



Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)

Nursing Student Guide

Contents

INTRODUCTION	4
PROGRAM PURPOSE.....	4
MISSION.....	4
PHILOSOPHY	4
PROGRAM OUTCOMES.....	4
END OF PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING.....	5
PRACTICAL NURSING EXIT OPTION	5
AWC NURSING CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.....	6
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.....	6
CONSTRUCT DEFINITIONS	7
CORE COMPETENCIES DEFINITIONS:	8
CURRICULUM PLAN: ASSOCIATES IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.)	9
Application Requirements	9
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS / GUIDELINES.....	10
AMERICAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS FOR NURSES	10
STUDENT EXPECTATION FOR REPORTING UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT	11
LEGAL LIMITATIONS FOR LICENSURE.....	11
ACADEMIC REMOVAL FROM THE NURSING PROGRAM	11
CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT.....	12
GUIDELINES FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES	12
GENERAL INFORMATION	13
Class and Clinical Preparation.....	13
STUDENT ILLNESS.....	13
ACADEMIC ADVISING	13
PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT	13
READMISSION	14
LOA.....	15
Failure in NUR 117:	16
REQUESTS FOR READMISSION TO FAILED NUR COURSE AFTER MORE THAN 2 SEMESTERS	16
READMISSION SELECTION CRITERIA.....	17
CALCULATOR USE GUIDELINES POLICY.....	17
CLASS SECTION AND CLINICAL GROUP ASSIGNMENT PROCESS	17
ACADEMIC CLASS REQUIREMENTS	18
CLINICAL JEOPARDY	18
STUDENT ID BADGES.....	18
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	18
CLASSROOM TESTING GUIDELINES.....	18
CLASSROOM TEST ADMINISTRATION	19
TIMING OF TESTS AND QUIZZES	19
EXAM REVIEW	19
TEST ANALYSIS.....	20
REMEDIATION PROCESS FOR NURSING STUDENTS	20
STUDENT ADVISEMENT.....	21
SUCCESS AND REMEDIATION STRATEGIES	21
CLINICAL ACADEMIC PREPARATION AND REQUIREMENTS	22
GENERAL CLINICAL EXPECTATIONS.....	22
CLINICAL / SKILLS LAB REFERRAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE	22
CLINICAL ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS	23
CLINICAL EVALUATION	25
UNSAFE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE	25

PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE CODE GUIDELINES.....	25
NURSING STUDENT UNIFORM.....	26
UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT	27
USE OF ELECTRONIC HAND-HELD DEVICES	27
NURSING SKILLS LAB / CLINICAL GUIDELINES	27
HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES.....	28
CLINICAL INJURY OR EXPOSURE TO INFECTIOUS MATERIALS.....	31
STUDENT PREGNANCY	32
ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES	33
ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR CLINICAL NURSING STUDENTS.....	33
DRUG AND ALCOHOL	37
REASONABLE “SUSPICION” BASED DRUG TESTING	38
STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION	40
PINNING CEREMONY.....	40
EDUCATION POLICIES.....	40
NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY.....	40
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	41
SAFETY AND SECURITY	41
DISABILITY SERVICES/ACCOMMODATIONS	41
FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (FERPA)	42
FEES AND FINANCIAL AID.....	42
WITHDRAWALS	42
STUDENT FILES.....	42
STUDENT RECORDS POLICY.....	42
SOURCES.....	42
NURSING STUDENT GUIDE RECEIPT	44
PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR CONTRACT.....	47

INTRODUCTION

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the nursing program at Arizona Western College. You have selected a career which offers many rewards, challenges, and opportunities. Students entering the nursing program must be highly motivated, mature, and focused. The Director of Nursing, Faculty, and Support Staff wish you success as you begin your nursing education. The Nursing Student Guide has been developed to provide you with specific policies, procedures, and regulations set forth by the department, clinical facilities, and/or other regulating agencies associated with the educational program.

Certain program policies set forth prevail over other institutional policies to assure compliance with standards of practice established by the State of Arizona Board of Nursing, the American Nurses Association Code for Nurses, and nursing accrediting bodies.

The department reserves the right to make modifications, additions, or deletions to the Nursing Student Guide. You will be notified of any changes. Information found on the AWC nursing department website will take precedence.

You are responsible for becoming acquainted with the Arizona Western College catalog and the AWC Nursing Student Guide as well as general college policies.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Graduates will demonstrate (1) knowledge and skills to provide safe care as an entry level nurse, (2) basic knowledge in nursing that will prepare them for the registered nurse licensure examination, and (3) competency in communication, critical thinking, quantitative analysis, and technological applications.

