



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Essential abilities policy

The Indiana University School of Nursing faculty members have specified essential abilities (technical standards) critical to the success of students in any IU nursing program. Students must demonstrate these essential abilities to succeed in their program of study. Qualified applicants are expected to meet all progression criteria, as well as these essential abilities with or without reasonable accommodations.

- **Essential judgment skills**—Ability to identify, assess, and comprehend conditions surrounding patient situations for the purpose of problem-solving around patient conditions and coming to appropriate conclusions and/or courses of action.
- **Essential neurological functions**—Ability to use the senses of seeing, hearing, touch, and smell to make correct judgments regarding patient conditions for the purpose of demonstrating competence to safely engage in the practice of nursing. Behaviors that demonstrate essential neurological functions include, but are not limited to, observation, listening, understanding relationships, writing, and psychomotor abilities.
- **Essential communication skills**—Ability to communicate effectively with fellow students, faculty, patients, and all members of the health care team. Skills include verbal, written, and nonverbal abilities consistent with effective communication.
- **Essential emotional coping skills**—Ability to demonstrate the mental health necessary to safely engage in the practice of nursing as determined by professional standards of practice.
- **Essential intellectual/conceptual skills**—Ability to measure, calculate, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate to engage competently in the safe practice of nursing.
- **Other essential behavioral attributes**—Ability to engage in activities consistent with safe nursing practice without demonstrated behaviors of addiction to, abuse of, or dependence on alcohol or other drugs that may impair behavior or judgment. The student must demonstrate responsibility and accountability for actions as a student in the School of Nursing and as a developing professional nurse.

Name (printed) _____ *Signature* _____

Date _____

Please sign and return this form to: Graduate Recorder; Indiana University School of Nursing; 1111 Middle Drive, NU 142D; Indianapolis, IN 46202–5107.

