



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

# *STUDENT HANDBOOK*

2023-2024

Empowering you to  
pursue bold ideas and  
influence health care  
delivery in Indiana and  
around the world.

THAT'S MY

# *GIANT LEAP*

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## Introduction

This handbook provides information about major policies, procedures, and guidelines for the School of Nursing.

Please become very familiar with the handbook. However, remember that it is not a substitute for the advising available through the School of Nursing Student Services Office and faculty mentoring.

In addition, you should read the University Regulations. This resource provides information for all Purdue students on the structures, policies, regulations, and procedures of the University that govern their relationship to the University in both academic and personal progress toward their ultimate educational goal. University Regulations may be found at: [University Student Regulations Website](#).

## Welcome!

On behalf of our administrative team, faculty, and staff, I am pleased to welcome you to the Purdue School of Nursing, West Lafayette Campus. The School of Nursing is ranked #1 in Indiana and the US World and News Reports ranks our graduate programs in the top 50 in the nation. Our innovative programs have an excellent global reputation for graduating nurses who are highly qualified, clinical proficient and leaders in the healthcare field. Our programs are supported by nursing leaders throughout the Midwest who facilitate programmatic growth, innovation and clinical excellence.

As part of the College of Health and Human Services, you will have extraordinary experiences in interdisciplinary research and scholarship, clinical practice and dissemination of knowledge. You will interact with our expert award-winning faculty through active engagement in clinical practice, scholarship, research and mentorship. Our commitment to diversity, equity inclusion and belonging is integrated into both the didactic and clinical courses with application to both simulation and real work experiences.

As a graduate, you will impact health within Indiana, the United States and throughout the World. You will be called upon to influence clinical practice, global health, policy and research and you have the clinical knowledge, education and experience to implement positive change in the healthcare arena. As a School of Nursing, we will support your journey as you prepare to become registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, scholars and nurse scientists who will provide care throughout Indiana and globally through your clinical expertise, dedication to nursing, and the search for excellence.

Boiler up and Hammer down! Hail Purdue!

Nancy Edwards, PhD, MSN, FAANP, ANP BC  
Interim Head & Professor, School of Nursing



## School of Nursing Philosophy

The philosophy of the Purdue University School of Nursing reflects our beliefs about the role and the education of the professional nurse.

### Mission

The mission of the Purdue University School of Nursing is to serve the citizens of Indiana, the nation, and the world. We do this through *discovery* that expands the realm of nursing knowledge as well as *learning* by disseminating and preserving knowledge that prepares beginning and advanced nursing graduates for professional licensure and leadership in their work settings. We practice *engagement* through the application of nursing science from local to global healthcare settings, and *advocacy* through participation in healthcare legislation and policy that respect diverse client populations.

In all these activities, the School of Nursing seeks to:

- Prepare graduates for the practice of professional nursing in general and specialized clinical settings.
- Contribute to the improvement of nursing education through innovation, evaluation, and participation in local to global nursing education activities.
- Conduct research and other scholarly activities to add to the body of specialized knowledge and theory in nursing.
- Support the improvement of health from the local to global arena through discovery, learning, and engagement.
- Advocate for the improvement of the healthcare delivery system through changes in public policy with regard to accessibility, effectiveness, and quality of healthcare.
- Promote a positive societal view of professional nursing by increasing public awareness of nursing's contribution to healthcare.
- Provide continuing education programs to facilitate intellectual development in the field of nursing.
- Acknowledge diversity of values and ethics, culture, and ethnicity of all people.
- Encourage the advancement of nursing science by creating a milieu that fosters information literacy, lifelong learning, and scholarly endeavors.

### Professional Nursing Practice

Nursing science is advanced through inquiry, research, and scholarly activities and by evidence-based practice.

The professional nurse is a self-directed, accountable individual participating in collaborative relationships with other members of the healthcare team and consumers in diverse populations. The professional nurse assumes the role of client advocate, care provider, consultant, collaborator, leader, change agent, and educator. Care is provided throughout the lifespan in all settings and healthcare systems. Care of physical, psychosocial and spiritual needs are essential to the promotion, protection, and maintenance of health. The professional nurse is engaged in the community and conforms to the laws and code of ethics governing professional standards of nursing practice and accepts personal responsibility for lifelong learning.

## **Professional Nursing Education**

The School of Nursing conceptualizes nursing education from baccalaureate preparation through the doctoral level. Nursing education is a collaborative process among students, faculty and the community. It draws from the fields of physiological, technological and social sciences, and liberal arts to support the acquisition of knowledge and skills needed for nurses to meet client, organization, and system needs.

Course, clinical, and residency experiences from baccalaureate through doctoral preparation are designed to enhance clinical reasoning, critical thinking, research and scholarly activities to prepare future nurse leaders and scientists.

Approved by faculty March 6, 2017

### **Accreditation**

The nursing programs were initially accredited in the 1960s by the National League for Nursing and continued with this accrediting body until the new Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) was formed in the late 1990s. The baccalaureate program, accredited in 2001 by CCNE, was re-accredited through 2026. The faculty believes that an external review by peers is vital to having programs of a high caliber. The self-study process requires all faculty and staff to complete a thoughtful review of where we have been and articulate a clear vision of where we are going next.

In light of future accreditation visits, student work submitted may be reviewed for accreditation purposes. Any student who wishes their work not be reviewed may submit such request in writing to Melissa Swathwood, [mswathwo@purdue.edu](mailto:mswathwo@purdue.edu).

### **Baccalaureate Program**

The central mission of the Purdue University School of Nursing is to prepare a generalist practitioner capable of providing professional nursing care to individuals and families with diverse health needs in a variety of settings. There are two program options to obtain a baccalaureate degree in nursing from Purdue:

- 1) An 8 semester generic Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program which encourages individual growth and development while providing a sound foundation in utilizing nursing research and quality improvement in the clinical setting and for pursuing graduate education in nursing.
- 2) A 4 semester Second Degree Accelerated Baccalaureate Program which is for individuals who hold a baccalaureate degree in another field and want to pursue a BSN. This dynamic program is designed to build on the strengths and diversity of the students' previous degree.

Plans of study for these options may be found at [Purdue University School of Nursing Website](#).

The Purdue University School of Nursing curriculum provides each student with a firm foundation in the liberal arts, supportive sciences, and professional education. Education of the professional nurse is enriched by a diverse faculty who are clinical experts and scholars.

## **Baccalaureate Program Goals**

1. Provide safe, quality, client-centered, evidence-based, compassionate nursing care in a variety of healthcare settings
2. Use critical thinking/clinical reasoning consistent with that of the registered nurse
3. Contribute to quality improvement for the purpose of optimizing patient outcomes
4. Identify the impact of personal strengths, challenges, and values on the intra- and interprofessional teams and care of individuals, families, and communities
5. Use information and technology to communicate, support, and provide quality care across the health care continuum
6. Demonstrate leadership to improve outcomes in a variety of settings
7. Assimilate professional, ethical, and legal principles consistent with that of the registered nurse in a dynamic healthcare system

## **Nursing Student Organizations**

Nursing student organizations are a vital part of the School, providing opportunities in fellowship, personal and professional growth, leadership, and service.

### **Diversity in Nursing Association (DNA)**

The purpose of DNA is to provide support and encouragement to diverse students in nursing, as well as other prospective minority students who plan to enter the nursing profession. Membership is open to any student who has been admitted to the School of Nursing.

### **Nurses Christian Fellowship (NCF)**

Nurses Christian Fellowship is a division of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. NCF advocates quality nursing care that includes the spiritual dimension. NCF aims to deepen and strengthen the spiritual lives of nursing students through Bible study, prayer, and Christian fellowship. Membership is open to any student in the School.

### **Nursing Student Council**

The Student Council serves as a liaison for communications between students and faculty, coordinates activities between classes and organizations within the School, and represents the School in campus-wide activities.

The council includes 18 members: 16 with voting privileges and two non-voting faculty members. Each class is represented by four voting members who are chosen by petition and class election. Officers of the council are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

### **Purdue Student Nurses Association (PSNA)**

PSNA is a local chapter of both the Indiana Association for Nursing Students (IANS) and the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA).

PSNA assists in the preparation of nursing students for professional careers and allows for interaction with each other as well as with faculty members. Professional nurses present topics related to healthcare and various fields of nursing practice at meetings throughout the academic year.

### **IHI Open School Purdue Chapter**

IHI is a national organization with the goal of improving health and healthcare worldwide. Members learn from a diverse array of guest speakers, gain experience in interdisciplinary quality improvement projects, and participate in health justice initiatives. Students from all majors are welcome to join.

### **Nursing Community Service**

The purpose of Nursing Community Service is to unite the School of Nursing students and faculty to perform acts of service to the Lafayette community, provide opportunities for students to serve as helping hands for underserved or vulnerable populations and to coordinate service projects between all classes, faculty, and student organizations within the School of Nursing.

### **The American Association for Men in Nursing**

The Central Indiana Chapter. Our chapter is dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of men, as well as advancing the contributions of men in the nursing profession. We welcome all nursing students, registered nurses and licensed practical nurses, regardless of gender identity, to join our chapter and become active members. Our chapter is committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all members, while also advocating for men's health and wellness in our communities.

### **Holistic Student Nursing Association**

The Holistic Student Nursing Association (HSNA) at Purdue University promotes the education of student nurses, faculty, and the public on the importance of holistic health practices and thus, highlighting holistic nursing as an official nursing specialty. Through educational practices and demonstrations, HSNA intends to teach members about complementary and integrative health care practices, holistic nursing ethics, and research and scholarship. The HSNA reflects the values of the American Holistic Nurses Association.

### **Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI)**

STTI is the International Honor Society of Nursing, which recognizes superior achievement and the development of leadership qualities, fosters high professional standards, encourages creative work, and strengthens commitment to the ideals of the profession. Invitations are extended to junior students only.

### **Student Ambassadors**

Ambassadors receive extensive training to serve as representatives of the nursing student body at official School and University functions. They interact with potential students; current nursing students, faculty, and staff; nursing alumnae; and dignitaries from Purdue, the local community, and beyond.

Students will have the opportunity to petition to become Ambassadors at the beginning of every spring semester.

## Study Abroad Programs

Purdue Study Abroad offers hundreds of international study programs in countries around the world. These programs offer direct Purdue credit and participants may apply campus-based financial aid to program fees.

Opportunities vary according to disciplinary focus, foreign language ability, and length of stay desired. Half of the programs have no foreign language requirement.

## Cooperative Program

The Purdue University Cooperative Education Program (Co-op) is an academic program aimed at enhancing student professional skills through progressive work experiences, skills assessments, and structured reflections. The Purdue School of Nursing Co-op Program helps students integrate theory and practice, confirm career choices, gain skills and a better understanding of the healthcare systems, investigate potential job opportunities, and build relationships with potential employers. Students who successfully complete a 3-Session Co-op program will graduate with 12 months of paid work experience and receive an academic certificate to enhance their Purdue University degree. Please contact Dr. Amanda Ward with any questions at [ward78@purdue.edu](mailto:ward78@purdue.edu).

Student Requirements:

- Maintain a satisfactory academic and disciplinary record while at the University, with a minimum GPA of 3.0, and maintain Continued Good Standing with the University.
- Maintain satisfactory work performance while employed, as determined by the employer partner.
- Abide by all the employer partner's rules and regulations.
- Meet all University Co-op requirements such as registration in appropriate cooperative work courses and payment of required fees.
- Submit reports of work experience at the conclusion of each session by the dates required.

## Mandatory Enrollment Requirements

In order to safeguard the health of students and clients, the following mandatory requirements have been established for School of Nursing students.

### Physical Examinations and Vaccinations

Listed below are the mandatory requirements. All documentation and forms must be uploaded by the student to CastleBranch by August 1 of the current school year, minus the influenza, which is due by November 1 and FIT testing for the Juniors, which is due by September 1.