MISSION

The faculty of the Department of Nursing upholds the mission of Arizona Western College by supporting educational and lifelong learning needs of the community through innovative partnerships. The faculty is dedicated to (1) providing excellence in nursing education and practice,
(2) Incorporating changes aimed at current and emerging healthcare trends with a focus on the rural southwest. *(Reaffirmed: 11/13)*

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the nursing program reflects the beliefs of the faculty and is consistent with the mission of Arizona Western College. The philosophy consists of beliefs regarding nursing and nursing education.

The practice of nursing must abide by the standards of the American Nurses Association Scope and Standards of Practice: <https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/scope-of-practice/> and Arizona Nurse Practice Act which is comprised of both statutes and rules (Arizona Administrative Code): <https://www.azbn.gov/education/nurse-practice-act>.

Excellence in nursing education requires current nursing knowledge and competencies, which are reflected in the competencies from both Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) and the Nurse of Future (NOF) Nursing Core Competencies (*Massachusetts Department of Education, 2010*).

1. Students and Faculty: (1) respect and value the dignity of all human life and cultural diversity, and (2) view nursing practice as holistic, with a focus on the health care continuum experiences of individuals, families, and groups.
2. Students: (1) take ownership of their learning and faculty members facilitate through a commitment to provide learning activities to meet the needs of a diverse student population; both traditional and on-traditional.
3. Faculty: (1) embrace the idea of using multiple teaching modalities that recognize the unique worth of each student and are supportive of the student's attainment of their individual goals.

(Adopted: 11/13)

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Program Outcomes are performance indicators that reflect the extent to which the purposes of the nursing education unit are achieved and by which program effectiveness is documented. Program outcomes are measurable consumer-oriented indexes designed to evaluate the degree to which the program is achieving its mission and goals. Examples include but are not limited to: program completion rates, job placement rates, licensure/certification pass rates, and program satisfaction.

The AWC Nursing Program faculty has established the following Program Outcomes:

- 1) Students will graduate within 3 years of enrollment at a percentage determined by the faculty.
- 2) Graduates will have first-time pass on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) with a rate at or above the national mean for the same time period.
- 3) Graduate employment rate will be at or above the local employment rate.
(Source: AWC Nursing Program, Systematic Evaluation Plan, update 11/13)

END OF PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING

Students will:

- a. Recognize the patient or designee as the source of control and full partner in providing compassionate and coordinated care based on respect for the patient's preferences, values, and needs. (*Patient Centered Care*).
- b. Function effectively within nursing and inter-professional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision-making to achieve quality patient care (*Teamwork & Collaboration*).
- c. Integrate best current evidence with clinical expertise and patient/family preferences and value for delivery of optimal health care (*Evidence-Based Practice*).
- d. Use data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of healthcare systems (*Quality Improvement*).
- e. Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance (*Safety*).
- f. Use information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision-making (*Informatics*).
- g. Demonstrates accountability for the delivery of nursing care that is consistent with moral, altruistic, legal, ethical, regulatory, and humanistic principles (*Professionalism*).
- h. Interact effectively with patients, families, and colleagues, fostering mutual respect and shared decision making, to enhance patient satisfaction and health outcomes (*Communication*).

PRACTICAL NURSING EXIT OPTION

Practical Nursing graduates are expected to perform within the scope of practice for a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Students will:

