

# Bossier Parish Community College – Nursing Program

## Essential Requirements

Allied health admissions are based on academic achievement and additional program specific non-academic criteria that can be referenced in the catalog. Essential Requirements have been established by each program identifying the occupational specific technical standards required of students in the program. Decisions to apply for admission to the Nursing Program should be made after considering the Program Essential Requirements.

It is the responsibility of this program to be concerned with the rights of patients and clinical sites and to only place students that are capable of providing safe, high quality health care in clinical education. The following list represents reasonable expectations for the student enrolled in the Nursing Program at Bossier Parish Community College.

It is the responsibility of the program applicants to carefully review the Essential Requirements and ask questions if not familiar with the standards and skills listed. Certain chronic or recurring illnesses and problems that interfere with patient care or safety may be incompatible with nursing care and practice. Conditions that may lead to a high likelihood of student absenteeism should be carefully evaluated in relation to these essential elements. Deficiencies in knowledge, judgment, integrity, character or professional attitude or demeanor may jeopardize patient care and may be grounds for course/rotation failure and likely dismissal from the program. All applicants accepted into the program must meet the standards and skills listed below in order to complete the educational requirements for the Associate of Science in nursing degree.

If a student cannot demonstrate the following standards and skills without accommodation, it is the responsibility of the student to request an appropriate accommodation with the Career Services Provider, (Career Services, Building F, 318-678-6005) by the application deadline. The College is committed to the principle of equal opportunity as defined in the catalog and will provide reasonable accommodation as long as it does not fundamentally alter the nature of the program offered and does not compromise patient safety, or impose an undue hardship such as those that cause a significant expense or are unduly disruptive to the educational process.

### Mandatory Prerequisite Requirements

Satisfactory Physical Examination
Completed Application Packet submitted by deadline
Health Insurance maintained throughout program clinical
GPA 2.0 or better
Minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale on all prerequisite courses
Criminal Background Check
Negative drug/alcohol screen (may also be performed randomly or ordered if student is under suspicion)

### Special Requirements and Considerations

All requirements must be completed no later than three (3) calendar years from the date of first enrollment in the nursing program.
Students are expected to furnish their own transportation to clinical sites.
Students are expected to attend clinical during specified hours.
Students who are selected for the nursing program must be available for daytime, evening and occasional week-end clinical rotations.
Students selected for the nursing program will pay a clinical fee in addition to standard tuition and fees each clinical semester.

### Immunizations

Hepatitis B series and titer (Booster or additional series may be required if immunity not achieved)
Tetanus (within 5 years)
2 MMR (Only 1, if born before 1957)
TB skin test (current for the year) or negative chest radiograph if skin test positive

Varicella Zoster titer (vaccine may be required if immunity not achieved)
Rubella titer (vaccine may be required if immunity not achieved)
Rubeola titer (vaccine may be required if immunity not achieved)
Any other immunizations required by the clinical site

### Mobility/Motor Skills

Kneel or Stoop Freely	To floor to adjust patient position or assist with equipment; inspect feet etc.
Reach Above Head	In standing, to adjust and position equipment
Lift; Pull; Guide; Transfer (150 lbs)	To move a patient – using 1 man or 2 man technique
Bend, Stand, Kneel, Sit, Walk or Crawl for 90 Minutes without Rest	To administer emergency care (ex. CPR); to perform patient procedures and to administer nursing interventions.
Push/Pull (50 lbs)	Large wheeled equipment; patients on stretchers on in wheelchairs
Walk	For extended periods of time to all areas of a hospital
Bilateral Dexterity	To adjust and fine tune control equipment used in patient care and procedures.
Gross and Fine Motor Abilities	To calibrate, use and manipulate equipment
Speed and Agility	To protect a walking or moving patient from falling
Assume a Wide Base of Support, Balance	To guard, maintain and correct balance of an unstable patient
Climb	Stairs & inclines while safely guarding an unstable patient during an evacuation
Work Capacity	To perform all essential skills and standards to complete eight hour days, and a 40 hour work week and proper body mechanics.

### Sensory Abilities and Observational Skills

Vision (with or without corrective lenses)	All functions of physical examination – patient physical appearance, discriminate color changes, facial expressions and non-verbal communication, normal and abnormal patterns of movement. Therapeutic interventions, e.g. insertion of intravenous catheter, nasogastric tube etc.
Touch (Feel)	Perform palpation e.g. check pulses, discriminate sharp and dull, and other palpation functions of physical examination.
Hear	Patient call systems, monitor alarms, timers, blood pressure sounds using a stethoscope, patient voices of all pitches, cries for help and demonstrate active listening skills.
Smell	To detect odors related to patient assessment.

