



Veterinary Nursing Program

Essential Functions and Accommodation Policy

The field of Veterinary Nursing is both intellectually and physically challenging. All students must meet the technical standards required of the Veterinary Nursing Program (VNP) and Veterinary Nursing Distant Learning Program (VNDLP) to perform essential skills set forth by the AVMA-CVTEA accrediting body and the veterinary profession. The extensive nature of the essential skills and technical standard requirements listed may prevent some prospective students with disabilities from qualifying for enrollment or continued enrollment of the VNP and VNDLP programs.

Applicants and students must be able to satisfy, with or without the use of appropriate auxiliary aids (including prosthetic devices), the following technical standards which relate to physical abilities. If one aid or prosthetic device interferes with a second aid or prosthetic device needed to carry out a single act, then the individual may be restricted in meeting the technical standard. Due to the nature of the essential skills reduced distraction testing areas and extended time accommodations will not be provided for any laboratory course exams.

Students must independently:

- Walk and stand for at least ten minutes at a time, multiple times per hour.

- Lift and/or carry up to 50 pounds from floor to waist level or higher at least several times per day.

- Lift objects weighing up to 50 pounds to a height of one meter or higher and carry the object or animal for a distance of two meters.

- Use hands and arms to handle, install, position and move materials, equipment, and supplies.

- Handle, position, and restrain live animals of small and large animal species.

- Have sustained contact with multiple species of animals and learn the safe handling, restraining, and working with these animals.

- An individual should not be allergic to any species of animals to the extent that would

electronic medical documents to perform duties and safely and use equipment.
Prioritize, organize, and utilize time-management skills to perform tasks.
Evaluate, synthesize and communicate diagnostic information to the attending veterinarian and/or staff.
Demonstrate the need for minimal supervision as they advance through the program.

Students must independently:

Communicate accurately and effectively in English.
Comprehend and carry out complex written and oral instructions given in English.
Make legible and coherent notes in English within the margins and space provided on the appropriate forms.

Students must independently:

Demonstrate professional and socially appropriate behavior; maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close human and animal contact.
Interact appropriately with clients and all members of the veterinary healthcare team.
Demonstrate good judgment and make appropriate professional and procedural judgment decisions under stressful and/or emergency conditions (i.e. unstable patient condition), emergent demands (i.e. stat test orders), and distracting environments (i.e., high noise levels, complex visual stimuli, aggressive animals).

Students must independently:

- o Amplified stethoscope
- o Portable speech amplifier
- o Hearing aids
- o Clear surgical masks
- o Magnifying headsets
- o Non-allergenic gloves
- o Magnifying microscope monitor

Students seeking accommodations must self-disclose to the Disability Services Office to determine eligibility. Accommodations specific to core program requirements will be at least equivalent to those approved by the licensing body.

To ascertain appropriate accommodations, the Disability Services Office may request assistance from appropriate veterinary medicine and technical specialists: Disability Services Office, Advising & Counseling Center, 222.819.000.

Murray State College is committed to providing equal access to College programs and services for all students. Under College policy and federal and state laws, students with documented disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodation to ensure the student has an equal opportunity to perform in class. If any member of the class has such a disability and needs special academic accommodation, please report to the Testing Centers as soon as possible. On the Tishomingo Campus, contact the Testing Center at (580)387-7304. On the Ardmore campus, contact the Testing Center at 580/319-0371 located in the UCSO main building. Reasonable accommodation may be arranged after verification of ADA needs. Do not hesitate to contact the instructor if any assistance is needed in this process.

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