

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND RETENTION

Review of professional standards is essential for all applicants and continuing students in the Stony Brook University, School of Nursing. Students are encouraged to ask questions about or clarify the professional standards for admission and retention and make a determination as to whether you can meet the requirements with or without reasonable accommodation. Any information and inquiries about disabilities are handled in a confidential manner, to the extent possible within the accommodation process, and should be directed to Disability Support Services. <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/index.html>

1.	Observation The applicant/nursing student must be able to participate actively in all classroom, clinical and laboratory exercises. The applicant/nursing student must be able to assess and comprehend the condition of all patients assigned to her or him. Such observation and information acquisition usually requires the functional use of visual, auditory, olfactory and somatic senses.
2.	Communication The applicant/nursing student must be able to understand verbal communications, communicate effectively and sensitively with patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, assess non-verbal communications, and be able to effectively and efficiently transmit information to patients, families, fellow students, faculty, staff and all members of the health care team. Skills include verbal, written, and nonverbal abilities consistent with effective communication.
3.	Sensory/Motor The applicant/nursing student must be competent in the ability to effectively and efficiently use the senses of sight, hearing, touch, and smell to make correct judgments, assessments and to engage in the practice of safe patient care and the practice of nursing. The applicant/nursing student must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patient and be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide safe patient care and emergency treatment to all patients at all acuities and settings.
4.	Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities The applicant/nursing student must be able to measure, calculate, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate to competently and efficiently engage in safe patient care and the practice of nursing.
5.	Behavioral and Social Attributes The applicant/nursing student must have the mental and emotional health to fully use her or his intellectual ability, exercise good judgment, and complete all responsibilities necessary to competently and efficiently engage in safe patient care and the practice of nursing. Applicants/nursing students must be able to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with individuals, patients, families, community members and colleagues. To provide safe patient care applicants/nursing students must possess characteristics of adaptability, flexibility, and be able to function in the face of uncertainty and complex disorienting situations. The health care environment requires applicants/nursing students to be able tolerate physical and emotional stress and continue to function effectively and efficiently. She/he must have a high level of compassion for others, motivation to serve, integrity, consciousness of social values and at all times uphold the standards, ethics and values of professional nursing. Candidates and students must possess sufficient interpersonal skills to interact positively with individuals, families and communities from all strata of society, ethnic backgrounds and belief systems.