### COVID-19 Vaccination

*Please note\*\*\*For the academic year of 2023-2024, it is strongly recommended by Purdue University and the School of Nursing that all students receive the COVID-19 immunization. Although Purdue does not require proof of a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition to enrollment, **there are other vital factors** for you to consider in this regard. Please read the following to ensure you understand these factors.*

*A majority of our practice partners, including providers where you may receive your clinical learning experience as part of the School of Nursing program, **do** require the COVID-19 vaccine for students and faculty. In addition, some of these practice partners do not accept religious or medical exemptions from their vaccination requirements. To be clear, Purdue University and the School of Nursing do not control the policy requirements of these practice partners. However, our contractual agreements with*

*them have long required that students and faculty adhere to the partner site's policies and safety protocols, and these now frequently include both flu and COVID vaccinations.*

*On-site clinical learning is required to complete the School of Nursing undergraduate programming, so it is essential that you meet all practice partner policy and safety protocols to support your successful completion of your program. The School of Nursing cannot guarantee that students who are not in compliance with clinical site partners' requirements will be successfully placed for rotations, and this could result in delayed or stalled academic progress. Additionally, the School cannot guarantee a particular site placement or reassignment of a student who is unable to comply with a site partners' health and safety requirements.*

*Therefore, if you would like Purdue's assistance in helping you meet a clinical partners' requirements, please be prepared to submit proof of your COVID vaccination or submit a medical or religious exemption request to Kim Phillips ([phill254@purdue.edu](mailto:phill254@purdue.edu)) with the Purdue School of Nursing well in advance of the year in which you will be required to participate in your clinical learning experience.*

### **Freshman**

1. Health Form (self-reported health history – does not need to be completed by health professional)
2. Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap)
3. Measles/mumps/rubella (MMR)
4. Varicella (chickenpox), vaccine documentation or titer required, date of disease is not sufficient. If titer submitted is negative student must complete 2 shot series
5. Hepatitis B series, titer required. If surface antibody titer is negative will need to repeat the series and instructions on how to do this will be made available
6. Polio
7. 2-step Mantoux TB test or Interferon-gamma release assays blood test (GFT-GIT or T-Spot). This must be completed between May 1 and August 1 prior to fall semester of current year. This does take 3-4 weeks to complete. If there is a history of a positive Mantoux TB test, a chest x-ray is acceptable
8. Influenza – due November 1 of current school year

### **Sophomore**

1. Physical examination completed by health professional (physician or nurse practitioner)
2. Background check completed through CastleBranch
3. Drug Screen completed through CastleBranch
4. 1 step Mantoux TB test or Interferon-gamma release assays blood test (GFT-GIT or T-Spot). This must be completed between May 1 and August 1 prior to fall semester of current year. If there is a history of a positive Mantoux TB test, a chest x-ray is acceptable
5. CPR certification - Classes accepted are American Red Cross Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS), National Safety Council Basic Life Support for Healthcare and Professional Rescuers or American Heart Association Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider
6. Influenza – due November 1 of current school year
7. Covid 19 vaccination. (Encouraged by Purdue, but likely required by clinical practice partner. See note above under "Covid-19 Vaccination")
8. CastleBranch Bridges (if required by your practice partner site – Kim Phillips will advise via email if needed)
9. Update Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis if > 10 years since last

### **Junior**

1. Health Form (self-reported health history – does not need to be completed by health professional)
2. 1 step Mantoux TB test or Interferon-gamma release assays blood test (GFT-GIT or T-Spot). This must be completed between May 1 and August 1 prior to fall semester of current year. If there is a history of a positive Mantoux TB test, a chest x-ray is acceptable.
3. Update CPR certification if needed - Classes accepted are American Red Cross Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS), National Safety Council Basic Life Support for Healthcare and Professional Rescuers or American Heart Association Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider
4. Respiratory FIT testing to be completed with documentation turned in by September 1. This will be offered within the first 2 weeks of the fall semester through the School of Nursing. If you have completed this through your employer and can provide documentation, it will be accepted.
5. Influenza – due November 1 of current school year
6. Background check completed through CastleBranch
7. Drug Screen completed through CastleBranch
8. Covid 19 vaccination. (Encouraged by Purdue, but likely required by clinical practice partner. See note above under “Covid-19 Vaccination”)
9. Castle Branch Bridges (if required by your practice partner site – Kim Phillips will advise via email if needed)
10. Update Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis if > 10 years since last

### **Senior**

1. Health Form (self-reported health history – does not need to be completed by health professional)  
\*\*physical examination requirement changed to health form effective Fall 2019
2. 1 step Mantoux TB test or Interferon-gamma release assays blood test (GFT-GIT or T-Spot). This must be completed between May 1 and August 1 prior to fall semester of current year. If there is a history of a positive Mantoux TB test, a chest x-ray is acceptable.
3. Update CPR certification if needed - Classes accepted are American Red Cross Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS), National Safety Council Basic Life Support for Healthcare and Professional Rescuers or American Heart Association Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider
4. Influenza – due November 1st of current school year
5. Background check completed through CastleBranch
6. Drug Screen completed through CastleBranch
7. Covid 19 vaccination. (Encouraged by Purdue, but likely required by clinical practice partner. See note above under “Covid-19 Vaccination”)
8. CastleBranch Bridges (if required by your practice partner site – Kim Phillips will advise via email if needed)
9. Update Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis if > 10 years since last

\*\*In addition to the above listed information other vaccinations or screenings may be added as required by our affiliating agencies.

\*\* Unless otherwise noted, the deadline for submission of the appropriate documentation is August 1 of the current school year. Students who do not have the above records submitted will not be allowed to attend clinical until proof of all requirements have been provided to the School of Nursing and will receive a 0 for that clinical date.

### **Malpractice Insurance**

For the protection of the student, malpractice insurance must be obtained for the sophomore, junior, and senior years. This insurance is obtained through the School’s group policy. \*The cost is included in the student fee that will appear on your bill every fall and spring semester that your major with the University is Nursing, regardless of what courses you are taking.

**\* IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The School of Nursing's group policy insurance does not cover accidental injury to a student that may occur before, during, or after classes or clinical activities. Students are not covered by the University when they travel to and from clinical sites in private automobiles. The University only provides insurance when a student is riding in an approved University-owned and properly authorized vehicle. Students also need to be aware that the malpractice insurance only provides coverage for liability while practicing as a student in Purdue University School of Nursing activities within the school, facility and Indiana State Board of Nursing guidelines.

**CPR Certification**

You must be certified in either the American Heart Association's or American Red Cross' Basic Life Support (BLS) **for Healthcare Providers**, or the National Safety Council's Basic Life Support for Healthcare and Professional Rescuers. A copy of your CPR Certification card, which shows certification through both semesters of the upcoming school year, must be submitted to the School of Nursing. If your current certification expires prior to the end of the next spring semester you must be recertified and submit a new card by August 1.

**Health Insurance**

All students are required to carry their own health insurance. Costs associated with any incident on campus or at clinical sites shall remain the responsibility of the student.

**Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH)**

PUSH is students' primary site for health care on campus. Full-time, fee-paying students are entitled to an unlimited number of pre-paid visits to PUSH providers and a limited number of consultations with staff in PUSH's Counseling and Psychological Services unit. Fees are charged for ancillary services.

**Background History**

Any student whose name appears on the ISDH Indiana Nurse Aid Registry or the DHHS Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities, or who has been convicted of a sexual offense involving a minor (Zachary's Law, P.L. 11-94) will be unable to meet the clinical requirements of the nursing program. These lists are consulted annually. A criminal history check revealing certain crimes may preclude students from fulfilling clinical requirements and/or impact the ability to apply for licensure. The Indiana State Board of Nursing now requires full disclosure of any criminal issues even if these were dealt with via a diversion agreement. This initial check is done prior to fall semester of sophomore year and each fall thereafter.

**Drug Testing**

For complete information related to drug testing and substance abuse please review the full Purdue School of Nursing Substance Abuse Policy. This policy covers not only the use of illicit substances and alcohol but also the use of over-the-counter medications which at times can impair judgement during clinical. All students prior to participation in a clinical course in the program will be required to complete a negative drug screen at the designated time and place and at the expense of the student before engaging in any clinical activity. Any student that tests positive for drugs may be precluded from fulfilling clinical requirements. Please refer to the full policy in this handbook. Please note that if a valid result is not received for any reason, a repeat of the drug screen may be required at the student's expense.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Starting spring of freshman year, students will sign an Annual Disclosure Statement every spring semester. Failure to disclose any changes or issues which have occurred since the initial background check and/or previous disclosure may result in dismissal from the School of Nursing.

### **Alcohol and Controlled Substance**

Students who are engaged in clinical work at a practicum site may be required to submit to random tests for illegal use of a controlled substance as provided by the law or regulations of the affiliating agency. In addition, the school has a “for cause” testing policy, please see the “Nursing Student Substance Abuse Policy” found in this handbook.

### **Mobile Device Requirement**

A mobile device is required for nursing students, starting at the sophomore level. You may use any type of mobile device (e.g. BlackBerry, iPhone/iPod Touch, Palm OS, or Windows Mobile/Pocket PC/Smartphone) you wish as long as you can load the required programs to your mobile device. Students will be provided an ID number to download the required software package.

## Purdue University School of Nursing Uniform Dress Code

A professional appearance in the clinical setting is expected of all students enrolled in the Purdue University Baccalaureate Nursing Program. Students should adhere to the uniform policies and expectations of the clinical agency in which they are participating in a clinical experience.

- Clothing and/or uniforms worn to the clinical setting must be well-fitting, sized appropriately, clean and in good repair.
- **Students order uniforms from the School of Nursing approved supplier in the semester preceding their first clinical experience. For most students this occurs in the spring of their Freshman year.**
- If the student's size changes during the course of their study, the student is expected to purchase a new uniform of appropriate size and fit.

### School of Nursing Picture Identification Badge:

- A School of Nursing Picture Identification will be created for the student by Card Services at the start of Sophomore year.
- The picture identification must be worn to every clinical experience.
- The picture identification should be worn just below the shirt collar so that the picture and name are consistently visible.

### Hair:

- Hair must be of natural color
- Hair must be restrained away from the face
- Hair should be worn so it does not fall into or contaminate the workspace
- Beard and/or mustache must be neatly groomed

### Cosmetics:

- Cosmetics must be natural-looking
- No lotions, colognes or perfumes should be worn to the clinical area

### Nails:

- Nails must be trimmed so that the nail is not visible from the palm side of the hand
- No nail polish or artificial nails may be worn

### Jewelry/Adornments:

- Wristwatch with a second hand or a digital watch marking seconds should be worn to every clinical experience
- Engagement ring and/or wedding band is the only permissible rings that may be worn
- No other jewelry may be worn
- Earrings must be small. Only gold, silver or white studs are permitted
- No more than two earrings may be worn per ear
- No other piercings may be worn. No nose, tongue or eyebrow rings are permissible
- Tattoos must be covered and not visible through clothing

## **Clothing Requirements Vary by the Clinical Location**

### **For all clinical locations:**

- Pants must sit at the natural waistline
- Pants should be hemmed to appropriate length. Pants must not be long enough to touch the floor
- Skirt length should fall just below the knee. Skirt length should not touch the floor
- Underwear must not be visible above the waistband

### **For Hospital, Long-Term Care or Rehabilitation Clinical:**

- School of Nursing charcoal gray scrub top and pant or skirt
- Gray, white, tan/nude, or black socks or hosiery
- Black, leather, closed-toe, closed-heel, athletic-style shoe without colored design
- Optional School of Nursing charcoal gray scrub jacket or black or white long-sleeve turtleneck or crew neck shirt under scrub top

### **For Public Health and/or Mental Health Clinical:**

- Black School of Nursing Polo Shirt. Polo shirt must be tucked in or longer than waist-length
- Black or khaki dress pants (no denim pants permitted)
- Black, white, gray, or tan/nude socks or hosiery
- Black, closed-toe, closed-heel street shoes

### **Professional Attire:**

- Well-pressed professional shirt or sweater. Shirt must be tucked in or longer than waist-length
- Dress pants or skirt
- Closed-toe, closed-heel street shoes

## School of Nursing Additional Expenses

The following itemizations show the approximate expenses nursing students are expected to incur for the academic year (in addition to University fees and tuition, room and board, miscellaneous and travel expenses normally allocated).

### Freshman Year

Books	\$1500
Immunizations (if needed)	\$150
Student clinical fee (per semester)*	\$524

### Sophomore Year

Books	\$1100
Uniforms	\$250
Student clinical fee (per semester)*	\$524
Physical examination, immunizations (if needed)	\$200-300
CPR certification (for Health Care Providers)	\$50-85
Transportation (to and from clinical facilities)	\$150
Watch (digital or with a second hand), stethoscope	\$150
Criminal history background check	\$50
Drug screen	\$40
CB Bridges (if required by clinical practice partner)	\$40

### Junior Year

Books	\$1000
Student clinical fee (per semester)*	\$524
TB skin test (Mantoux)	\$20
Criminal history background check	\$25
Drug screen	\$40
CPR recertification	\$50-85
Transportation (to and from clinical facilities)	\$300
CB Bridges (if required by clinical practice partner)	\$40

### Senior Year

Books	\$500
Student clinical fee (per semester)*	\$524
Immunizations (if needed)	\$100-200
Criminal history background check	\$25
Drug screen	\$40
CPR recertification	\$50-85
Transportation (to and from clinical facilities)	\$150
Cap and gown rental	\$60
Baccalaureate degree pin (optional; cost varies depending on selection)	\$60-300
Senior pictures and class composite	\$40-150
R.N. licensure expenses (fee based on Indiana; other states will vary)	\$250
CB Bridges (if required by clinical practice partner)	\$40

\*Clinical fee: Students will be assessed a clinical fee every semester to cover expenses incurred for clinical experiences and supplemental instruction. The Fall semester fee also covers the cost of liability insurance.

