



## Technical Standards for Academic Progression and Graduation

### Provider Guide in Completion of Attestation Form

The goal of the Marymount University Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is to prepare students to become knowledgeable, skilled, and caring health professionals qualified to practice in the contemporary health care environment.

Certain functional abilities are essential for the delivery of safe, effective nursing care to patients, families, and communities during clinical activities. Therefore, the faculty has determined that certain technical standards are required for beginning clinical courses, and progression, and graduation from the MSN program.

In addition to classroom learning, clinical learning occurs throughout the MSN program and involves considerations (such as patient safety) that are not present for classroom accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be considered on a case by case basis for individuals who meet eligibility requirements under applicable statutes. Any person expecting to need an accommodation should request it prior to the beginning of the MSN program. Some accommodations may not be considered reasonable and may impact an applicant's ability to provide safe patient care and complete all components of the program.

An individual must be able to meet, with or without a reasonable accommodation, the following technical standards of general abilities:

- Observation;
- Communication;
- Motor;
- Intellectual, conceptual, and quantitative abilities;
- Essential behavioral and social attributes; and
- Ability to manage stressful situations.

An individual unable to meet these technical standards and general abilities, with or without a reasonable accommodation, will not be able to complete the MSN program and are counseled to pursue alternate careers.

#### Essential Areas for Consideration

**General Abilities:** The student is expected to possess functional use of the senses of vision, touch, hearing, and smell so that data received by the senses may be integrated, analyzed, and synthesized in a consistent and accurate manner. A student must be able to respond promptly to urgent situations that may occur during clinical activities. Any student, with or without a reasonable accommodation, must not hinder the ability of other members of the health care team to provide prompt and safe patient care.

**Observation Ability:** The student must have sufficient capacity to make accurate visual observations and interpret them in the context of laboratory studies, medication administration, and patient care activities. In addition, the student must be able to document these observations and maintain accurate records.

**Communication Ability:** The student must communicate effectively both verbally and non-verbally to elicit information from, and translate information to, others. Each student must have the ability to read, write,

comprehend, and speak the English language to facilitate communications with patients, family members, and other professionals in health care settings. In addition, the student must be able to maintain accurate patient records, present information in a professional, logical manner, and provide patient counseling and instruction to effectively care for patients and their families.

**Motor Ability:** The student must be able to perform gross and fine motor movements with sufficient coordination needed to perform complete physical examinations utilizing the techniques of inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation, and other diagnostic maneuvers. A student must develop the psychomotor skills reasonably needed to perform or assist with procedures, treatments, administration of medications, management and operation of diagnostic and therapeutic medical equipment, and assist with patient care activities, such as lifting, wheel chair guidance, and mobility. The student must have sufficient levels of neuromuscular control and eye-to-hand coordination, and possess the physical and mental stamina to meet the demands associated with extended periods of sitting, standing, moving, and physical exertion required for satisfactory and safe performance in the clinical and classroom settings, including performing CPR, if necessary. The student must possess the manual dexterity that would be required for certain clinical activities, such as drawing up solutions in a syringe.

**Intellectual, Conceptual, and Quantitative Abilities:** The student must be able to develop and refine problem solving skills that are crucial to practicing as a nurse. Problem solving involves the abilities to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize objective and subjective data, and to make decisions, often in a time-urgent environment, that reflect consistent and thoughtful deliberation and sound clinical judgment. Each student must demonstrate mastery of these skills and possess the ability to incorporate new information from peers, teachers, and healthcare literature to formulate sound judgment in patient assessment, intervention, evaluation, and teaching. Students must be able to transcribe data among, and in between, written and electronic sources.

**Behavioral and Social Attributes:** Student must possess the skills required for full utilization of intellectual abilities; which include: the exercise of good judgment; the prompt completion of all responsibilities in the classroom and clinical settings; and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients and other members of the health care team. The student must be able to adapt to changing environments; display flexibility; accept and integrate constructive criticism given in the classroom and clinical settings; effectively interact in the clinical setting with members of the healthcare team; and function cooperatively and efficiently in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical practice.

**Ability to Manage Stressful Situations:** The student must be able to adapt to and function effectively in stressful situations in both the classroom and clinical settings, including emergency situations.

With my signature, I attest that I have read the technical standards:

_____	_____	_____
Provider Name (Print)	Provider Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Student Name (Print)	Student Signature	Date