The Alabama College System endorses the Americans' with Disabilities Act. In accordance with College policy, when requested, reasonable accommodations may be provided for individuals with disabilities.

Physical, cognitive, psychomotor, affective and social abilities are required in unique combinations to provide safe and effective nursing care. The applicant/student must be able to meet the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations throughout the program of learning. Admission, progression and graduation are contingent upon one's ability to demonstrate the essential functions delineated for the nursing programs with or without reasonable accommodations. The nursing programs and/or its affiliated clinical agencies may identify additional essential functions. The nursing programs reserve the right to amend the essential functions as deemed necessary.

In order to be admitted and to progress in the nursing program, one must possess a functional level of ability to perform the duties required of a nurse. Admission or progression may be denied if a student is unable to demonstrate the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations.

The essential functions delineated are those deemed necessary by the Alabama College System nursing programs. No representation regarding industrial standards is implied. Similarly, any reasonable accommodations made will be determined and applied to the respective nursing program and may vary from reasonable accommodations made by healthcare employers.

The essential functions delineated below are necessary for nursing program admission, progression and graduation and for the provision of safe and effective nursing care. The essential functions include, but are not limited to, the ability to:

1) Sensory Perception
   a) Visual
      i) Observe and discern subtle changes in physical conditions and the environment.
      ii) Visualize different color spectrums and color changes.
      iii) Read fine print in varying levels of light.
      iv) Read for prolonged periods of time.
      v) Read cursive writing.
      vi) Read at varying distances.
      vii) Read data/information displayed on monitors/equipment.
   b) Auditory
      i) Interpret monitoring devices.
      ii) Distinguish muffled sounds heard through a stethoscope.
      iii) Hear and discriminate high and low frequency sounds produced by the body and the environment.
      iv) Effectively hear to communicate with others.
   c) Tactile
      i) Discern tremors, vibrations, pulses, textures, temperature, shapes, size, location and other physical characteristics.
   d) Olfactory
      i) Detect body odors and odors in the environment.
2) Communication/Interpersonal Relationships
   a) Verbally and in writing, engage in a two-way communication and interact effectively
      with others, from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.
   b) Work effectively in groups.
   c) Work effectively independently.
   d) Discern and interpret nonverbal communication.
   e) Express one's ideas and feelings clearly.
   f) Communicate with others accurately in a timely manner.
   g) Obtain communications from a computer.
   h) Possess Cognitive/Critical Thinking skills
   i) Effectively read, write and comprehend the English language.
   j) Consistently and dependably engage in the process of critical thinking in order to
      formulate and implement safe and ethical nursing decisions in a variety of health care
      settings.
   k) Demonstrate satisfactory performance on written examinations including mathematical
      computations without a calculator.
   l) Satisfactorily achieve the program objectives.

3) Motor Function
   a) Handle small delicate equipment/objects without extraneous movement, contamination or
      destruction.
   b) Move, position, turn, transfer, and lift/carry/assist with lifting clients without injury to
      clients, self, or others.
   c) Maintain balance from any position.
   d) Stand on both legs.
   e) Coordinate hand/eye movements.
   f) Push/pull heavy objects without injury to client, self or others.
   g) Stand, bend, walk and/or sit for 6-12 hours in a clinical setting performing physical
      activities requiring energy without jeopardizing the safety of the client, self or others.
   h) Walk without a cane, walker or crutches.
   i) Function with hands free for nursing care and transporting items.
   j) Transport self and client without the use of electrical devices.
   k) Flex, abduct and rotate all joints freely.
   l) Respond rapidly to emergency situations.
   m) Maneuver in small areas.
   n) Perform daily care functions for the client.
   o) Coordinate fine and gross motor hand movements to provide safe effective nursing care.
   p) Calibrate/use equipment.
   q) Execute movement required to provide nursing care in all health care settings.
   r) Perform CPR and physical assessment.
   s) Operate a computer.

4) Professional Behavior
   a) Convey caring, respect, sensitivity, tact, compassion, empathy, tolerance and a healthy
      attitude toward others.
   b) Demonstrate a mentally healthy attitude that is age appropriate in relationship to the
      client.
   c) Handle multiple tasks concurrently.
d) Perform safe, effective nursing care for clients in a caring context.
e) Understand and follow the policies and procedures of the College and clinical agencies.
f) Understand the consequences of violating the student code of conduct.
g) Understand that posing a direct threat to others is unacceptable and subjects one to discipline.
h) Meet qualifications for licensure by examination as stipulated by the Alabama Board of Nursing.
i) Not pose a threat to self or others.
j) Function effectively in situations of uncertainty and stress inherent in providing nursing care.
k) Adapt to changing environments and situations.
l) Remain free of chemical dependency.
m) Report promptly to clinical and remain for 6-12 hours on the clinical unit.
n) Provide nursing care in an appropriate time frame.
o) Accept responsibility, accountability, and ownership of one's actions.
p) Seek supervision/consultation in a timely manner.
q) Examine and modify one's own behavior when it interferes with nursing care or learning.
r) Ability to make critical decisions in chaotic, disruptive, and complex environments

Upon admission, an individual who discloses a disability can request reasonable accommodations. Individuals will be asked to provide documentation of the disability in order to assist with the provision of appropriate reasonable accommodations. The respective College will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to substantially alter the requirements or nature of the program or provide accommodations that inflict an undue burden on the respective College. In order to be admitted one must be able to perform all of the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations. If an individual's health changes during the program of learning, so that the essential functions cannot be met with or without reasonable accommodations, the student will be withdrawn from the nursing program. The nursing faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense in order to assist with the evaluation of the student's ability to perform the essential functions.

Gadsden State Community College strives to create a welcoming environment and will work in good faith to meet the needs of its diverse populations. Reasonable and appropriate accommodations will be provided for qualified disabled students, applicants, employees, and visitors unless to do so would present an undue hardship or lower the academic standards of the College. Persons with disabilities requesting accommodations should contact the ADA Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator on or nearest their campus to obtain forms for requesting accommodations and documentation requirements, as well as to be informed of campus procedures involving accommodations. Campus contacts include: Dr. Danny Wilborn, Gadsden Area/Cherokee, ADA Coordinator (256-439-6912); Ms. Michele Conger, Ayers Campus (256-835-5451); Ms. Cindy Greer, McClellan Center (256-238-9348). [www.gadsdenstate.edu/ada](http://www.gadsdenstate.edu/ada)

Requests for reasonable accommodations should be directed to:
Susan Tucker, RN DNP CNE
Nursing Education Program Director
(256) 549-8452  [stucker@gadsdenstate.edu](mailto:stucker@gadsdenstate.edu)