Clinical fee for Accelerated Second Degree students is \$945 per semester.

## **Financial Assistance / Nursing Scholarships / Awards**

All financial aid for students at Purdue is processed through the Division of Financial Aid (DFA) located in Stewart Center (STEW), Room G18.

Most types of aid are based on financial need and satisfactory academic progress. Financial aid may be in the form of grants, fee remissions, scholarships, outside awards, or loans.

Specific financial aid questions can best be answered by the highly trained individuals in the DFA. Staff members are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 765-494-5050. The office also has a walk-in service program in SCHL Room 305 during these same hours. An email inquiry service allows you to ask questions and communicate with financial aid counselors. The email address is [facontact@purdue.edu](mailto:facontact@purdue.edu). Urgent questions are best handled via a phone call or personal visit.

There are a number of University-wide scholarships based on information you submit through FAFSA. If additional information is required, Purdue will contact those students being considered for such scholarships as Trustees Scholarship, Presidential Scholarship, Marquis Scholarship and Purdue Promise. While these are first awarded at the time of admission, they are renewable based on meeting each award's criteria.

### **Nursing Scholarships**

A number of scholarships have been established specifically for students in the nursing program. Most of these are awarded on the basis of need and scholastic performance. They are primarily administered through the Division of Financial Aid. Your academic advisor is also a good person with whom to talk about scholarship opportunities.

### **School Awards**

The School of Nursing has several awards that recognize nursing student achievements. They include:

#### **Ethel Crockett Epple Award**

Established in 1975 by Ethel Crockett Epple's son, Robert "Doc" Epple, this award is given annually to the outstanding senior nursing student who has demonstrated safe, competent, professional nursing care. This award is voted on by faculty and a cash award and plaque are presented to the student.

#### **Epple Outstanding Achievement Award**

Award is given annually to an outstanding senior nursing student. This award is voted on by faculty and a cash award and plaque are presented.

#### **Epple Student Service Award**

Award is given annually to a senior nursing student. This award is voted on by the Student Affairs Committee and a cash award and plaque are presented.

### **Academic Honors**

Students can distinguish themselves scholastically each semester.

Dean's List for any semester, to be cited, one must:

1. Have at least 12 hours included in the cumulative GPA
2. Have at least 6 hours included in the semester GPA
3. Attain at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA
4. Have at least a 3.0 current GPA

Semester Honors, to be cited, one must:

1. Have at least 6 hours included in the semester GPA
2. Attain at least a 3.5 semester GPA
3. Have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA

To be considered eligible to receive honor cords to wear during commencement, students are required to complete a minimum of 65 credit hours included in the graduation index for baccalaureate degree, with a minimum graduation index in the upper 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the graduates in each school, provided the index is at least a 3.30.

The upper ten percent of the May graduates in each of the University's various schools receive their degrees with distinction. Of the graduates who thus qualify, the upper three-tenths of the baccalaureate graduates receive their degree with highest distinction.

## **Commencement / Career Planning / Alumni Opportunities**

### **Commencement**

Commencement ceremonies are held in Elliot Hall of Music. Seating is limited. Candidates for graduation will receive ticket and commencement information from the Office of the Registrar during their final semester at Purdue.

### **Recognition Ceremony**

School of Nursing graduates are honored in a May or December Recognition Ceremony. Nursing faculty and staff, as well as family members and friends, are invited to celebrate with seniors and graduate students at this special event. A highlight of the ceremony is the presentation of the Purdue University School of Nursing pin to each graduating senior. The graduates should wear their black-and-gold nursing pin with pride, as it is an indication and symbol of accomplishment.

Several awards also are presented at the ceremony. The recipients are selected by the School of Nursing Student Affairs Committee or the Graduate Admission Committee.

### **NCLEX Examination**

Following successful completion of the program of study, the nursing graduate may apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for licensure as a registered nurse (RN). Purdue Nursing graduates consistently pass the NCLEX at/or above the national average.

There are specific requirements for eligibility to take the examination. Any person who applies to the Indiana State Board of Nursing for a license to practice as a registered nurse must not have been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the person's ability to competently practice or have committed an act that would constitute a ground for disciplinary sanction under Indiana statutes. In addition upon applying for licensure the individual must report information about whether or not they have: 1) been arrested, 2) entered into a diversion agreement, 3) been convicted of, 4) pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor or felony in any state.

Eligibility requirements in other states may vary. You may request a copy of eligibility requirements by contacting the Board of Nursing in the state in which you are seeking licensure.

The state of Indiana, according to Indiana Code 25-1-5-11, requires that an individual who applies for a license or who holds a license issued by the Indiana State Board of Nursing shall provide the individual's Social Security number to the agency [Indiana State Board of Nursing]. This means that to be licensed in Indiana one must have a valid social security number. Any student who does not have a valid social security number is not

eligible to be licensed in the state.

### **Career Planning**

School of Nursing graduates have an excellent job placement record. Workshops held during the year help students prepare resumes, develop interviewing techniques, and polish job-seeking skills. The School of Nursing also keeps current files and posts information about job opportunities and graduate school programs. An annual School of Nursing Career Fair allows students to meet face-to-face with recruiters from healthcare institutions across the United States. The Purdue Center for Career Opportunities also offers placement information and services.

### **Alumni Opportunities**

The College of Health and Human Sciences Alumni Association is an active member of the Purdue Alumni Association. As a member of the Purdue Alumni Association, a portion of your membership dues are shared with the College to support activities and events hosted by the HHS Alumni Board. Membership in the Purdue Alumni Association is open to all alumni and friends – be sure to tell them HHS sent you!

Events are held annually, specifically for Nursing alumni and for all HHS alumni. Events include conferences and lectures; alumni awards; Spring Fest; and serving on the Alumni Board, to name a few. We hope that you will choose to get involved and stay connected.

## Resources

The School of Nursing is housed in the 18,095-square-foot Helen R. Johnson Hall of Nursing with additional faculty office space in Hampton Hall (HAMP), Suite 2215. The School prides itself on keeping its facility clean, neat, and professional looking. Anyone entering the building is expected to cooperate with these standards. The Nursing Annex, located at 2550 Northwestern Avenue, is an experiential learning space designed exclusively for our sophomore-level nursing students. The Annex has a modern classroom that provides an immersive environment where theory seamlessly merges with practice. There are two well-equipped labs within the Nursing Annex where hands-on instruction occurs to allow students the opportunity to practice essential nursing techniques under the guidance of experienced instructors. These dynamic spaces offer a safe and supportive environment to sharpen clinical skills and prepare for practice. The students have access to the latest advancements in nursing education, including high-fidelity manikins and working hospital beds. There are also five debriefing classrooms. These classrooms allow students to reflect and debrief vital aspects of the learning process. The classrooms are in a confidential setting where the students can engage in meaningful discussions with peers and instructors and analyze the simulated experiences, review performance, and gain valuable insights that will enhance future patient interactions.

### Center for Nursing Education and Simulation (CNES)

**The Center for Nursing Education and Simulation (CNES)**, is located on the first floor of Johnson Hall, is available to all nursing students, as an environment that attempts to mimic realistic healthcare environments. The CNES is home to high fidelity simulators, which offer life-like experiences such as breathing, talking, and lung and heart sounds, as well as other static manikins which aid in learning general nursing skills. Clinical classes are held at various times in the CNES, but students are welcome to visit during non-class times and get assistance with skill development or to work on class projects with other nursing peers. The CNES is committed to providing active learning opportunities that will aid the students in skill development and other learning needs.

### Nursing Center for Family Health (NCFH)

The NCFH, a nurse managed clinic serving Purdue faculty, staff and retirees located in the Lyles-Porter building primarily provides health and wellness activities. It is a clinical site for graduate and undergraduate nursing students and a cadre of other College of Health and Human Sciences students. Students gain experiences in health promotions, ambulatory healthcare and interprofessional education. While NCFH is the home base for operations, staff and students complete health screening activities at many locations across campus. NCFH is collaborating with PUSH on several projects focused on student health.



### North Central Nursing Clinics (NCNC)

Established in July 1995 by the School of Nursing, the Family Health Clinic in Delphi has developed a history and reputation for offering quality healthcare in the community for over twenty-five years. The initial grant from the Indiana State Department of Health was to demonstrate the efficiency of nurse-managed clinics in providing primary healthcare and improving community health with a focus on rural medically underserved and vulnerable

populations. The clinic then expanded opening a satellite location in Monon in 2006. In January 2016, the clinic in Burlington opened. The 4th clinic opened in Wolcott in June 2016. In February 2009, the Family Health Clinic received Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) designation and established a community-based Board of Directors. In June 2014, the clinic received the National Committee for Quality Assurance Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Level 2 designation. In 2022, 8,345 patients were seen for a total of 22,058 patient encounters.



### Information Technology at Purdue (ITaP)

The Teaching and Learning group of ITaP provides support to enhance the learning experiences of Purdue students. Purdue University uses the BrightSpace System, an online course environment that allows faculty to deliver course materials, communicate with students, and create learning activities. Students in many courses submit assigned homework and papers through BrightSpace.

At [ITaP](#), students can find resources to help conquer technology challenges. Whether you're a newbie on campus or a seasoned student working on a 3rd degree at Purdue, issues may arise with technology. Three methods of assistance are available: consultations, tutorials, and Gold Answer articles.

Tutorials are available for multiple software programs, including the university provided e-mail service that is available by default for all students. Visit the ITaP website for instructions if you would like to use an e-mail client like Outlook or Thunderbird.

Specific information for students including information about:

- Career Accounts (your Purdue email address that is used by the School and University to communicate with students)
- BrightSpace (web-based management and delivery of course content for all campuses in the Purdue system)
- Discounts on software and hardware
- Equipment loans
- Filelocker for the temporary, secure storage system and sharing of information

PAL 3.0 is offered as a means of using the wireless network at Purdue if you bring a laptop to campus. Policies regarding the use of a laptop vary from course to course.

## **Purdue Libraries**

The library catalog ([Purdue Library Website](#)) is the key to finding books and journals in the Purdue University Libraries. The Libraries' lists of hundreds of subject-specific databases and electronic journals are also found on the home page. Users may access the system from any computer with network connections. Remote access to the databases and electronic journals requires linking to the resource from the Libraries website and entering a valid Purdue Career Account and password.

## **Online Writing Lab (OWL)**

The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University ( [OWL Writing Lab](#) ) houses writing resources and instructional material, and provide these as a free service of the Writing Lab at Purdue. Students, members of the community, and users worldwide will find information to assist with many writing projects. Teachers and trainers may use this material for in-class and out-of-class instruction.

The Purdue University Writing Lab and Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) assists clients in their development as writers—no matter what their skill level—with on-campus consultations, online participation, and community engagement. The Purdue Writing Lab serves the Purdue, West Lafayette, campus and coordinates with local literacy initiatives. The Purdue OWL offers global support through online reference materials and services.

## School of Nursing Policies

### Student Services Mission Statement

The Office of Student Services provides guidance, support, and resources to nursing students, as well as to parents, prospective students, and to the School of Nursing faculty and staff. We are committed to supporting each student in developing and implementing an individualized plan for academic success and career development.

### Academic Advising

Each student has an assigned academic advisor for the entire program. You will work with your advisor to plan your course of study and seek their help with any academic questions or problems. Advisors assist in planning schedules and must approve the courses that students select at registration. They have information about schedules, electives, and course requirements.

Academic advisors are prepared to inform students about extracurricular activities available at the School of Nursing and at Purdue. They also can provide support and guidance throughout the college years and beyond. In the School of Nursing Student Services Office, printed materials are available on a wide variety of subjects including nursing career options, taking the NCLEX examination, post-graduate opportunities, other schools on campus, and student services available on campus.

The staff in the Office of the Dean of Students also is available to offer help with personal, academic, or other problems. You are encouraged to seek help as soon as you recognize the need.

### Scheduling Priorities

1. Students in the normal sequence of the curriculum have priority for spaces in the NUR courses.
2. Students who are off-sequence will be considered only if space and scheduling are available. Selection for limited spaces in NUR courses will be based on the current GPA.
3. Students who must repeat a nursing course will be re-enrolled in that course as space is available. This may mean extending their program because of space and scheduling limitations.

### Attendance

Students are expected to be present for every class in which they are enrolled. All matters relative to attendance, including the make-up of missed work, are to be arranged by the student after consulting with the instructor. Only the instructor can excuse a student from classes or course responsibilities. In the event of an illness, accident, or emergency, the student should make direct contact with the instructor before a class or examination takes place. If the instructor cannot be reached in person or by telephone, the student should leave a message with the instructor's administrative assistant or voice mail. At the beginning of the semester the instructor will indicate the policy for handling class absences and the effect of absences on course grades. In the case of the need for an extended absence, the student should also contact the Office of the Dean of Students.

