

## Are you ready for nursing school?

Nursing school is extremely time intensive, as well as financially and emotionally demanding. Everyone says nursing school is hard, but why? It is one of those things you cannot explain until you are in it. However, this list of helpful questions can prepare you for the common stresses experienced in nursing school.

- **Finances** Have you applied for financial aid, including scholarships? Is it financially necessary for you to work? Can you cut down on your work hours? If not, is your supervisor aware of your challenging scheduling needs over the next two years? Healthcare experience is not required but is a benefit that affords new nursing students the ease of using common healthcare terminology.
- Time management Although it may look like you are in class for a few hours a couple days a week, you will need approximately 40 hours outside of class, lab and clinical for studying. If you have never had to study before, it is difficult to learn what your study habits need to be. It is not simply coming to class and passing the tests. You have to take the information shared with you, read and explore more about the content, and then be able to apply it to a scenario. Nursing education is comprehensive and the lives of others depend on you knowing it.
- **Support system** Do you have a strong support system? If you have children, are there people that you can discuss the demands of nursing school with that can pitch in to help at a moment's notice? Can your support person(s) share your obligations while you are in this program?
- Take a closer look at yourself Are you self-disciplined to get things completed without prompting from another person? Do you know your preferred learning style? Are you constantly trying to think critically by asking "why" or are you more "task oriented"? Are you a good test-taker?

Are you ready to make this decision of going to nursing school a priority? SCC wishes you the best on this rigorous, but rewarding journey!