### Communication Standards

Speak and Express	Clearly and understandable in the English language to report information to other health care providers, peers, patients, etc. and to explain procedures to patients, initiate health teaching, etc.
Read	Typed, handwritten, chart data and computer generated documents in the English language; at a level of competency that allows safe and timely execution of essential tasks or assignments.
Understand; Interpret	Medical terminology and information given regarding status, progress and safety of a patient; to follow simple and complex instructions (oral and written) regarding patient care; and communicates with others based on their non-verbal communication and/or behaviors.
Follow Directions	Accurately and efficiently, seeking clarification when needed
Write	To produce legible handwritten or computer word processed documents; use correct medical terminology, spelling, grammar and punctuation; organize and express thoughts in written form in the English language; to prepare accurate, thorough, legally defensible patient documentation.

Interpersonal Skills	To work collaboratively; interact professionally; to establish rapport with patients, families, colleagues and classmates and with other individuals from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds; maintain confidentiality in all interactions.
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### Cognitive and Intellectual Standards

Think Critically	To identify and solve problems; identify cause – effect relationships in clinical situations; develop and implement a nursing plan of care according to process and to respond instantly in emergency situations.
Comprehend	Relevant information regarding patient diagnosis, nursing interventions, indications and contraindications, human pathology and impairments from textbooks, medical records and professional literature as evidenced in actions and nursing care plan.
Prioritize	Integrate patient information and other data gathered to make decisions about nursing interventions providing for patient safety and appropriateness.
Calculate	To collect and correctly interpret accurate patient information. Correctly performs basic math equations to ensure accuracy of medications given to patients.
Make Clinical Decisions	To respond quickly and appropriately to changes in patient status; to analyze written, observed or verbal data about patients and make appropriate nursing decisions.
Short-Term and Long-Term Memory	To accurately and quickly remember data from the chart and information relayed in verbal exchanges with other members of the health care team and patient; to access learned knowledge to include but not limited to diagnosis and contraindications for procedures; to participate successfully in the learning and evaluation of knowledge within the nursing curriculum.
Think Quickly and Clearly	To execute all duties unimpaired by any condition or substance that alters mental processing, speed or quality of thought processes or judgment.

### Behavioral Standards

Flexibility	To adjust to a constantly changing and demanding full-time schedule
Compassion	To respect and show empathy for patients and their families; for people of all personality types, backgrounds, ethnic, race or socioeconomic backgrounds including but not limited to individuals with neurological disorders, physical disfigurement, mental health or complex medical problems.
Cooperation	To work as a member of a team; to develop positive and effective relationships with others.
Recognize Limitations	To request assistance when needed; accept constructive criticism in a positive manner; assume responsibility for personal development; utilizes resources effectively.
Tolerance	For close physical contact with patients, peers and classmates during the provision of interventions and in lab; for close proximity and physical contact with patients that require use of standard precautions during therapy due to open wounds, incontinence or other potential exposure to bodily fluids or pathogens during treatment.
Willingness	To wear the assigned uniform for clinical rotations and wear required lab attire at assigned times. To participate in lab activities that require palpation, measurement, and other forms of therapeutic touching ; to serve as both the patient model and clinician during patient simulations that allow classmates to practice and perfect nursing skills.
Positive Attitude	To demonstrate initiative, enthusiasm and appropriate peer and patient interactions.
Work Ethic	To attend class and lab as assigned and on time; to submit work promptly when due; to display industrious behavior; to submit to classroom and clinical rules/policies; to demonstrate respect for other health care providers and the profession of nursing; to comply with all legal and ethical standards of practice.
Stress Management	Coping skills for fast-paced clinical situations; to manage multiple deadlines and changes with patient assignments and/or condition; deal effectively with psychosocial issues of catastrophic illness, disability and death; respond appropriately in a stressful environment and during impending deadlines; manage personal matters outside of class/work day.

Planning Ahead	To arrange transportation and living accommodations for/during off campus clinical assignments to foster timely reporting to the classroom and clinical setting.
Self Care	To maintain good general health and hygiene in order not to jeopardize the health and safety of self and individuals with whom one interacts in the academic and clinical settings.

## Acknowledgement of Essential Requirements for the Nursing Program

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have been informed of the Essential Requirements of the Bossier Parish Community College Nursing Program. I have carefully reviewed the Essential Requirements and have asked questions if I was unfamiliar with the standards and skills listed. If I believe I require accommodation, I will request an appropriate accommodation with the Career Services Provider, (Career Services, Building F, 318-678-6005) by the application deadline. I am aware that certain chronic or recurrent illnesses and problems that interfere with patient care or safety may be incompatible with nursing and/or clinical practice. I have also considered any conditions that I may have that may lead to a high likelihood of absenteeism. I have been informed that deficiencies in knowledge, judgment, integrity, character, or professional attitude or demeanor which may jeopardize patient care may be grounds for course/rotation failure and possible dismissal from the program. I have the ability to meet the standards and skills listed in the Essential Requirements and agree to complete the educational requirements for the Associate of Science in Nursing, if accepted into the program.

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Name Printed