### Academic Dishonesty

Every student must respect the right of all to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students must adhere to a standard of academic conduct, demonstrating respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of Purdue University. As a student in the Purdue School of Nursing:

- I will not represent someone else's work as my own (plagiarism).
- I will not cheat, nor will I aid in other's cheating.
- I will be honest in my academic endeavors.
- I understand that if I am found responsible for academic misconduct, I will be subject to academic misconduct procedures and sanctions as noted in the Student Code of Conduct.

After careful investigation of any case of academic dishonesty, including a hearing with the offender, a penalty will be imposed if appropriate. Generally, a first offense will result in penalties ranging from failure on an examination in which cheating was detected to failure in a course in which cheating or plagiarism was detected. A second offense will, in most cases, result in dismissal from the School of Nursing.

**OSHA [Occupational Health and Safety Administration] Policy**

Nursing students may be exposed to blood and other body fluids of patients/clients during clinical experiences. In an effort to avoid transmission of infectious diseases, the School requires that all students receive instruction in the use of universal precautions before the first clinical experience requiring direct patient/client contact and annually thereafter. Universal precautions must be followed at all times and failure to adhere to this policy may result in failure of the course and dismissal from the School.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 10, 2005

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** May 2010, Oct 2013, April 2021

**NEXT REVIEW DUE:** Feb 2026

**Academic Standards Policy (2022 and before)**

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines/academic standards for the students enrolled in the Purdue University School of Nursing Program.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** Scholastic Indexes - The University, as described in the Academic Procedures Manual, determines the course grades and their interpretations, the weighted values (4.00 grading scale) and the indexes. Courses having non-weighted grades of pass and satisfactory are given as credit only.

**POLICY:**

- I. The scholastic standing of the undergraduate students in the program leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing shall be determined as identified in this document.
  - A. The graduation index (cumulative index) is the average of all weighted grades received in all courses taken.
  - B. The semester index is the average of all weighted grades received in each semester or summer session.
  - C. The science core index is the average of all weighted grades received in:
    1. BIOL 20300, 20400, 22100
    2. CHM 11100, 11200
  - D. The nursing level indexes are the average of all weighted grades received in all NUR courses in each level. Level I includes those required at the freshman and sophomore level; Level II, those required at the junior level; and Level III, those required at the senior level.
  - E. **Excluded from the indexes are grades in courses taken at another institution.** A course taken at a Purdue University regional campus will be entered with a grade. The science core index for students who transfer to Purdue from another university will incorporate the applicable science courses taken at the university from which the student transferred.
  - F. Failing, not passing, or unsatisfactory grades may be given for the following conditions:
    1. Failure to meet course objectives.
    2. Academic dishonesty (refer to Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals).
    3. Unsafe clinical behavior.
  
- II. Academic Requirements for a baccalaureate degree in nursing include earning a grade of C or better (not C-) in all required and selective courses. According to the Indiana State Board of Nursing Regulations (2011) this includes, but is not limited to: anatomy, physiology, chemistry, microbiology, nutrition, English, communications, psychology, sociology, and statistics to be a candidate for the registered nurse licensing exam.

- III. The faculty requires that all candidates for the degree will have met the following requirements:
- A. Achieve a minimum graduation index of 2.00 as required by the university.
  - B. Achieve an average of 2.70 or better in the science core index to progress to the junior courses (Level II). Beginning students are required to complete at least eight (8) credit hours of the science core courses at the West Lafayette campus. Students beginning the curriculum with AP, transfer, and/or dual credit for some of their science courses may have this requirement reviewed by the Undergraduate Program Director on a case by case basis.
  - C. Achieve an average of 2.75 or better in all nursing level indexes to progress to the next nursing level and achieve an average of 2.75 or better in Nursing level III to graduate.
  - D. Nursing courses must be taken in the sequence indicated in the curriculum plan. A student must complete the entire level of nursing courses before progressing to the next level.
  - E. Should a student fail to meet the 2.70 science core index or 2.75 Nursing level index requirement, the following will occur:
    1. The student will be mandated to repeat a course or courses in the science core or nursing level within one semester (fall or spring) to achieve the required GPA. (unless extenuating circumstances, i.e., illness or injury)
    2. Students who fail to earn the required science core index or Nursing Level Index after repeating a course or courses within one semester (fall or spring) shall be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
    3. The student will lose placement in clinical rotation and preference for placement will be given to students meeting the GPA requirement.
    4. When the GPA average is achieved, the student will progress as space is available. Reentering the clinical rotation may require two semesters to achieve.
  - F. Failure to complete the nursing course sequence jeopardizes student progression. The student will progress only as space is available.

IV. Scholastic Deficiencies

- A. Academic probation: The student who earns below a C in a required or selective course (a C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF) is placed on School of Nursing probation.
- B. Academic dismissal: A student shall be dismissed from the school of nursing under any one the following conditions.
  1. Receipt of the third C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in required or selective non-nursing courses.
  2. Receipt of the second C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in a repeated nursing course.
  3. Receipt of a C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in a second required nursing course.

- V. Readmission to the School of Nursing occurs only rarely and will be considered on an individual basis. *Applicants for readmissions compete with the entire pool of candidates for admission to the School. This pool is extremely competitive.*

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**  
**WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**  
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 14, 2023

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** April 14, 2023

**NEXT REVIEW DUE:** April 2028

**Academic Standards Policy (Fall 2023 and after)**

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines/academic standards for the students enrolled in the Purdue University School of Nursing Program.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** Scholastic Indexes - The University, as described in the Academic Procedures Manual, determines the course grades and their interpretations, the weighted values (4.00 grading scale) and the indexes. Courses having non-weighted grades of pass and satisfactory are given as credit only.

**POLICY:**

- I. The scholastic standing of the undergraduate students in the program leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing shall be determined as identified in this document.
  - A. The graduation index (cumulative index) is the average of all weighted grades received in all courses taken.
  - B. The semester index is the average of all weighted grades received in each semester or summer session.
  - C. The science core index is the average of all weighted grades received in:
    1. BIOL 20300, 20400, 22100
    2. CHM 11100, 11200
  - D. The nursing level indexes are the average of all weighted grades received in all NUR courses in each level. Level I includes those required at the freshman and sophomore level; Level II, those required at the junior level; and Level III, those required at the senior level.
  - E. **Excluded from the indexes are grades in courses taken at another institution.** A course taken at a Purdue University regional campus will be entered with a grade. The science core index for students who transfer to Purdue from another university will incorporate the applicable science courses taken at the university from which the student transferred.
  - F. Failing, not passing, or unsatisfactory grades may be given for the following conditions:
    1. Failure to meet course objectives.
    2. Academic dishonesty (refer to Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals).
    3. Unsafe clinical behavior.
  
- II. Academic Requirements for a baccalaureate degree in nursing include earning a grade of C or better (not C-) in all required and selective courses. According to the Indiana State Board of Nursing Regulations (2011) this includes, but is not limited to: anatomy, physiology, chemistry, microbiology, nutrition, English, communications, psychology, sociology, and statistics to be a candidate for the registered nurse licensing exam.

- III. The faculty requires that all candidates for the degree will have met the following requirements:
- A. Achieve a minimum graduation index of 2.00 as required by the university.
  - B. Achieve an average of 2.70 or better in the science core index to progress to the junior courses (Level II). Beginning students are required to complete at least eight (8) credit hours of the science core courses at the West Lafayette campus. Students beginning the curriculum with AP, transfer, and/or dual credit for some of their science courses may have this requirement reviewed by the Undergraduate Program Director on a case by case basis.
  - C. Achieve an average of 2.75 or better in all nursing level indexes to progress to the next nursing level and achieve an average of 2.75 or better in Nursing level III to graduate.
  - D. Nursing courses must be taken in the sequence indicated in the curriculum plan. A student must complete the entire level of nursing courses before progressing to the next level.
  - E. Should a student fail to meet the 2.70 science core index or 2.75 Nursing level index requirement, the following will occur:
    1. The student will be mandated to repeat a course or courses in the science core or nursing level within one semester (fall or spring) to achieve the required GPA.(unless extenuating circumstances, i.e., illness or injury)
    2. Students who fail to earn the required science core index or Nursing Level Index after repeating a course or courses within one semester (fall or spring) shall be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
    3. The student will lose placement in clinical rotation and preference for placement will be given to students meeting the GPA requirement.
    4. When the GPA average is achieved, the student will progress as space is available. Reentering the clinical rotation may require two semesters to achieve.
  - F. Failure to complete the nursing course sequence jeopardizes student progression. The student will progress only as space is available.

IV. Scholastic Deficiencies

- A. Academic probation: The student who earns below a C in a required or selective course (a C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF) is placed on School of Nursing probation.
- B. Academic dismissal: A student shall be dismissed from the school of nursing under any one the following conditions.
  1. Receipt of the third C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in any combination of required or selective nursing or non-nursing courses.  
OR
  2. Receipt of the second C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in a repeated nursing course.  
OR
  3. Receipt of a C-, D, F, NP, WF or IF grade in a second required nursing course.

- V. Readmission to the school of nursing occurs only rarely and will be considered on an individual basis. *Applicants for readmissions compete with the entire pool of candidates for admission to the School. This pool is extremely competitive.*

## **Progression Policy Addendum for the Second Degree Accelerated Program**

Nursing courses must be taken in the sequence indicated in the curriculum plan. A student must earn at least a grade of C in each nursing course before progressing in the nursing sequence.

- Failure of a nursing course in the second degree program results in the student's dismissal from the program. The student can re-apply to the second degree program for the following year. There is no guarantee that a spot will be available.
- If the student re-applies, only one nursing course may be repeated, and it may be repeated only one time. A second nursing course failure results in final dismissal from the program.
- Courses required for the baccalaureate degree curriculum cannot be taken on a pass/not pass option.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 8, 2012

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** May 10, 2017

**NEXT REVIEW DUE:** February 2027

**Professional Behaviors Policy  
Undergraduate and Graduate Students**

Introduction

The nursing profession insists its members be responsible, accountable, self-directed, ethical and professional in behavior. Nursing has earned the public's trust by holding firm to these behaviors.

The process of becoming a professional begins with you entering Purdue's nursing program. Students demonstrate professionalism by attending and being punctual for classes and clinical experiences, by exhibiting courteous behavior, and by being prepared for and being fully engaged in class/clinical assignments/activities.

The University's Student Code of Conduct that establishes expected behavior for all students notes, *It is the responsibility of all Purdue students to live by this code, not out of fear of the consequences of its violation, but out of personal self-respect.* Additionally, the School of Nursing faculty believe student integrity, trustworthiness and honesty are vital concerns linked to positive patient outcomes and patient safety.

The foremost privilege and responsibility of a professional nurse is to selflessly serve patients/clients. Given such an important privilege and responsibility, nursing students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner commensurate with a health professional. Most nursing students arrive on campus with a well-developed value system that is further refined as they progress through their college experience in general and their professional education in particular. As a result, while there is little emphasis on disciplinary procedures, there are certain behaviors, such as dishonesty, lack of personal responsibility, and substance abuse, which will not be tolerated and will receive swift and decisive attention. So there is no ambiguity with regard to unprofessional and unacceptable behaviors, this policy and the policy on alcohol and drugs use address behaviors that fall into these categories.

Students should not only demonstrate appropriate professional and ethical behaviors but should also expect such behaviors from fellow students. As it is the responsibility of a professional nurse in practice to adhere to standards of practice, requirements of the law, and to report unprofessional, unethical, or unlawful behaviors, it is the responsibility of students in the nursing program to report suspicious actions or behaviors of others. Students who observe unprofessional or unethical behaviors are encouraged to address the situation directly with their fellow student and are responsible to report the conduct or behavior to the course faculty or program head. These conversations are considered confidential.

While at Purdue, nursing students are engaged in a number of professional relationships and therefore have obligations to different individuals and groups. These groups include patients and their families, other health professionals, the profession itself, fellow students, community partners, clinical facility staff, university personnel and other campus organizations in which the student participates.

The School's clinical partners also speak to professional behavior expectations as noted in the following excerpt from the agreement between the School of Nursing and an affiliated clinical agency.

*Affiliating Agency reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to exclude from its facility any students whose work or conduct may reflect discredit to the Affiliating Agency or the program [School of Nursing] or whose progress is not satisfactory to Affiliating Agency.*

As a health professional program, the School of Nursing has a responsibility to state nursing licensing boards to attest that students professional preparedness and character warrant their applying for licensure at the conclusion of the educational program. Licensure protects the public from harm by setting minimal qualifications and competencies for safe entry-level practice.

### Professional Behaviors Required of Nursing Students

1. **Nondiscrimination:** nursing students shall provide care to patients/clients without discriminating based on race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation or disability. Nursing students shall demonstrate respectfulness of patients'/clients' values, culture and religion. Becoming culturally competent in delivering health care means students need to understand their own world views and those of the patients/clients they encounter. Adapting to different cultural beliefs and practices and communicating respect for others viewpoints is part of being culturally competent. Students are expected to obtain cultural information and apply it to their practice.

