## **TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR****THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER****COLLEGE OF NURSING**

1. **Intellect and Conceptual.** Students must be able to use critical thinking skills to problem solve and make decisions regarding assessment, planning and intervening in the care of clients/families. Students must be able to comprehend and interpret information in English. They should have cognitive abilities including measurements, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Critical thinking is the ability to synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a client's history, physical exam findings and diagnostic studies. Problem-solving, the critical skill demanded of nurses, requires all these intellectual abilities.
2. **Behavioral and Social Attributes.** Students must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. Students must be able to exercise good judgment, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in stressful situations. They must show empathy, integrity, compassion, interpersonal communication skills, and concern for others.
3. **Assessment and Observation.** In order to independently assess a client, the student must be able to accurately and effectively observe, discern, interpret, comprehend, detect, and recognize information. Applicants must be able to observe and learn from experiences in the clinical/laboratory settings such as the following examples but not limited to:
	* Accurately read gradients/calibrations on a syringe
	* Measure medications accurately
	* Accurately recognize color changes on chemical reaction strips
	* Assess heart, breath, abdominal sounds
	* Discern and assess normal and abnormal color and temperature changes in the skin
	* Observe pupil changes
4. **Communication.** Students must possess communication skills in order to assess, plan, and deliver effective and therapeutic care to clients/families. Communication include not only speech but reading, writing, and the use of electronic devices. Students need to be able to record information clearly and accurately and accurately interpret verbal and nonverbal communication. Students must be able to communicate effectively to all members of the health care team.
5. **Psycho-motor skills.** Students must possess sufficient psycho-motor functioning to participate in class, laboratories, clinical settings and activities independently and effectively. Students must be able to perform a physical assessment of their patients as appropriate for the registered nurse including palpation, auscultation, percussion, other diagnostic maneuvers, and nursing activities.

The undersigned has read the above Technical Standards for the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing and declares that he/she:

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|   | \_\_\_\_\_ |   | Is able to meet the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing’s Technical Standards without accommodation, OR |
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|   | \_\_\_\_\_ |   | Has a disability that necessitates accommodation to meet the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing’s Technical Standards Policy and shall proceed in accordance with the policy and will provide documentation of the disability including appropriate medical records and a description of the accommodation requested to the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing. |

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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|   | Signature of Accepted Applicant |
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|   | Print Name |