

# **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS REQUIRED OF NURSING STUDENTS**

## **MOTOR CAPABILITY:**

1. Move from room to room and maneuver in small places.
2. Transfer patients who may require physical assistance.
3. Guard and assist patients with ambulation.
4. Lift and carry up to 50 pounds and exert up to 100 pounds force for push/pull.
5. Squat, bend/stoop, reach above shoulder level, kneel, use standing balance, and climb stairs.
6. Use hands repetitively; use manual dexterity.
7. Adjust, apply, and clean therapeutic equipment.
8. Perform CPR
9. Travel to and from academic and clinical sites.
10. In the average clinical day, students sit 1-2 hours; stand 6-7 hours, travel 1-2 hours.

## **SENSORY CAPABILITY:**

1. Coordinate verbal and manual instruction.
2. Assess a patient 10 feet away to observe patients posture and response to treatment.
3. Respond to a timer, alarm, or cries for help.
4. Monitor vital signs.
5. Auditory, visual, and tactile ability sufficient to assess patient status and perform treatments (Example: color changes in skin, hear heart and lung sounds).

## **COMMUNICATION ABILITY:**

1. Communicate effectively in English with patients, families, and other health care providers, both verbally and in writing (Example: explain treatment procedures, teach patient and families, document in charts).
2. Effectively adapt communication for intended audience.
3. Interact and establish rapport with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.
4. Assume the role of a health care team member.
5. Function effectively under supervision.

## **PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITY:**

1. Function effectively under stress.
2. Respond effectively to emergencies.
3. Adhere to infection control procedures.
4. Demonstrate problem-solving skill in patient care (measure, calculate, reason, prioritize, synthesize data).
5. Use sound judgment and safety precautions.
6. Address problems or questions to the appropriate person at the appropriate time.
7. Organize and prioritize tasks.
8. Follow policies and procedures required by clinical and academic settings.