

V. Clinical Policies

****It is our duty to inform all students that due to the lack of clinical site availability, the student may not graduate in the time frame expected.****

Your clinical experience is a critical component of your nursing education. Clinical time allows student nurses to practice under the supervision of a clinical instructor in a healthcare setting. Do not underestimate the demands that nursing school requires. During the time you are in nursing school, your classes and clinicals must be your top priorities. CCD strongly recommends that you work NO MORE than 15 hours per week while enrolled in the full-time programs and NO MORE than 30 hours per week while enrolled in the part-time program. In all cases, your work schedule must be flexible enough to accommodate clinical scheduling.

Clinical experiences are arranged through contractual agreements with healthcare agencies throughout the Denver Metro area that are committed to nursing education. Available days, location and hours are determined by the healthcare agency.

As a student nurse, you are providing nursing services (similar to an employee) when you are in a healthcare agency. CCD students must follow the agency's rules and regulations for their own employees. If there is a conflict between CCD and agency policy, the more restrictive policy will be followed.

A. *Ability to Perform Nursing Tasks*

Please be advised that all students attending clinicals must: 1) be in compliance with basic health requirements, including a physical exam, and optional dental exam, current immunizations (including a TB skin test and the Hepatitis B vaccine series), and CPR certification; and 2) recognize that the following minimal qualifications will be expected:

1. Work for 12 or more hours in a standing position and do frequent walking and stair climbing.
2. Lift and transfer adult patients up to 6 inches from a stooped position; then, push or pull the adult up to 3 feet.
3. Lift and transfer adult patients from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed-to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
4. Physically apply up to 10 pounds of pressure to bleeding sites or in performing CPR.
5. Immediately respond and react to auditory instructions/requests, monitor equipment and perform auditory auscultation without auditory impediment.
6. Perform a clinical laboratory experience for up to 12-hour duration, including standing for up to 4 hours at a time.
7. Perform close and distant visual activities involving objects, persons, and paperwork, as well as discriminate depth and color perception.
8. Discriminate between rough/smooth and hot/cold when using hands.
9. Manipulate small objects in precise movements; for example, prepare and administer injectable medications.
10. Communicate intelligibly in English, both orally and in writing.

Warning: As a student nurse you will be exposed to latex gloves and other products containing natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions such as skin rashes; hives; nasal, eye or sinus symptoms; asthma; and (rarely) shock.

Please consider carefully any physical limitations you might have. If you have a diagnosed disability that may prevent you from carrying out any of these physical expectations, please discuss your situation with the Program Director. Students who enter the program do so with the understanding that they will be expected to meet course requirement, with or without any reasonable accommodations. *Students who have a disability will be referred to the center for Persons with Disabilities for determination of the reasonable accommodations that can be made. Inability to carry out any of these activities while in the program may prevent completion of the program.

Signature _____ Date _____