

Nurse Aide Technical Standards

for Wake Technical Community College Programs
at Vernon Malone College and Career Academy

In compliance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, the following standards have been established. According to the nature of the work required in nurse aide practice and the educational requirements of the nurse aide curriculum, the student must be able to meet the following:

- Critical Thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment: Identify cause and effect relationship in clinical situations; follow nursing care plans/care maps.
- Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds: Establish rapport with patients, families, and colleagues.
- Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form: Collect data. Explain treatment procedures. Document and interpret nurse aide actions and patient and family responses.
- Physical abilities sufficient to move from room and maneuver in small spaces: Moves around in patient's rooms, workspaces and treatment areas; administer cardio-pulmonary procedures; able to lift/maneuver 30 pounds.
- Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nurse aide care: Move, calibrate, use equipment and supplies; lift, transfer, and position mobile and immobile patients.
- Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs: Hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.
- Visual ability sufficient for physical observation, performance of nurse aide procedures and maintenance of environmental safety: Observes patient responses, such as skin color, facial expression. Monitors vital signs. Reads records.
- Tactile ability sufficient for physical observation and performance of nurse aide procedures: Perform nurse aide procedures.
- Emotional stability and mental alertness in performing patient care: Maintaining a calm and efficient manner in high-stress/pressure situations with patients, staff, supervisors and colleagues.

If a nurse aide student believes that he or she cannot meet one or more of the standards without accommodation or modifications, the college must determine, on an individual basis, whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably.

*Standards developed by the Board of Directors of the Southern Council of Education for Nursing to assist Nursing Education Programs in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act.