The following serves to notify prospective students of standards for safe nursing practice. It is the student's responsibility to utilize a critical thinking process to assess, implement, and evaluate their ability to learn and fulfill these standards throughout the educational process and the act of professional nursing.

Students seeking academic accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act must register with the Center for Accessibility Services (CAS) to determine eligibility. To begin the registration process, complete a Student Registration Form and submit documentation to PO Box 6902, Radford, Virginia 24142, or deliver to the 3rd floor of Russell Hall, by fax to 540-831-6525, or by email to cas@radford.edu (See documentation guidelines). Students qualified for academic accommodations should meet with each course professor during office hours, to review and discuss accommodations. For more information, visit the Center for Accessibility Services website or call 540-831-6350.

**Essential Mental Abilities:**
- Follow instructions and rules.
- Demonstrate safe nursing practice within the defined clinical time period.
- Maintain reality orientation accompanied by short and long term memory.
- Assimilate knowledge acquired through lectures, discussion, readings and self-directed studies and effectively apply that knowledge in clinical settings for a variety of client needs and problems.
- Locate, retrieve, and utilize information from a variety of resources, e.g., electronics, libraries, people, and organizations.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply basic mathematical skills accurately, including, but not limited to, ratio proportion concepts, use of conversion tables, and calculations of drug dosages and solutions.
- Comprehend and apply abstract concepts from biological, sociological, and psychological sciences.
- Utilize sufficient critical thinking abilities for clinical judgment.
- Appreciate the diversity of people relative to age, gender, sexual orientation, culture, ethnicity, religion, socio economic level, lifestyle, values and functional ability.

**Essential Communication Skills:**
- Organize thoughts to communicate effectively through written documents that are correct in style, grammar, and mechanics.
- Speak clearly in order to communicate with patients, families, healthcare team members, peers and faculty.
- Effectively utilize interpersonal abilities to interact with diverse individuals, families and groups.
• Establish interpersonal rapport sufficient to communicate, collaborate, and relate effectively with individuals, families, community groups, and health care professionals.
• Read and accurately interpret written communications (i.e., test questions, provider orders etc.).

**Essential Physical Abilities:**

**Visual Acuity:** Be able to read charts, records, scales, small print, handwritten notations, and detect changes in skin color or condition accurately. Be able to draw up the correct quantity of medication in a syringe, accurately read a syringe, and any other measuring device. Demonstrate eye/hand coordination for manipulation of equipment.

**Auditory Ability:** Demonstrate the ability to distinguish tonal differences and the ability to use the telephone. Included in this policy, but not limited to, is the ability to communicate effectively with patients in English, detect sounds related to bodily functions using a stethoscope, and detect audible alarms generated by mechanical systems used to monitor patients.
• Distinguish odors, e.g., drugs, solutions, body fluids, smoke, and chemicals.
• Demonstrate sufficient tactile ability to differentiate changes in sensation, with or without the use of protective gloves, e.g., pulse, temperature, and skin irregularity.
• Manipulate equipment appropriately to provide nursing care to clients, e.g., syringes, infusion pumps, life support devices, and stethoscopes. Use of hands for grasping, pushing, pulling and fine manipulations.
• Move unassisted from room to room, maneuver in small spaces, and stand and walk for six to twelve hours per day. Maintain balance while standing and able to reach below the waist and overhead. Able to bend, squat and kneel.
• Provide a safe and clean environment, and be able to assist others in activities of daily living, e.g., walking, bathing, eating, toileting, transferring, and lifting.
• Perform CPR (i.e., move patient to compress chest and manually ventilate patient).
• Complete assignments with specified time periods, e.g., technical procedures, health assessments, written work, tests, and client documentation.
• Perform multiple tasks accurately in rapidly changing situations.
• Take responsibility for personal safety in laboratory and clinical environments.
• Adhere to the School of Nursing dress and professional behavior policy. Must be well-groomed, clean, showered with no perfumes or strongly scented lotions of any kind. Included in this policy, but not limited to, are expectations that hair will be kept up and away from the face, fingernails will be kept short, body art will not be visible, and a maximum of one body piercing (small metal stud only) in each earlobe.

December 2018
Radford University School of Nursing

Acceptance of Functional and Technical Standards Policy Form

If you are accepted for Fall Semester is due by August 1
If you are accepted for Spring Semester is due by January 4

I, __________________________ (print name), have read and accept the Radford University, School of Nursing policy of Functional and Technical Standards required for safe nursing practice. I understand it is the student's responsibility to utilize a critical thinking process to assess, implement, and evaluate their ability to learn and fulfill these standards throughout the educational process and the act of professional nursing. Additionally, by signing this form, I affirm that I have never been suspended, barred, or sanctioned by Medicare or any other state or federal program.

Failure to sign this form will result in dismissal from the nursing program.

_____________________________   __________________________
      Signature                   Date