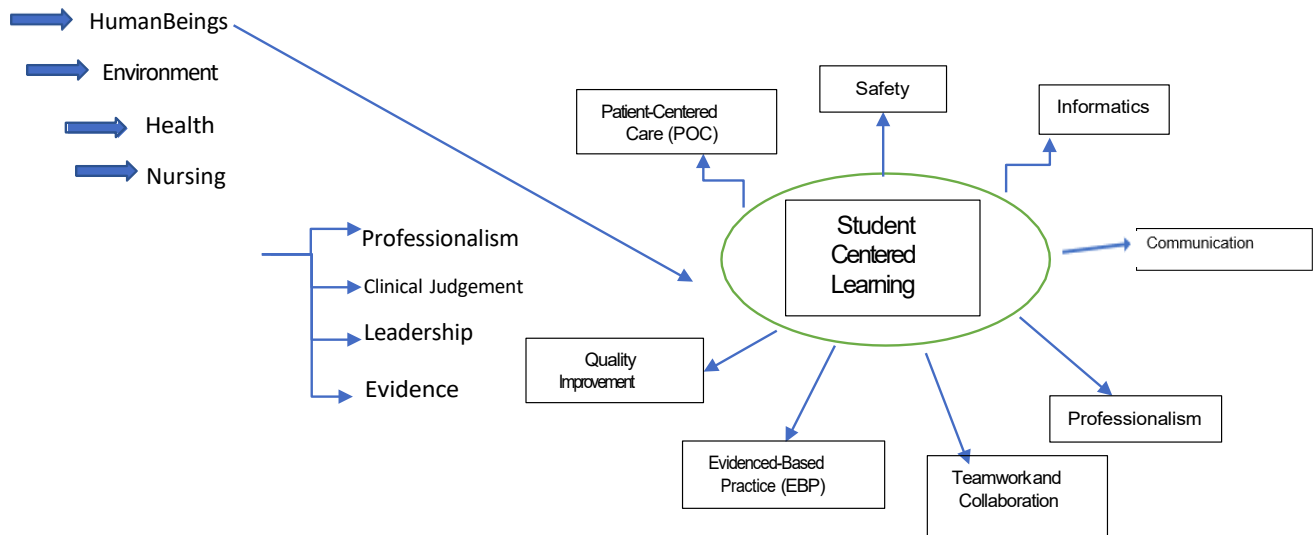
- a. Be able to provide compassionate, coordinated and individualized nursing care based on respect patient preferences, values and needs, to diverse patients across the lifespan (*Patient Centered Care*).
- b. Be able to adhere to professional standards to maintain the safety of self, patient, and environment (*Safety*).
- c. Demonstrate accountability for the delivery of standard-based nursing care that is consistent with moral, altruistic, legal, ethical, regulatory, and humanistic principles (*Professional Behaviors*).
- d. Be able to use information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision making (*Informatics*).
- e. The student will be able to function effectively within nursing and interprofessional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect and shared decision making to

achieve quality patient care (*teamwork and collaboration*).

- f. Be able to integrate best current evidence with clinical expertise and patient/family preferences and values for delivery of optimal healthcare (Evidence Based Practice).
- g. Use data to monitor the outcomes of care processes, and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems (Quality Improvement).

AWC NURSING CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Nursing Knowledge



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK:

The AWC Nursing Conceptual Framework originates from QSEN and NOF Competencies and their relationship to nursing knowledge. The competencies, which will inform future nursing practice and curricula, consist of the following: (Used with permission of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education Nursing of the Future Competency Committee, Boston, MA, April 9, 2013)

1. **Nursing Knowledge:** "Nursing is a scholarly profession and practice-based discipline and is built on a foundation of knowledge that reflects nursing's dual components of science and art. Nursing knowledge in conjunction with a liberal education prepares learners to enter practice with identified core competencies. The distinctive focus of the discipline of nursing is on nursing actions and processes, which are directed toward human beings and considering the environment in which individuals reside and in which nursing practice occurs (Fawcett & Garity, 2009). This distinctive focus is reflected in the metaparadigm of nursing, which identifies human beings (patients), environment, health, and nursing as the subjective matter of interest to nurses (ANA, 2004)"(NOFC, 2010, p. 7).

2. **Science of Nursing:** As a scientific discipline, nursing draws on a distinct body of knowledge that incorporates an appreciation of relationships among nurses, patients, and environments within the structure of health, nursing concepts and theories, and concepts and theories derivative from the basic sciences, humanities, and other disciplines. The science of nursing is applied in practice through a critical thinking framework known as the nursing process that is composed of *assessment*, *diagnosis*, *planning*, *implementation*, and *evaluation*(Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p. 7).

3. **Art of Nursing:** The art of nursing is based on the foundations of caring and respect for human dignity. The art and science of nursing are indistinguishably linked, as a compassionate approach to patient care carries an obligation to provide that care competently and holistically. This is “accomplished through *delegated, independent and interdependent* practice (Koloroutis, 2004, pp. 123- 125), and *collaborative practice* (Tomey, 2009, p. 397) involving other colleagues and/or the individuals seeking support or assistance with their healthcare needs (ANA, 2004, p. 12)” (Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p.7).

