

Functional Abilities Required for Nursing Assistant

Students in the Nursing Assistant Certification Program at Bellevue College must demonstrate functional abilities necessary to assess a client's needs.

Manual Dexterity:

- Write clear and legible nursing assistant progress notes
- Manipulate small objects

Mobility:

- Remain at a client's side for a prolonged period of time without sitting for purposes of monitoring and observation
- Perform CPR
- Manually position clients that are lying in a bed or sitting in a chair
- Lift fifty (50) pounds of weight without assistance
- Push an occupied wheelchair, shower chair or stretcher
- Move immobile clients from stretcher to bed, bed to stretcher, or bed to chair and back alone or with assistance from personnel

Processing Client Information:

- Respond to communication by clients with or without direct view of client's face
- Respond to monitor alarms, emergency signals, and call bells from client's in a noisy environment
- Identify changes in vital signs, vascular and abdominal sounds and report to nurses
- Identify odors such as smoke and spoiled food
- Identify cyanosis, absence of respirations, and movements of clients rapidly and accurately
- Visually monitor clients in dimmed light
- Protect confidential information (HIPAA)

Math Competency:

- Tell time – regular and military
- Has basic math & algebra skills (e.g. add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers, decimals and fractions)
- Use measuring tools
- Record numbers
- Measure accurate intake & output fluids

Emotional Stability:

- Provide emotional support to clients
- Adapt rapidly to environmental changes and multiple task demands
- Maintain adequate concentration and attention in client care settings

Critical Thinking:

- Identify cause and effect relationships
- Sequence information in a manner that is logical and understood by others
- Make sound clinical judgments and decisions based on standards of nursing care
- Seek assistance when clinical situations require a higher level of expertise/experience

Communication Skills:

- Speak, comprehend, read and write English to meet need for accurate and clear communication
- Respect differences in clients
- Establish and maintain effective working relations with clients and co-workers
- Provide information in an accurate and effective manner
- Report any changes on patient's condition
- Convey information to others through graphic, print, and/or electronic media in an accurate, timely, and comprehensive manner

Professional Behavior:

- Notify the instructor of absence
- Be punctual
- Seek learning opportunities whenever possible while in the clinical setting
- Act as a professional person and accept responsibility for own actions. Maintain integrity and accept feedback from instructors as a learning opportunity and make appropriate changes in behavior or skills
- Identify own strengths and areas for growth in assigned setting
- Follow the dress code
- Complete assignments