of the School of Nursing. Final approval of the OP is provided by the Dean.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

Essential Eligibility Requirements

TTUHSC OP 10.15 complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and state and local requirements regarding students with disabilities. Under these laws, no otherwise qualified and competitive individual with a disability shall be denied access to or participation in services, programs and activities of TTUHSC solely on the basis of the disability. For additional information please see www.ttuhsc.edu/studentservices/ada/

Essential Eligibility Requirements for Participation in the School of Nursing

Physical, cognitive, psychomotor, affective and social abilities are required in unique combinations to provide safe and effective nursing care. In order to be admitted and to progress in the nursing program, one must possess a functional level of ability to perform the duties required of a nurse. The applicant/student must be able to meet the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation’s throughout the program of learning. Admission, progression and graduation are contingent upon one’s ability to demonstrate the essential functions as identified by the school or additional essential functions as may be identified by affiliated clinical agencies. The TTUHSC School of Nursing reserves the right to amend the essential functions as deemed necessary.

Each student/applicant should use the following standard (essential eligibility requirements) for participation in the School of Nursing to assist in determining the necessity of accommodation or modifications.

1. Work in a standing position and do frequent walking for twelve hours.
2. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children, from a stooped position up to six inches from surface, and push or pull the weight of an adult up to three feet.
3. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
4. Use hands, wrists, and arms to physically apply up to ten pounds of pressure in the performance of specific procedures (e.g., to control bleeding, perform CPR).
5. Respond and react immediately to verbal instructions and requests, auditory sounds from monitoring equipment, and perform auditory auscultation of patients. Abilities to monitor and assess health needs therefore must be able to hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, all auscultatory sounds, and cries for help.
6. Be able to move freely and physically maneuver in small spaces. Possess sufficient visual acuity to perform close and distant visual activities involving objects, persons, and paperwork, as well as the ability to discriminate depth and color perception.
7. Read calibrated scales of one-hundredth increments in not more than a three-inch distance.
8. Possess sufficient fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination to use small instruments and equipment.
9. Discriminate between sharp and dull, hot and cold.
10. Perform mathematical calculations for preparation and administration of medication in a timely manner.
11. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, spelling, vocabulary and word usage.
12. Comprehend verbal and written directions and make appropriate notations.
14. Develop the ability to make appropriate and timely decision under stressful situations.
15. Demonstrate sufficient endurance to complete a twelve hour clinical and/or simulation laboratory experience.

Developed: MAL/bf 4/93
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Reviewed: KC 06/30/2014
Revised: DCs/KC 06/02/15
Approved: DC/SAO 06/23/2015
Reviewed: KC 09/01/2016