2. **Confidentiality:** nursing students shall be educated about and adhere to HIPAA policies. Health records may not be removed from a health care institution. Students may extract information from the record to direct care and will be instructed by faculty how to handle de-identified information. Students must follow organizational policy about copying parts of the chart.

3. **Relationship building:** students should always strive to establish a therapeutic and caring relationship with patients/clients. This professional relationship is based on a trust and mutual respect that must not be violated. Failing to be prepared for clinical, failing to assess and evaluate a patient's/client's status, and failing to institute a nursing intervention for which the student has taken responsibility is a violation of this trust.

4. **Representation:** nursing students shall accurately represent themselves as being a student to others including, but not limited to, colleagues, faculty members, representatives of the University and their affiliates, partner institutions, community partners, patients/clients, nurses and other members of the health care team. Proper representation is important for any student work regardless of how it is communicated (in writing, orally, or posted on some medium such as YouTube).

5. **Assessment of personal competence:** nursing students shall seek consultation and supervision whenever their ability to carry out patient/client care is inadequate because of lack of knowledge or experience. Failing to obtain instruction or supervision when implementing nursing procedures or practices for which one lacks the educational preparation, ability, knowledge or experience is unethical.

6. **Personal responsibility:** nursing students must take responsibility for their own actions and set a high standard for self and work to achieve established goals. Misrepresentation of physical presence or of participation in clinical experiences is unethical. One must also take responsibility for using sound judgment when ill if status would put others at an unacceptable exposure risk. This is particularly important when working with individuals with compromised immune systems, pregnant women, and newborns and their families. If you have reason to believe you have been exposed to a contagious illness, have active symptoms or were diagnosed with an infectious disease, notify your clinical faculty member to determine your best action. Personal responsibility also includes reporting unethical or inappropriate behavior of fellow students or colleagues that may jeopardize patient safety.

7. **Professional demeanor:** nursing students are representatives of Purdue University School of Nursing and must realize their behavior may positively and negatively affect the judgment of others about the School. Nursing students are expected to be thoughtful and professional when interacting with faculty and staff, patients/clients and their families, other students, the public, and all members of the health care team. When acting as a Purdue nursing student, professional behavior is required both on and off campus, in digital environments and on social media.

Expected Student Behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Using critical thinking skills in determining one's actions in the clinical setting
- Demonstrating empathy in the care of others
- Accepting responsibility for one's own actions, including preparing sufficiently for class and clinical
- Being respectful of other students and faculty by not engaging in activities that might disrupt class including but not limited to cellphone use, inappropriate web browsing, and side conversations
- Adhering to the School's dress code and having a neat, clean appearance. This includes responding promptly when feedback is given by a faculty member that one's dress, jewelry or hygiene (including fingernails) is outside the bounds of the dress code
- Attending (arriving and leaving as scheduled) orientations, class, and clinical
- Taking exams as scheduled and completing assignments on time, including patient/client care
- Responding appropriately and in a timely fashion to constructive criticism and feedback from faculty, clinical site staff, and peers
- Giving prior notification in writing or voice mail to faculty if unable to meet commitments and following up with faculty regarding potential make-up requirements
- Dealing with others (peers, faculty, staff, patients/clients and their families) in an honest, respectful, sensitive and nonjudgmental manner that communicates respect for individual differences
  - Nonuse of inappropriate language, gestures or remarks
  - Nonuse of intimidation, coercion or deception in working with patients/clients, families, staff, other students, faculty, and university staff
- Demonstrating teamwork and helping behavior for colleagues that exemplifies an assertive, rather than aggressive approach
- Respecting others' space and time through actions such as turning off cell phones, avoiding disruptive sidebar conversations, and refraining from texting others in class and clinical settings
- Recognizing nurses and nursing students have professional boundaries and it is possible to be either over-involved or under-involved with patients. *As a health care professional, a nurse strives to inspire the confidence of clients, treat all clients and other health care providers professionally, and promote the clients' independence. Clients can expect a nurse to act in their best interest and to respect their dignity. This means that a nurse abstains from obtaining personal gain at the client's expense and refrains from inappropriate involvement in the client's personal relationships* (NCSBN, 2011, p. 2).
- Recognizing it is unethical to disparage to anyone the professional competence, knowledge, qualifications or services of a colleague. The manner in which one expresses criticism should reflect the demeanor of aspiring professionals. Faculty are open to receiving and responding to constructive suggestions. Concerns should be expressed to the appropriate faculty member. This presents an opportunity to refine one's skill at providing feedback to others. When possible, discussion should occur in person rather than email because of the inability to amplify or clarify messages. This discussion should happen in a timely manner to allow for appropriate action to be taken by the receiving party.
- Abiding by *Purdue University Code of Honor* and *Regulations Governing Student Conduct*. Academic honesty is an expectation of students in the School of Nursing as it is for all Purdue students. Experience suggests that some students may not appreciate that academic honesty is viewed by faculty in the same light as honesty in professional nursing practice. The School's philosophy, guidelines, and procedures for assuring

academic honesty and for dealing with alleged incidents of academic dishonesty are consistent with those of the University. Refer to: *Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students* available on the Office of Dean of Students website. A number of examples of academic dishonesty are spelled out in this document, including providing answers to others during an exam or allowing others to copy a paper or assignment. If academic dishonesty occurs in any form, immediate and appropriate disciplinary actions, as seen fit by School of Nursing faculty and the Office of the Dean of Students, will be taken.

- A Student Honor Pledge was voted on by Student Government and endorsed by the University Senate Spring 2017. All students are expected to uphold the pledge stating, *As a Boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together – we are Purdue.*

### Review of Unprofessional Behaviors

A faculty member may conduct or ask for a review of a student's conduct. Potential consequences of unprofessional behavior include reduction in a grade, failure in the course/clinical, dismissal from the School of Nursing, and expulsion from the University. The School may dismiss a student from the nursing program if the student's character does not reflect professional tenets of nursing, such as cheating, lying or falsifying patient information. An academic action may be overturned on an appeal through the Grade Appeal Process only if the academic action was arbitrary or capricious, meaning that not all the important facts were considered.

All behaviors inconsistent with those articulated in this policy will be documented and such documentation will remain a part of the student's record throughout the nursing program. An accumulation of four minor occurrences, or any occurrence that potentially places the client, self or others in immediate danger, will result in a full review of the student's record. A faculty member may request a review for a single unsafe/unsatisfactory occurrence that does not create potential danger if the faculty member believes the behavior is significant enough to warrant a review.

To further clarify circumstances for action, the following examples are provided.

#### **A student may be removed from the clinical site for any of these behaviors**

- Failure to come to clinical prepared including inadequate knowledge of treatment, medications, or plan of care
- Habitual tardiness or absence (excused or unexcused)
- Unprofessional communication behaviors (examples: personal texting, checking social media; using profane language with patients, visitors, staff, or faculty)
- Failure to treat others with respect, honesty and dignity
- Inappropriate professional dress and appearance (includes not being appropriately dressed and ready to begin class/clinical on time)
- Inability to implement empathetic care
- Inattentiveness to clinical work as exhibited by being unavailable for patient/client care, engaging in personal discussions, texting, etc.
- Failure to implement appropriate action to ensure safety of patients/clients
- Exhibiting behavior(s) deemed unprofessional by faculty including being disruptive and or refusing to follow faculty directions
- Arriving at clinical setting under the influence of alcohol or other substance that can impair judgment (Refer to the School of Nursing policy on suspicion of use of drugs and alcohol and Purdue's drug free policy for students, faculty, and staff)
- Misrepresentation of physical presence or participation in clinical experience
- Breach in patient confidentiality or any HIPAA violation (privacy or security)
- Misuse or unauthorized use of computer resources or information
- Purposefully destroying property at the clinical site

- Stealing supplies or drugs
- Demonstrating unsafe clinical practice that places patient/client/family/staff/faculty in physical or emotional jeopardy, including neglect, abuse, or purposely injuring others
  - Physical jeopardy is the risk of causing physical harm
  - Emotional jeopardy means that the student creates an environment of anxiety or distress which puts the patient/client/family at risk for emotional or psychological harm
- Failure to comply with course or clinical site policies and protocols

**A student may be asked to leave class for any of these behaviors**

- Tardiness
- Disruptive or disrespectful behavior
- Inattentiveness to classroom work

**Consequences of Unprofessional Behavior**

When problem behaviors are identified, the involved faculty member will:

1. Counsel the student on the unacceptable behavior indicating the type of behavioral change that is expected
2. Document behavior, expected response and timeframe for remediation

If behavior is a major infraction, the student will be counseled by the faculty and referred to the School’s Office of Student Services where the student will meet with an academic advisor and the director of the program in which the student is enrolled (e.g., Director of Undergraduate Program, Director of Graduate Program). The infraction will also be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

If behavior from a minor infraction does not change within the given timeframe, faculty will document the incidents and the attempted interventions using the protocol for resolution of student issues. The documentation will be reviewed by the appropriate program director and a meeting with an academic advisor and/or applicable program director will be scheduled. Sanctions may be applied at this time.

Students whose behavior is unprofessional will receive School of Nursing sanctions that may include grade reduction, course failure, suspension or dismissal from the class, suspension or dismissal from the School of Nursing. The Office of the Dean of Students may also put sanctions in place such as probation, suspension or dismissal from the University (refer to *Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals*).

**Supporting Documents**

- American Nurses Association (2015). *Code of ethics for nurses and interpretive statements*. Available from [www.ana.org](http://www.ana.org); View only version: <http://nursingworld.org/DocumentVault/Ethics-1/Code-of-Ethics-for-Nurses.html>
- Franciscan Alliance (2016). *Agreement of Affiliation Purdue University and Franciscan Alliance, Inc.*
- National Council of State Boards of Nursing (2022). Professional boundaries. Available at: ProfessionalBoundaries | NCSBN
- National Student Nurses’ Association, Inc. (2015). *Code of professional conduct*. Available at [www.nсна.org](http://www.nсна.org)
- NSNA-Code-of-Ethics.pdf(ecpi.net)
- Purdue University (2011). Purdue University Student Code of Conduct. Available at: Student Conduct - Purdue University - Acalog ACMS™
- Purdue University (1998). *Alcohol- and drug-free campus and workplace policy (C-44)*. Available at: <https://www.purdue.edu/policies/facilities-safety/c-44.html>
- Purdue University School of Nursing (2022). *Reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol policy and testing guidelines for nursing students*. Available on SON shared drive.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 2011

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** May 2011, May 2017

**NEXT REVIEW DUE:** February 2027

**Social Media Policy**

**I. PURPOSE:**

The School of Nursing goes supports the use of social media to reach audiences important to the University such as students, prospective students, alumni, faculty, staff, practice partners, and healthcare professionals. The University presence or participation on social media sites is guided by university policy (University-Sponsored Social Media Outlets, VII.C.2). This policy applies to School of Nursing students who engage in internet conversations for school-related purposes or school-related activities such as interactions in or about clinical and didactic course activities. Distribution of sensitive and confidential information is protected under HIPAA and FERPA whether discussed through traditional communication channels or through social media.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

Social media are defined as mechanisms for communication and information gathering/sharing designed to be disseminated through social interaction, created using highly accessible and scalable publishing techniques. Social media is commonly thought of as a group of Internet-based applications that are built on the ideological and technological foundations of the web that allows the creation and exchange of user-generated content. Examples include but are not limited to LinkedIn, Wikipedia, Second Life, Flickr, blogs, podcasts, RSS feeds, Allnurses.com, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, MySpace, Snapchat, and Instagram.

While this policy may need to be modified as new technologies and social networking tools emerge, the spirit of the policy will remain the protection of sensitive and confidential information. Social media often spans traditional boundaries between professional and personal relationships and thus takes additional vigilance to make sure that one is protecting personal, professional, and university reputations.

As students you will want to represent the University and the School in a fair, accurate and legal manner while protecting the brand and reputation of the institution. When publishing information on social media sites, remain cognizant that information may be public for anyone to see and can be traced back to you as an individual. Since social media typically enables two-way communications with your audience, you have less control about how materials you post will be used by others. As one person remarked, “If you wouldn’t put it on a flier, carve it into cement in the quad or want it published on the front of the Wall Street Journal, don’t broadcast it via social media channels.”

**II. POLICY:**

- Protect confidential, sensitive, and proprietary information: Do not post or share confidential or proprietary information about the university, faculty, staff, students, clinical facilities, patients/clients, or others with whom one has contact in the role of a Purdue University School of Nursing student.
- Respect copyright and fair use. When posting or sharing, be mindful of the copyright and intellectual property rights of others and of the university. For guidance, visit the University’s Libraries site or seek consultation through the Copyright Office, located within the Libraries, [University Copyright Policy Website](#).

