

BSN/ABSN Clinical Courses Clinical Placement Agreement

Clinical rotations are a critical component of your nursing education. Because we understand the importance of your clinical experiences and your hopes and expectations, we try to make the clinical experiences as rich as possible. This document will help you understand our clinical placement policy. Please read it carefully, sign the document, and return it as part of the required documentation prior to new student orientation. All clinical placements are at the sole discretion of the UW School of Nursing.

As a member of a health care team, there are no clinical days off. You are required to be present on all clinical days and for full shifts (including labs), except for illness. This includes traditional observances and major days of religious significance. Students follow the rotation schedule of the clinic/hospital/site at which they are rotating. We are unable to take into consideration extracurricular courses, work schedules, and other personal commitments. Please anticipate that you may need to adjust your work schedule and/or other commitments. All students will experience some evening/weekend shifts during their clinical education.

Your clinical assignments are rotations required for licensure and education as a nurse. By the end of the program, you will have experienced the full spectrum of clinical education in a variety of agencies and settings. Each student completes two quarters of adult medical-surgical nursing. Also, students are not guaranteed both Medical AND Surgical. One quarter of pediatrics, one quarter of psychosocial mental health, one quarter of childbearing, and childrearing families, and one quarter of community health. For these rotations, students are **NOT ABLE** to choose clinical sites or develop/create their own placements.

The School of Nursing negotiates its clinical placements through the North Puget Sound Consortium. Members of the North Puget Sound Consortium include many of the larger clinical agencies in the area: UWMC, Harborview, Virginia Mason, Swedish Medical Center, Northwest Hospital, Evergreen, and Overlake, as well as a few smaller sites. Days & times for our clinical shifts are not negotiable and may include weekdays, weekends, days, evenings, and night shifts. We also negotiate for clinical placements with community clinics, county & state agencies, and psychiatric facilities.

The last clinical course in the BSN/ABSN program is NCLIN 411: Transition to Professional Practice. For NCLIN 411, student names are randomly sorted through an Excel function in a public forum. Based on the random name order, students are able to match themselves to available clinical slots in medical-surgical, pediatrics, maternity, psychosocial mental health or community health.

The ratio of students/instructor is ~8:1 first year courses and ~10:1 second year courses. Some students remain in the same site for 2-3 quarters, usually based on site requirements to decrease orientation times/schedules, while other students switch to a different clinical agency each quarter of the program. Each clinical agency has specific prerequisites for placements and an on-site orientation to the site and to computer programs used by the facility. These orientations may take place outside of regularly scheduled class hours.

Jenn Rathe, Clinical Education Specialist in Academic Services, works with the consortium, clinical sites, course coordinators, and clinical instructors to determine your individual clinical placements each quarter. Approximately four to six weeks prior to the start of this quarter, Jenn Rathe will inform you of your clinical placement for the next quarter. Her information will include the name of

clinical agency, days/times, name of instructor, and prerequisites for your clinical site. Information directly from the faculty course coordinator & clinical instructor will include orientation information as well as specific site requirements.

Adjustments to your clinical placement and/or clinical rotation schedule may occur up until the start of the new quarter. This could be due to fluctuation in patient census at a site, staffing issues at the clinical site, changes in teaching assignments at the School of Nursing, or specific learning needs of students. Please keep this in mind when committing to a work schedule since we **cannot** consider your personal commitments.

Our responsibility is to provide you with the required clinical experiences and standards to be eligible for licensure as a Registered Nurse post graduation. Our responsibility to our clinical agency partners is to ensure that each student attending clinical is fully compliant with immunizations, background checks, on-boarding requirements, and clinical agency standards.

I have read the above information. I understand that all clinical placements are the sole discretion of the UW School of Nursing. I understand that my clinical rotations may include daytime/evening/weekends. I will be able to participate in all clinical courses as assigned, regardless of scheduling. I will need to arrange for my own transportation to the sites. I will fulfill all compliance requirements and on-boarding site requirements for each clinical site during my program at the University of Washington School of Nursing.

Print your name

Date

Signature

UW Student Number