MVCC Nursing Essential Functions

The essential skills and relevant activities are listed for your review so that potential students can decide whether or not they may be able to complete the requirements for the nursing program. MVCC complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The college will endeavor to make reasonable accommodations for an applicant with a disability, who is otherwise qualified. Applicants who are unsure if they can meet these essential skills or know they will need help in meeting them should contact the College's Disability Services Office (315) 792-5644 to discuss accommodations and/or auxiliary aids.

A student in the associate degree nursing program must have the abilities and skills necessary for use of the nursing process. The following is a representative list of the essential skills, with or without accommodation, expected of students enrolled in the nursing program.

1. Demonstrate the ability to perform essential functions for a maximum of a 10 hour shift.
2. Demonstrate the ability to protect a client when the client is standing and ambulating on all surfaces with or without the use of assistive devices, including canes, crutches and walkers.
3. Demonstrate the ability to safely move a client over 100 pounds from one surface to another using the appropriate level of help.
4. Demonstrate safe body mechanics in the process of all client treatments, including lifting and carrying small equipment (under 50 pounds) and moving large equipment (over 50 pounds).
5. Demonstrate the ability to manipulate dials on equipment.
6. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate simultaneous motions.
7. Demonstrate the ability to perform occasional overhead extension.
8. Demonstrate the ability to hear blood pressure, heart and lungs sounds with or without corrective devices.
9. Demonstrate the ability to palpate soft tissue including pulse, muscle and bones.
10. Demonstrate the ability to perform nursing interventions such as sterile procedures, dressing changes following infection control procedures.
11. Demonstrate the ability to administer medications (IM, Sub Q, IV, suppositories etc.(including dosage calculations) when necessary.
12. Display adaptability to change,
13. Establish effective relationships with others.
14. Communicate effectively, safely and efficiently in English (both written and spoken) by:
a. Explaining procedures
b. Receiving information from others
c. Receiving information from written documents
d. Exhibiting appropriate interpersonal skill (refer to ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses)
e. Analyzing and documenting assessment findings and interventions.
15. Distinguish color changes.
16. Detect an unsafe environment and carry out appropriate emergency procedures including:
a. Detecting subtle environment changes and odors including, but not limited to, the smell of burning electrical equipment, smoke, and spills.
b. Detect high and low frequency sounds, including but not limited to, alarms, bells, and emergency signals.