- Do not use Purdue University or School of Nursing marks, such as logos and graphics, on personal social media sites. Do not use Purdue's name to promote a product, cause, or political party or candidate.
- Use of the School of Nursing marks (logos and graphics) for School sanctioned events must be approved (posters, fliers, postings) by administration.
- It is expected that during clinicals and classes use of a smartphone/tablet and other devices employed for social media will be used only as authorized by faculty and facility policy.
- No **personal** phone conversations or texting are allowed at any time while in patient/client areas or in the classroom. If the student needs to respond to an emergency text or phone call during class, the student is asked to leave the classroom and respond as deemed necessary.
- Use of computers (smartphones/tablets, notebooks, etc.) shall be restricted to note taking and classroom activities. Use otherwise is distracting for not only the student involved in the activity but those in the immediate area/vicinity.
- No student shall videotape, photograph or voice record professors or fellow students for personal or social media use without the express written permission of the faculty or fellow student(s). At NO time shall patients/clients be videotaped, photographed or voice recorded without written permission of the patient/client and of the facility.
- Be aware of your association with Purdue University in online social networks. If you identify yourself as a student, ensure your profile and related content is consistent with how you wish to present yourself to colleagues, clients, and potential employers. Identify your views as your own. When posting your point of view, you should neither claim nor imply you are speaking on Purdue's behalf, unless you are authorized to do so in writing.
- HIPAA guidelines must be followed at all times. Identifiable information concerning clients/clinical rotations must not be posted in any online forum or webpage.
- Ultimately, you have sole responsibility for what you post. Be smart about protecting yourself, your and others privacy, and confidential information.

### **III. PROCEDURE/CONSIDERATIONS:**

- There is no such thing as a "private" social media site. Search engines can turn up posts years after the publication date. Comments can be forwarded or copied. Archival systems save information, including deleted postings. If you feel angry or passionate about a subject, it's wise to delay posting until you are calm and clear-headed. Think twice before posting or sharing. If you are unsure about posting something or responding to a comment, ask your faculty. If you are about to publish something that makes you even the slightest bit uncertain, review the suggestions in this policy and seek guidance.
- Future employers hold you to a high standard of behavior. By identifying yourself as a Purdue University student through postings and personal web pages, you are connected to your colleagues, clinical agencies, and even clients/patients. Ensure that content associated with you is consistent with your professional goals.
- Nursing students are preparing for a profession which provides services to a public that also expects high standards of behavior.
- Respect your audience.
- Adhere to all applicable University and affiliated clinical sites' privacy and confidentiality policies.
- You are legally liable for what you post on your own site and on the sites of others. Individual bloggers have been held liable for commentary deemed to be proprietary, copyrighted, defamatory, libelous or obscene (as defined by the courts).
- Employers are increasingly conducting Web searches on job candidates before extending offers. Be sure that what you post today will not come back to haunt you.
- Monitor comments. You can set your site so that you can review and approve comments before they appear. This allows you to respond in a timely way to comments. It also allows you to delete spam comments and to block any individuals who repeatedly post offensive or frivolous comments.

- Don't use ethnic slurs, personal insults, obscenity, pornographic images, or engage in any conduct that would not be acceptable in the professional workplace.
- You are responsible for regularly reviewing the terms of this policy.

#### CONSEQUENCES:

- Violations of patient/client privacy with an electronic device will be subject to HIPAA procedures/guidelines and consequences.
- Students who share confidential or unprofessional information do so at the risk of disciplinary action including failure in a course and/or dismissal from the program.
- Each student is legally responsible for individual postings and may be subject to liability if individual postings are found defamatory, harassing, or in violation of any other applicable law. Students may also be liable if individual postings include confidential or copyrighted information (music, videos, text, etc.).

## Guidelines for Resolving Problems

Faculty strive to create an atmosphere conducive to learning. There should be mutual respect between faculty and students. If a problem should arise, the issue can usually be resolved by direct communication between the student and the professor. In order to facilitate the problem-solving process, it is suggested that the student take the following steps:

1. Speak with the professor and academic advisor as soon as a problem or concern arises.
2. Ask questions in class.
3. Seek help from the professor on an individual basis.
4. Do not ignore the situation, wait until the last minute, or expect someone else to initiate resolution of your problem.

### Procedure for Resolving Student/Faculty Conflicts

Conflict should be resolved where the conflict originates if possible, and a Conflict Resolution Form available in the Student Services office reflects that philosophy. At any step, you may be asked to meet any and all of the faculty you have spoken with already.

You are encouraged to resolve conflicts in the following manner:

**Step 1.** Schedule an appointment to talk with the professor of the course. Meet with the professor and obtain signature on Conflict Resolution Form. If conflict cannot be resolved at this level, proceed to Step 2. If the differences are resolved the process is concluded.

**Step 2.** Schedule an appointment with the Course Coordinator. Meet with the Course Coordinator and obtain signature on Conflict Resolution Form. If conflict cannot be resolved at this level, proceed to Step 3. If the differences are resolved the process is concluded.

**Step 3.** Schedule an appointment with the Undergraduate Program Director. Meet with the Director and obtain a signature on Conflict Resolution Form. If the difference is resolved, the process is concluded. If the conflict cannot be resolved, proceed to Step 4.

**Step 4.** Schedule an appointment with the School of Nursing Head. Because some issues may be time sensitive, an appointment with the Assistant Head may substitute. Unless the conflict violates Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) standards or procedures, the decision of the Head/Assistant Head is final. After obtaining the appropriate signature, file the form with your advisor.

### Grade Appeals

University policy states: "The grade appeals system affords recourse to a student who has evidence or believes that evidence exists to show that an inappropriate grade has been assigned as a result of prejudice, caprices, or other improper conditions such as mechanical error, or assignment of a grade inconsistent with those assigned to other students. Additionally, a student may challenge the reduction of a grade for alleged scholastic dishonesty."

Information about the appeal process may be obtained in the Office of Student Services, School of Nursing.

### All-Campus Emergency

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Any such changes will be posted on the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructor via email or phone.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 17, 2012

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** May 2022

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**Nursing Student Substance Abuse Policy**

Introduction

The School of Nursing, in conjunction with the University, strives to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our nursing students. The School of Nursing faculty/staff and students must also ensure the safety, health, and welfare of the patients/clients with whom we interact. A nursing student may never risk patient welfare by acting under the influence of drugs, including alcohol, in any situation in which student responsibility for others is required, or may be required.

Students who endanger patients or others through the use of alcohol or drugs, or who violate the trust granted to them, are subject to disciplinary action through the School of Nursing, independent of any action which may be taken by other authorities.

We recognize that nursing students may bring with them, or develop, alcohol or other psychoactive drug use patterns and behaviors that may be diagnosed as abuse or dependence. The School is committed to a program that will assist impaired students in regaining their health while concurrently protecting the well-being of patients/clients as well as classmates, faculty, and staff.

State boards of nursing, such as Indiana State Board of Nursing, require that unlicensed students reveal any past legal, including actions expunged from one's records, and/or university actions that have been taken in relationship to inappropriate drug use, including excessive alcohol consumption. The state board may request, when licensure is sought, that students outline actions taken to assure that they are no longer impaired or at risk for impairment. Any professional licensed student who violates this policy may be reported to the appropriate state agency as indicated by ethical and legal parameters specified in the Nurse Practice Act.

Of particular concern is the unauthorized use of drugs to which a nursing student may have privileged access. Such drug misuse is a violation of societal trust and is viewed by the profession as an especially grievous offense.

It is the policy of Purdue University to comply with federal and state laws and regulations dealing with the usage and detection of drugs and alcohol. This policy is subject to change at the sole discretion of the University and is meant to supplement other relevant University policies, including but not limited to, the Alcohol-and Drug- Free Campus and Workplace Policy, Executive Memorandum C-44.

## Policy

- A. Routine Testing. All nursing students prior to participation in a clinical nursing course will be required to participate in routine testing. An essential aspect of nursing education is student learning experiences in hospitals and other health care facilities which students must be able to complete. Clinical facilities with which the School collaborates have their own policies requiring drug testing and criminal background checks for employees, students, and volunteers which govern routine drug testing and background checks completed on all students. The frequency of routine testing and background checks may be altered as these organizations modify their requirements. Routine testing must be completed by an entity designated by the School of Nursing. Failure to complete routine testing will result in a student being treated the same as having a positive test.
- B. For Cause Testing. To ensure compliance with institutional policies and to promote a safe and healthy work environment, the School of Nursing may require students to submit to drug and/or alcohol testing “for cause” based upon reasonable suspicion of a) substance abuse, b) unauthorized use or possession of alcohol on campus or at a health care setting, or c) use of or possession of illicit drugs at any time.

Reasonable suspicion of substance abuse may be based upon, but is not limited to, the following criteria:

1. Direct observation of drugs or alcohol use or possession and/or demonstration of physical symptoms of the influence of drugs or alcohol
  2. A pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior consistent with alcohol or drug abuse. This includes behavior, speech, body odor, or appearance that is indicative of the use of alcohol or drugs such as odor of alcohol or drugs, unsteady or staggering gait, rapid or slurred speech, pinpoint or dilated pupils, unresponsiveness, bloodshot eyes, fine motor tremors, difficulty participating in activities, nausea, vomiting, sweating, incoherent speech, and verbal or physical outbursts.
  3. Self-report of drug use or alcohol abuse, unsafe behavior, unsatisfactory care for others, and threats to harm self or others.
  4. Arrest or conviction for a drug or alcohol related offense; identification as the focus of a criminal investigation into illicit drug use, possession or trafficking
  5. Evidence that a student has tampered with a previous drug or alcohol test
  6. Possession of drug paraphernalia
- C. Students who test positive on a routine drug test or a test for cause will be referred to the Assistant Head of the applicable program or his/her designee who will review their test results and collaborate with the Head of the School of Nursing regarding sanctions. If a student refuses evaluation or consent to share the results of an evaluation, he/she may be subject to disciplinary procedures including dismissal from the program. Any attempt to delay, hinder, or tamper with any testing, or to alter the results of testing will be considered a refusal to comply with this policy. Additionally this behavior may be reported to the University’s Office of the Dean of Students Office of Student Conduct for possible disciplinary action in accordance with the University’s Student Conduct Policy. Students continuing in the program will be subject to random drug testing at any time while completing nursing coursework.
- D. Any student arrested or convicted of violating any federal, state, or local law pertaining to the manufacture, possession, sale, use or distribution of a drug or alcohol or misuse of prescribed medications must report this event to the Assistant Head of the applicable program or his/her designee within three days of the event and prior to any clinical contact with patients/clients and families.

- E. A student who suspects possible substance abuse or violation of this policy by another student has the responsibility to report this information. A report can be made to the student's academic advisor and or Assistant Head for undergraduate or graduate programs. The identity of the individual making the report will be kept confidential to the greatest extent possible consistent with the need to investigate the report and subject to legal requirements.

## **Procedures**

All students prior to participation in a clinical nursing course will be required to:

- Submit to routine testing and test negative before engaging in any clinical coursework. Testing is completed by an outside contracted federally certified laboratory with a strict chain of custody.
- If the drug screen shows diluted or adulterated results, students will need to retest at their own expense.
- If on routine testing a student has a positive test, the first step is for the student to interact with the Medical Review Officer (MRO) available to the student through the organization with whom the School has contracted for this testing. The MRO confirms the testing result outcome.

If drug use or alcohol abuse is suspected in an enrolled nursing course, the faculty member will:

- Remove student from setting
- Notify the assistant head for the applicable program to discuss next steps
- Confront student in a private environment and, if possible, in the presence of a witness
- Discuss behavior in question and allow student to provide response
- Decide if reasonable suspicion exists
  - If yes, arrange for testing (clinical facility protocol or School protocol of use of an outside agency, Regional Occupational Care Center [ROCC] for testing)
  - If no, allow student to return to clinical or class

If necessary, faculty will arrange for transport of student to testing site. Initial testing costs will be borne by the School of Nursing. Students will not be allowed to participate in clinical education until the situation has been resolved.

Faculty, or other reporting persons, will document the exact reason(s) why they have triggered testing. Every effort should be made to document the behavior and how the behavior is affecting the student's performance. Documentation should also include what observations led to a request for cause testing. Document will be submitted to the Assistant Head or designee within two business days. Whenever possible, corroborating statements from other faculty, administrators, clinical facility employees, students, or patients/clients should be obtained

## **Consequences**

Initial For-Cause Test is Negative:

If the drug or alcohol test is negative but the School has legitimate reasons to believe the student was to be impaired, the student will be referred to the Assistant Head for the applicable program or his/her designee who will review their test results/situation and collaborate with the Head of the School of Nursing regarding sanctions.

#### Routine Test is Positive:

If a routine drug or alcohol test is positive the student will be referred to the Assistant Head for the applicable program or his/her designee who will review their test results and collaborate with the Head of the School of Nursing regarding sanctions. Student will be notified of test results and a meeting will be scheduled.

