

## **Doctor of Nursing Practice in Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Technical skills /Standards**

The role of the DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner requires intelligence, sound judgment, appropriate interpersonal skills, and the ability to respond calmly and rationally to emergencies. DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able to collect and analyze data, integrate diagnostic study results with current treatment standards, and solve problems, all while providing patient care. Required mental and physical abilities fall into five major categories: sensory, communication, motor, cognitive/intellectual, and behavioral/social.

### **Technical Standards**

#### **1. Sensory**

DNP Adult -Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must have enough visual and auditory ability to observe in lecture-learner, laboratory, and patient care settings. Sensory skills required for the performance of complete physical examinations, including inspection, percussion, palpation, and auscultation, include adequate vision, hearing, smell, and tactile sensation. All senses must be enough to observe a patient's condition and elicit information through history and physical examination.

#### **2. Motor**

Enough physical stamina is required to complete the rigorous didactic and clinical portions of the Program. The didactic phase of the Program requires extended sitting, in contrast to the clinical phase, which requires extended standing and moving about various clinical facilities. DNP Adult – Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able, with or without accommodation, to elicit information from patients and perform a physical examination. In addition, they must be able to perform therapeutic and diagnostic procedures and navigate various health care settings, such as outpatient facilities, laboratories, and hospitals. Students must have sufficient motor function to perform essential movements required to provide general and emergency care to patients. Some examples of emergency care required of a DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner include cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Unique combinations of cognitive, affective, psychomotor, physical, and social abilities are required to perform these functions effectively. Additionally, the ability to use the electronic medical record and to take the national Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner certification examination, which does not offer paper testing, necessitates that students be able, with or without reasonable accommodations, to use computers and other electronic devices.

#### **3. Communication**

DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able to read, understand, write, and speak English to communicate effectively and efficiently in the classroom and in clinical settings. DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able to record and communicate information to patients and other members of the health care team in a timely, effective, and sensitive manner. Effective communication needs to be clear and unambiguous. Communication includes face-to-face contact, reading, legible writing, and completion of electronic medical records in a timely manner. While eliciting information from patients, the student must be able to identify and describe changes in mood, activity, and

posture and perceive nonverbal communication.

#### **4. Cognitive/Intellectual**

DNP Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able to sustain attention, calculate, reason, analyze, assimilate, and recall highly detailed, complex information. Correlating information and problem-solving to arrive at a reasonable clinical conclusion in a timely fashion is a basic tenet of clinical practice.

Students must be able to learn through a variety of teaching modalities, including classroom instruction, small group, and collaborative activities, simulated and clinical environments. With rapidly expanding avenues of clinical information, the ability to extract valid, useful, and relevant information from the medical literature is also required to formulate accurate diagnoses and treatment plans. In addition, students should be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures.

#### **5. Behavioral and Social Attributes**

DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner students must be able to relate to and perform professionally in all aspects of DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner training and in the clinical environment with patients and other members of the health care team. Students must possess emotional health and maturity to fully utilize their intellectual abilities. They need to exercise good judgment, empathy, integrity, and honesty in all academic settings and possess sufficient interpersonal skills to develop mature, effective, compassionate, and respectful relationships with peers, patients, patient families, and caregivers, as well as all members of the health care team. Students must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads, changing environments, and rotating schedules. They must display flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent to the practice as a DNP Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner provider. Students should take responsibility for their own learning, recognize gaps in knowledge or skills, and seek assistance as they strive for excellence. Students are expected to accept suggestions and criticism and respond with appropriate behavioral modifications.

#### **Professional Conduct**

Possess the ability to reason morally and practice as an Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner in an ethical manner. Learn and abide by professional standards of practice. Possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, altruism, integrity, honesty, humility, responsibility, tolerance, and promote equity, human dignity, and social justice. Engage in patient care delivery in primary care settings and be able to deliver care to diverse patient populations, including adolescents, adults, and geriatric adults.