

Professional Behaviors

Students in the MSU Denver nursing program are representing the profession of nursing and the university. Certain expectations are made upon them when they are involved in any activity related to the program. These activities may occur within the classroom, lab, clinical facilities, the university and the community. Professional behaviors are those aspects of a professional that are not related to discipline-specific skills or knowledge but are none the less important for successful clinical practice.

The following information describes the professional behaviors for students in the nursing program:

GENERIC ABILITY

1. Commitment to Learning

DEFINITION

The ability to self-assess, self-correct, and self-direct; to identify needs and sources of learning; and to continually seek new knowledge and understanding.

2. Interpersonal Skills

The ability to interact effectively with patients, families, colleagues, other health care professionals, and the community and to deal effectively with cultural and ethnic diversity issues.

3. Communication Skills

The ability to communicate effectively (i.e. speaking, body language, reading, writing, listening) for varied audiences and purposes.

4. Effective Use of Time and Resources

The ability to obtain maximum benefit from a minimum investment of time and resources.

5. Use of Constructive Feedback

The ability to identify sources of feedback and seek out feedback and to effectively use and provide feedback for improving personal interaction.

6. Problem Solving	The ability to recognize and define problems, analyze data, develop and implement solutions, and evaluate outcomes.
7. Professionalism	The ability to exhibit appropriate professional conduct and to represent the profession effectively.
8. Responsibility	The ability to fulfill commitments and to be accountable for actions and outcomes.
9. Critical thinking	The ability to question logically, to identify, generate, and evaluate elements of logical argument; to recognize and differentiate fact, illusions, assumptions, and hidden assumptions; and to distinguish the relevant from the irrelevant.
10. Stress Management	The ability to identify sources of stress and to develop effective coping behaviors.
11. Respect the opinions of others	Students shall not insult, slur or degrade instructors, other health professionals or students. (This ethics statement does not infringe upon a student's right to raise questions and request clarification but does modify the manner in which the question or clarification is brought forth.)

Unprofessional Behaviors

One or more of the following actions (or like actions) by a student could be considered grounds for immediate termination by the University and/or termination from the program:

- Behavior that creates a threat to the welfare of the patient/client.
- Behavior that creates a threat to the facility to which the student is assigned.
- Behavior that threatens the continued relationship between the university and the facility.
- Behavior that is discourteous or disrespectful.
- Violation of patient confidentiality.
- Failure to adhere to facility policy and/or procedures.

- Repeated failure to follow instructions.
- Arguing with peers, health care providers, patients, families, faculty and university staff.
- Use of offensive language.
- Refusal to carry out assigned duties.
- Failure to follow attendance procedures.
- Misrepresentation of personal competency level.
- Failure to alter behavior after constructive feedback.
- Failure to meet required professional behavior standards.
- Horizontal violence, incivility or “bullying” behaviors.