If a routine drug or alcohol test is positive, the student will be referred to the Assistant Head for the applicable program or his/her designee who will review their test results and collaborate with the Head of the School of Nursing regarding sanctions. Student will be notified of test results and a meeting will be scheduled.

#### Initial or Subsequent For-Cause Test is Positive:

Any student who fails an initial for-cause or subsequent cause alcohol or drug test will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, ranging from withdrawal from the semester's coursework to dismissal from the School. An individual's participation in, and successful completion of an approved drug or alcohol counseling program coupled with his/her consent to random testing will be considered positively in the review process, but does not ensure that the dismissal will not occur.

If continuing in the School of Nursing, the student will not be permitted to participate in clinical coursework until successfully undergoing an evaluation and treatment by a certified drug and alcohol counselor (refer to Appendix A Form). Upon completion of the program, the student will be tested at the student's expense at a time and place designated by the Assistant Head of the applicable program or his/her designee. If positive, the student will be dismissed from the School of Nursing. If a student fails to complete a test as requested or otherwise comply with this policy, the student will be dismissed from the School. If a subsequent for-cause test result is negative, the student can submit a written request to engage in coursework and will be eligible to enroll depending on space availability and acceptance by clinical sites. Random testing will continue as long as the individual is a student in the School. Because of the time that is required to complete treatment and testing, it is possible that the student will be delayed and need to re-work his/her plan of study with an academic counselor.

Students may be also subject to discipline pursuant to the University Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals, up to and including dismissal from the program or the university.

If a student fails to produce the requested sample by the date and time designated, the student will be treated as if the test result was positive.

#### **Confidentiality**

The University will take reasonable measures to ensure individual privacy under this Policy including, without limitation, keeping all drug and alcohol test results confidential to the extent possible. Drug or alcohol test results will be released in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

#### **Grievance and Appeal Procedures**

Pursuant to the University's Bill of Student Rights, any student can seek redress for any complaints related to the application or enforcement of this Policy through applicable University grievance policies and procedures, including Program appeal procedures.

## **Access to Records**

The University will maintain records relating to these guidelines as required by law. Upon written request to the Assistant Head for Undergraduate Programs or the Assistant Head for Graduate Programs, a student will be provided copies of records pertaining to his or her drug or alcohol tests.

## **Definitions**

1. "Drugs" is defined as medication, any drug or substance whose use is legally prohibited, including any controlled substances, prescription or over-the-counter medication used in a manner inconsistent with its label or otherwise in a way that impairs the student.
2. "Drug 10-panel testing" means testing that includes, but is not limited to metabolites, marijuana (cannabinoids, THC), cocaine, opiates/opioids/narcotics (including meperidine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, buprenorphine, propoxyphene) phencyclidine (PCP), and amphetamines (including methamphetamines), benzodiazepines, and barbiturates.
3. "Medical Review Officer (MRO)" is a nationally certified, licensed medical doctor or osteopath responsible for receiving laboratory results under this policy who has knowledge of substance abuse disorders and has appropriate medical training to interpret and evaluate confirmed positive test results, medical history, and any other relevant biomedical information. Access to the MRO is through the agency contracted to complete the testing.
4. "Test positive for Drugs" is the level identified by the MRO in accordance with guidelines established for healthcare workers.
5. "Test positive for Alcohol" means an alcohol test that is at or exceeds the Department of Transportation Guidelines for blood, breath, or saliva testing depending on the test used by the given agency, e.g. blood alcohol content of 0.04 or greater (DOT, 2018).

**APPENDIX A**

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENT AGREEMENT**

**Nursing Student Substance Abuse Policy**

Pursuant to violating the School's Nursing Student Substance Abuse Policy, I agree to undergo a professional evaluation by a certified drug and alcohol counselor to determine drug dependency and to participate in a recommended treatment plan. I understand that payment for the evaluation, treatment, and follow-up care and testing will be my responsibility.

If no treatment is recommended by the counselor, I will submit written evidence of such to the Assistant Head of the applicable program or his/her designee and submit a written request for reinstatement in clinical coursework, as defined in the Policy. If the counselor recommends a treatment plan, I understand that I must complete the plan and then submit a written request to engage in clinical coursework, written evidence of completion of the treatment plan, acknowledgment from the counselor that I am able to safely engage in clinical activities, and the terms of any required follow-up care to the Assistant Head. I understand that I will not be allowed to be registered for clinical courses during my treatment.

I also realize that I will be subject to random testing throughout the time I am enrolled in a nursing program. I realize that a second positive drug test or further violation of the Policy will result in dismissal from the School of Nursing.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 2015

**REVIEWED BY:** Student Affairs

**REVISED DATE:** December 2021

**REVIEW DATE:** February 2026

**Safety and Technical Standards Policy**

**Purpose:** To validate the academically accepted undergraduate and graduate student's ability to meet cognitive, affective, and psychomotor requirements of the curriculum with or without academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services, consistent with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

**Preamble:** The Purdue University School of Nursing (PUSON) will make appropriate academic adjustments to facilitate enrollment and participation of qualified individuals with temporary or permanent disabilities. The School has established technical standards in an effort to provide a framework to balance several competing interests:

- i. The rights of applicants and students
- ii. The safety of students, their co-workers and patients
- iii. The significant clinical component of the School curricula
- iv. The requirements imposed on the School by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the accreditation body, and by clinical agency agreements allowing the School to place students in various health care organizations for clinical education.
- v. The conditions for licensure of School graduates.

These competing interests and the nature of nursing educational activities may prevent some prospective students with disabilities and students with disabilities from qualifying for enrollment or continued enrollment and may limit access to the academic program of the School of Nursing.

**Scope:** This policy applies to all prospective and current undergraduate and graduate students in the School of Nursing.

**Policy:** Full acceptance into the School of Nursing is two-tiered and based on two independent processes:

1. Academic acceptance based on established criteria and review of application
2. Receipt and approval of the "Safety and Technical Standards" form (attached)

Current students must continue to meet these safety and technical standards throughout the program. Students who are no longer able to meet the standards **MUST** notify their academic advisor immediately or face dismissal from the nursing program. If a student's inability to satisfy a technical standard is of a temporary nature, every reasonable effort will be made to rearrange the student's schedule in such a way as to provide the opportunity for satisfactory completion of the curriculum. In some cases, this may require students to extend their plans of study.

**Procedure:**

1. Initial verification
  - a. Admitted students will be asked to complete, sign and date the Safety and Technical Standards Nursing Student Acknowledgement and Consent Form prior to Student Transition, Advising and Registration (VSTAR).
  - b. This process does not preclude the student from being evaluated by the Disability Resource Center, Office of Dean of Students.
  - c. Students for whom there is no clear decision point about ability to meet safety and technical standards will be presented to the School of Nursing Admissions Committee for further discovery.
2. Yearly verification
  - a. Current students must continue to meet these safety and technical standards throughout the program. Students who are no longer able to meet the standards **MUST** notify their academic advisor immediately or face dismissal from the nursing program.
3. Episodic verification
  - a. If a student is injured, becomes ill, or encounters any situation that changes her/his ability to meet the technical standards, the School of Nursing Student Services Office may request health care provider verification of the student's continued ability to meet the standards.
  - b. A copy of the "Safety and Technical Standards" form and a cover memo for the health care provider to verify that they student can meet the safety and technical standards will be provided to the medical practitioner by the student.
  - c. The student will return the health care provider-completed and signed form to the School of Nursing Student Services Office.
  - d. The Student Affairs Committee will review the verification and evaluate any request for academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services to determine the adequacy of the supporting documentation and the reasonableness of the requested academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids and services and then follow the same process as outlined for initial verification.
  - e. Until a final decision is made, a student whose ability to meet the safety and technical standards is being considered under this process will not be allowed to participate in clinical courses.

**Disputing the Decision**

A continuing student may appeal, in writing, the decision to the Head of the School of Nursing within ten (10) working days from the student's receipt of notice of the decision. The decision of the Head on appeal shall be final.

**Misrepresentation**

Any identified misrepresentation, falsification, or material omission of information by the applicant discovered during the acceptance process and deliberation or failure to disclose a change in status may exclude the student from continued clinical or classroom participation or immediate dismissal.

**Please refer to these descriptors in completing the Safety and Technical Standards Nursing Student Acknowledgement and Consent Form.**

**1. Essential physical/neurological functions:** Nursing students must be able to accurately observe close at hand and at a distance to learn skills and to gather data (e.g., observe an instructor’s movements, a patient’s gait or verbal response, a chemical reaction, a microscopic image, etc.). Students must possess functional use of the senses that permit such observation.

<b>School of Nursing Essential Functions</b>	<b>Clinical Examples</b>
<p><b>Tactile:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feel vibrations</li> <li>• Feel differences in sizes, shapes</li> <li>• Detect temperature</li> <li>• Feel differences in surface characteristics</li> <li>• Detect environmental temperature</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tactile ability sufficient to perform physical assessments, examinations and procedures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• palpate pulses, detect fremitus</li> <li>• palpate vein</li> <li>• identify body landmarks</li> <li>• skin turgor, rashes</li> <li>• skin temperature</li> <li>• check for drafts</li> <li>• detect deviations in skin temperature, solutions, and environment</li> </ul>
<p><b>Visual:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See objects up to 20 inches away (e.g., information on a computer screen, skin conditions)</li> <li>• See objects up to 20 feet away (e.g., client in a room)</li> <li>• See objects more than 20 feet away (e.g., client at end of hall)</li> <li>• Use depth perception to distinguish elevation</li> <li>• Use peripheral vision</li> <li>• Distinguish color (e.g. color codes on supplies, charts, bed)</li> <li>• Distinguish color intensity (e.g. flushed skin, skin paleness)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Visual acuity sufficient to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe changes in skin condition including distinguishing change in skin integrity, breathing patterns (including absence of respiratory movement), and color intensity such as the ability to identify cyanosis.</li> <li>• Identification of allergic responses such as skin rashes.</li> <li>• Access patient information on computer screens.</li> <li>• Read very fine print on medication labels, monitor strips, equipment calibrations</li> <li>• Draw up correct quantity of medication into syringe</li> <li>• Read accurately IV infusion pump screens, LED output on electronic devices and monitors</li> <li>• Distinguish tissue swelling, IV infiltration</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hearing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hear normal speaking level sounds (e.g. person-to-person report)</li> <li>• Hear faint voices</li> <li>• Hear faint body sounds (e.g., blood pressure sounds, assessment placement of tubes)</li> <li>• Hear in situations when not able to see lips (e.g., when masks are used)</li> <li>• Hear auditory alarms (e.g. monitors, fire alarms, call bells)</li> <li>• Perceive origin of sound</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess changes in heart, breath, abdominal, vascular sounds.</li> <li>• Take blood pressure</li> <li>• Recognize electronic device alarms</li> <li>• Monitor multiple patients in an ICU</li> </ul>

<b>Smell:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detect odors from client (e.g., foul smelling drainage, alcohol breath, etc.)</li> <li>• Detect smoke</li> <li>• Detect gases or noxious smells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detect odors exhibited by body fluids which may be indicative of disease processes</li> </ul>
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**2. Essential motor skills:** Nursing students must have sufficient motor capacities and mobility to execute the various tasks and physical maneuvers that are required within each program. Candidates must be able to display motor capabilities and mobility to execute the various tasks and physical maneuvers that are required within each program. Candidates must be able to display motor function sufficient to fulfill the professional roles toward which each program educates.

