

## ***ESSENTIAL ABILITIES***

Grays Harbor College provides equal opportunities and equal access to education for all persons. The nursing faculty admits students without regard to gender, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status, sexual preference, or disability. Thus, students who meet the admission and prerequisite requirements are equally eligible for selection to the nursing programs on a space available basis.

The nursing program curriculum requires the student to participate in a broad range of experiences essential to learn the skills and functions of nursing. In order to satisfactorily acquire and perform the functions of the nurse, certain abilities are essential to complete the program requirements. In addition, these abilities are essential to ensure the health and safety of patients, peers, facility staff, and faculty. The essential abilities include but are not limited to the following.

### **MOTOR SKILLS**

#### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* be able to stand, stoop, squat, sit, and/or bend for adequate time periods to complete essential nursing functions.
- \* have sufficient motor skills to assist patients in moving, for example from bed or gurney to chair, bedside commode and/or wheelchair.
- \* have sufficient motor skills to perform all nursing skills correctly, accurately, and safely.
- \* have sufficient motor skills to assist patients in emergency situations in which basic life support, including CPR, must be performed.

### **SENSORY/OBSERVATIONAL**

#### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* be able to acquire information from demonstrations and experiences in campus and clinical laboratory learning environments.
- \* be able to make accurate observations of patients using sight, hearing, smell, and touch.

### **COMMUNICATION**

#### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* be able to communicate effectively in writing and orally with patients and their families, peers, faculty, and other professionals.
- \* be able to clearly express ideas and feelings and to read and write in English.

### **COGNITION**

#### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* be able to accurately measure, calculate, and reason.
- \* be able to read, understand, and apply complex and extensive written materials.
- \* be able to apply principles of critical thinking in the classroom and clinical settings.

## **BEHAVIORAL/EMOTIONAL**

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### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* have the emotional stability to maintain effective relationships with patients and their families, peers, faculty and staff, and other professionals.
- \* be able to function under stress and to adapt to unexpected situations.
- \* be able to display and express empathy for others.
- \* have insight about his/her values, attitudes, and beliefs.
- \* be willing to examine and change his/her behavior when it is disruptive to maintaining effective relationships with others.

## **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

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### **THE STUDENT MUST**

- \* must possess the professional values of compassion, empathy, integrity, honesty, responsibility, and tolerance.
- \* be able and willing to provide nursing care for all persons regardless of gender, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status, sexual preference, disability, medical condition, or setting.

## **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES**

The student who discloses a disability and requests accommodation is asked to provide documentation of the disability. Please contact Disability Support Services at 360-538-4068 for further information.