School of Nursing Essential Functions	Clinical Examples
<b>Gross motor skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move within confined spaces</li> <li>• Sit and maintain balance</li> <li>• Stand and maintain balance</li> <li>• Reach above shoulders (e.g. IV poles)</li> <li>• Reach below waist (e.g., plug electrical appliance into wall outlets)</li> <li>• Stoop and squat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer medication via all routes including intravenous therapy.</li> <li>• Institute appropriate nursing interventions to stabilize a patient's condition and/or prevent complications.</li> </ul>
<b>Fine motor skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pick up objects with hands</li> <li>• Coordinate eyes and hands/fingers with speed and accuracy in making precise movements</li> <li>• Grasp small objects with hands (e.g., IV tubing, pencil)</li> <li>• Write with pen or pencil</li> <li>• Key/type (e.g., use a computer)</li> <li>• Pinch/pick or otherwise work with fingers (e.g., manipulate a syringe)</li> <li>• Squeeze with fingers (e.g. eye dropper)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust environment when providing patient care</li> <li>• Calibrate equipment</li> <li>• Draw up solution/medication in a syringe</li> <li>• Twist objects with hands</li> <li>• Take vital signs, including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, respiratory rates</li> <li>• Use pulse oximeter, and electrocardiogram.</li> <li>• Insert catheters</li> <li>• Pick up or grasp small objects used in patient care, use eye dropper</li> <li>• Transmit information via electronic means</li> </ul>
<b>Physical endurance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stand (e.g., at client side during surgical or therapeutic procedure)</li> <li>• Sustain repetitive movements</li> <li>• Maintain physical tolerance for entire work shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (e.g. move above patient to compress chest and manually ventilate patient)</li> <li>• Stand/walk to complete clinical day (e.g. 8/12 hour shift)</li> <li>• Complete assigned clinical practice within an acceptable time period</li> </ul>

<p><b>Physical strength</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push and pull 25 pounds (e.g., position clients)</li> <li>• Support 25 pounds of weight (e.g., ambulate client)</li> <li>• Lift 25 pounds (e.g. pick up a child, transfer client)</li> <li>• Move light objects weighing up to 10 pounds (e.g., IV poles)</li> <li>• Use upper body strength (e.g., perform CPR, physically restrain a client)</li> <li>• Squeeze with hands (e.g., operate fire extinguisher)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Position patients</li> <li>• Use transfer techniques in moving and lifting patient in all age groups and weights</li> <li>• Assist with ambulation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mobility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twist</li> <li>• Bend</li> <li>• Stoop/squat</li> <li>• Move quickly (e.g., response to an emergency)</li> <li>• Climb (e.g., ladders/stools/stairs)</li> <li>• Walk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maneuver in small spaces*</li> <li>• Move independently from room to room</li> <li>• Twist, bend, stoop, engage in procedures and direct patient care</li> </ul> <p>*While health care agencies must meet ADA physical access standards, potential clients and equipment may limit the amount of available space in which to move</p>

**3. Essential communication skills:** Nursing students must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently. Students must be able to process and comprehend written and verbal material.

<b>School of Nursing Essential Functions</b>	<b>Clinical Examples</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach (e.g. client/family about health care)</li> <li>• Explain procedures</li> <li>• Give oral reports (e.g., report on client's condition to others)</li> <li>• Interact with others (e.g., health care workers)</li> <li>• Speak on the telephone</li> <li>• Influence people</li> <li>• Direct activities of others</li> <li>• Convey information through writing (e.g., progress notes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate with patients/clients, family members and health care providers regarding the individual's plan of care</li> <li>• Read and comprehend printed materials and documents</li> <li>• Document clearly and correctly on patient's medical record for legal documentation</li> <li>• Transmit information through written documents that use good grammar, syntax, spelling, and punctuation.</li> <li>• Access laboratory data via automated information system</li> <li>• Clarify the meaning of non-verbal communication</li> <li>• Use physical touch as a therapeutic non-verbal intervention</li> <li>• Present oral reports</li> <li>• Clarify physician orders</li> </ul>

**4. Essential judgment skills:** Nursing students must exercise good judgment and promptly complete all responsibilities required of each program. They must develop mature, sensitive, and effective professional relationships with others. They must be able to tolerate taxing workloads and function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and function in the face of uncertainties and ambiguities. Concern for others, interpersonal competence and motivation are requisite for all programs.

School of Nursing Essential Functions	Clinical Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpersonal abilities essential to interact with individuals, families, and groups from diverse social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds</li> <li>• Make judgments based on scientific knowledge and thorough assessment of individual patient situations</li> <li>• Practice in a manner that is non-judgmental and non-discriminatory</li> <li>• Function as a contributing member of an interdisciplinary team</li> <li>• Recognize that decision making occurs in an environment of uncertainty and ambiguities</li> <li>• Demonstrate capacity to make sound decisions when under stress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver nursing care within accepted timeframe allowing others to complete their responsibilities to patients</li> <li>• Create climate in which patients feel comfortable and able to make informed decisions about their health care</li> <li>• Practice safe care in high stress and/or ambiguous environments such as ICU, Emergency Department, mental health facilities and the community</li> </ul>

**5. Essential intellectual and cognitive skills:** Nursing students must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, integrate, remember and apply and evaluate information. Creative problem-solving and clinical reasoning require all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, many candidates must be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationship of structure.

School of Nursing Essential Functions	Clinical Examples
<p><b>Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and understand written documents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and understand English printed documents (e.g. policies, protocols, standards of care)</li> <li>• Read measurement marks</li> </ul>

<p><b>Arithmetic Competence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and understand columns of writing (e.g., flow sheet, charts)</li> <li>• Read digital displays</li> <li>• Read graphic printouts (e.g., EKG)</li> <li>• Calibrate equipment</li> <li>• Convert numbers to and/or from Metric System</li> <li>• Read graphs (e.g., vital sign sheets)</li> <li>• Tell time</li> <li>• Measure time (e.g., count duration of contractions, etc.)</li> <li>• Count rates (e.g., drips/minute, pulse)</li> <li>• Use measuring tools (e.g., thermometer)</li> <li>• Read measurement marks (e.g., measurement tapes, scales, etc.)</li> <li>• Add, subtract, multiply, and/or divide whole numbers</li> <li>• Compute fractions (e.g., medication dosages)</li> <li>• Use a calculator</li> <li>• Write numbers in records</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use measurement tools recognized as central to the care of patients/clients.</li> <li>• Perform dosage calculations in a time frame to deliver safe care</li> <li>• Assess and monitor patient status</li> </ul>
<p><b>Analytical Thinking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer knowledge from one situation to another</li> <li>• Process information</li> <li>• Evaluate outcomes</li> <li>• Problem solve</li> <li>• Prioritize tasks</li> <li>• Use long term memory</li> <li>• Use short term memory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handle multiple tasks and problem solve simultaneously</li> <li>• Assimilate and apply knowledge acquired from multiple learning experiences</li> <li>• Seek supervision and consultation in a timely manner</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Thinking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify cause-effect relationships</li> <li>• Plan/control activities for others</li> <li>• Synthesize knowledge and skills</li> <li>• Sequence information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze assessment data in determining nursing diagnoses.</li> <li>• Prioritize tasks</li> <li>• Comprehend and apply abstract concepts</li> </ul>

**6. Essential emotional coping skills:** Nursing students must have the emotional health to fully use their intellectual ability, exercise good judgment and complete all responsibilities requisite to the delivery of patient care. Students must be able to develop mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and colleagues and be adaptable, flexible and able to function in the face of uncertainty.

School of Nursing Essential Functions	Clinical Examples
<p><b>Interpersonal Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiate interpersonal conflict</li> <li>• Respect differences in clients</li> <li>• Establish rapport with clients</li> <li>• Establish rapport with co-workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show respect for the differences in patients/clients and co-workers</li> <li>• Function as a member of an interdisciplinary team (e.g. consult, negotiate, share)</li> <li>• Establish rapport with patients/clients</li> <li>• Participate in partnered and group efforts in classroom and clinical learning activities</li> <li>• Practice in a manner that is non-judgmental and non-discriminatory</li> <li>• Interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds</li> </ul>
<p><b>Emotional Stability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish therapeutic boundaries</li> <li>• Provide client with emotional support</li> <li>• Adapt to changing environment/stress</li> <li>• Deal with the unexpected (e.g., unexpected decline, crisis)</li> <li>• Focus attention on tasks</li> <li>• Monitor own emotions</li> <li>• Perform multiple responsibilities concurrently</li> <li>• Handle strong emotions (e.g., grief)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Function effectively under stress</li> <li>• Assume responsibility/accountability for own actions</li> <li>• Provide patient/family with emotional support</li> <li>• Adapt effectively to changing environments and increasing tension levels in a variety of situations (e.g. learning, patient care, emergencies)</li> </ul>

**Supporting Documents:**

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2006). *The essentials of doctoral education for advanced nursing practice*. Washington, DC: Author.
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2008). *The essentials of baccalaureate education for professional nursing practice*. Washington, DC: Author.
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (1996). *The essentials of master’s education for advanced practice nursing*. Washington, DC: Author.
- University of Texas School of Nursing at Galveston (2002). *Essential functions of the baccalaureate nursing program*.
- Wendt, A. (2007). *Report of findings from the 2006 RN post entry-level practice analysis*. Chicago, IL: National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.
- Wendt, A., & Eich, M. (2007). *Report of findings from the 2006-2007 RN continuous practice analysis*. Chicago, IL: National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.
- Yocom, C. J. (1996). *Validation study: Functional abilities essential for nursing practice*. Chicago, IL: National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 2015

**REVIEWED BY:** Simulation Committee

**REVISED DATE:** December 2021

**REVIEW DATE:** February 2026

**Center for Nursing Education and Simulation (CNES)  
Student Policies and Procedures**

**Introduction**

The policies and procedures for the CNES have been established to:

- 1) Provide a safe, clean and well-maintained environment.
- 2) Protect and maintain costly equipment.
- 3) Provide all users with an optimal learning environment.

It is expected that all involved in classrooms, clinical skills and simulated-based learning experiences will adhere to these guidelines. The guidelines do not cover all situations and will be amended as needed.

*The mission of the CNES is to provide a safe supportive environment for nursing students to develop competence in professional nursing practice.*

**Philosophy**

The CNES is dedicated to supporting the vision, mission and philosophy of the School of Nursing at Purdue University. The CNES strives to design learning activities that replicate realistic clinical situations to assist students in developing critical thinking, clinical reasoning and clinical judgment. Faculty will provide students with feedback through debriefing of their performance and will empower students to self-analyze their performance during the reflective process.

**Goals**

The student goals of the CNES are to:

- Develop clinical competence
- Advance patient safety and quality health care
- Develop cohesive intra-professional and inter-professional teamwork
- Utilize and enhance communication skills
- Apply critical thinking in the nursing process to arrive at clinical judgments and actions
- Develop professional behavior based on ethical, legal, and regulatory standards
- Enhanced self-confidence while refining skill performance

**Lab Conduct/Behavior**

**A. Participant Conduct**

1. The CNES is considered a clinical site when participating in simulated-based learning experiences. All policies in the course syllabus and nursing student handbook regarding clinical expectations apply.
2. Participants must wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the simulation room.
3. All patient and participant information within the simulation-based learning experience is confidential and any inappropriate viewing, discussion, or disclosure of this information outside the CNES is considered a breach of confidentiality and a violation of professional behavior per Purdue School of Nursing policy.

4. The CNES is a learning environment. All simulation-based learning experiences, regardless of their outcome, will be treated in a professional manner. The culture of the CNES is to be one of attentiveness and respect for all involved.
5. All users of the CNES will display professional conduct at all times. This includes refraining from foul language and/or remarks or behavior that could be considered inappropriate.
6. Food and drink are not allowed in the simulation rooms at any time.
7. While participating in simulation-based learning sessions cellphones are permissible exclusively as a resource for reference materials. At no time will cellular phones and/or tablets be used to record video or photography.

## **B. Equipment**

1. Equipment is for the exclusive use of meeting specified objectives. Misuse of equipment, property or environment may result in grade deduction or clinical failure.
2. Any equipment malfunction or abuse must be reported to the senior scholar or lab coordinator immediately.
3. Any areas utilized while in the CNES are to be cleaned up prior to leaving.
4. All sharps used in the CNES will be disposed of in the approved sharps containers. If a sharps container is full, please inform your instructor or a CNES staff member. No trash will be disposed of in the sharps containers and no sharps shall be disposed of in the trash.
5. Products in the CNES may contain LATEX. Please notify your faculty member if you have an allergy upon entering the Center.
6. The manikins simulate actual patients. Participants will treat the manikins as they would a live person with dignity and respect. This includes:
  - a. Hand hygiene prior to contact.
  - b. Patient privacy as per clinical.
  - c. Communication courtesies and teaching as per clinical.
  - d. Manikins left covered with linens straightened and bed low position with rails up prior to leaving the room.

## **C. Dress Code**

1. Adherence to the dress code is expected. Participants must be in uniform, or wearing a lab coat, to participate in simulated-based learning experiences.
2. Participants are expected to come to simulated-based learning experiences with assigned preparation completed and with required equipment and supplies.

## **D. Access**

1. Students are not to be in simulator, debriefing, or control rooms without a faculty member or CNES staff member present or permission from CNES director.

## **References**

- INACSL Standards Committee, Bowler, F., Klein, M. & Wilford, A. (2021). Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice™ Professional Integrity. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 58, 45-48. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2021.08.014>.
- INACSL Standards Committee, Molloy, M., Holt, J., Charnetski, M., & Rossler, K. (2021). Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice™ Simulation Glossary. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 58, 57-65. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2021.08.017>.
- INACSL Standards Committee, Persico, L., Belle, A., DiGregorio, H., Wilson-Keates, B., & Shelton, C. (2021). Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice™ Facilitation. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 58, 22-26. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2021.08.010>.

## **University Smoking Policy**

Smoking is prohibited on the West Lafayette campus, except in designated outdoor smoking areas. Smoking is also prohibited in all vehicles owned or leased by Purdue University both on and off the campus.

Hospitals and other healthcare institutes typically have a no smoking on premises policy.