CONSTRUCT DEFINITIONS

- a. **Human Beings/Patients**—the beneficiaries of nursing care or nursing services. These terms are consistent with the historically established tradition of the nurse- patient relationship and beneficiaries of nursing care. Beneficiaries may be individuals, families, groups, communities, or populations who receive nursing care throughout the health continuum (Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p.7).
- b. **Environment**—the beneficiaries of nursing care or nursing services. These terms are consistent with the historically established tradition of the nurse-patient relationship and beneficiaries of nursing care. Beneficiaries may be individuals, families, groups, communities, or populations who receive nursing care throughout the health continuum (Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p. 7).
- c. **Health**—the beneficiaries of nursing care or nursing services. These terms are consistent with the historically established tradition of the nurse-patient relationship and beneficiaries of nursing care. Beneficiaries may be individuals, families, groups, communities, or populations who receive nursing care throughout the health continuum (Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p. 7).
- d. **Nursing**—the beneficiaries of nursing care or nursing services. These terms are consistent with the historically established tradition of the nurse-patient relationship and beneficiaries of nursing care. Beneficiaries may be individuals, families, groups, communities, or populations who receive nursing care throughout the health continuum (Adapted from NOFC, 2010, p. 7).
- e. **Professionalism**—is based on attitudinal attributes and its five dimensions: “the use of **professional organizations** as major referent groups and it addresses individual support of professional associations by attending professional meetings, serving on professional committees, leading such committees, and reading professional journals” (Wynd, 2003, p. 252).
 - i. “the belief in **public service**, supporting the idea that the profession is beneficial and indispensable to society” (Wynd, 2003, p.252).
 - ii. “the **autonomy** that allows professionals to make their own decisions and judgments about the services they provide with minimal pressure from external sources” (Wynd, 2003, p. 252).
 - iii. “belief in **self-regulation**...endorses control of work and the evaluation of work by colleagues who are fellow professionals” (Wynd, 2003, p. 252).
 - iv. “**sense of calling** representing a commitment to the profession beyond economic incentives” (Wynd, 2003, p. 252).
- f. **Clinical Judgment**—is an interpretation or conclusion about an individual, group, community, or population’s needs, concerns, health problems, and/or decision to take action (or not), use or modify customary approaches, or improvise new ones as judged appropriate by individual, group, community, or population responses (Tanner,2006).
- g. **Leadership**—is a process that occurs within the minds of individuals who live in a culture and are in relationships with others. The practice of effective leadership consists of 1) ongoing, active, and dynamic ties to the community; 2) maintaining a rhythm in life, which includes a time and means

for reflection, and 3) exercising influence through stories or messages that communicate desired traits (Gardner, 1995).

- h. **Evidence**—is synthesizing of the latest research, integration of resources, products, and services that foster optimal nursing care congruent with cultural and personal values/preferences of individuals, groups, and populations.

CORE COMPETENCIES DEFINITIONS:

<https://qsen.org/competencies/pre-licensure-ksas/>
<https://www.mass.edu/nahti/projects/nofcompetencies.asp>

- a. **Patient-Centered Care:** Recognize the patient or designee as the source of control and full partner in providing compassionate and coordinated care based on respect for patient's preferences, values, and needs.
- b. **Safety:** Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.
- c. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate accountability for the delivery of standard-based nursing care that is consistent with moral, altruistic, legal, ethical, regulatory, and humanistic principles.
- d. **Informatics:** Use information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision making.
- e. **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Function effectively within nursing and inter-professional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect and shared decision making, to achieve quality patient care.
- f. **Evidence-Based Practice (EBP):** Integrate best current evidence with clinical expertise and patient/family preferences and values for delivery of optimal health care.
- g. **Quality Improvement:** Use data to monitor the outcomes of care processes, and uses improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems

CURRICULUM PLAN: ASSOCIATES IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.)**Application Requirements**

- *Eligibility for Math 142 or higher*
- *Overall GPA 2.5*
- *Current and unrestricted Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) on the AZBN registry*
- *HESI A2 scores: 75% or higher on Math, English Language Composite, and Cumulative*

Prerequisites: 7 credits

ENG 101	Freshman Composition I	3 credits
BIO 201	Anatomy and Physiology I	4 credits

First Semester: 14 credits

NUR 121	Nursing 1	8 credits (5 lec, 3 lab, 4.5 clinical)
NUR 117	Pharmacology with Clinical Calculations	2 credits
BIO 202	Anatomy and Physiology II	4 credits (3 lec, 2 lab)

- *All courses listed above must be completed **prior to** the beginning of the next semester in order to progress.*

Second Semester: 15 credits

NUR 122	Nursing 2	8 credits (5 lec, 9 clinical)
PSY 101	Intro to Psychology	3 credits
FAS 238/PSY 238	Human Development	4 credits

- *All courses listed above must be completed **prior to** the beginning of the next semester in order to progress.*

Third Semester: 15 credits

NUR 221	Nursing 3	8 credits (5 lec, 9 clinical)
BIO 205	Microbiology	4 credits
ENG 102	Freshman Composition II	3 credits

- *All courses listed above must be completed **prior to** the beginning of the next semester in order to progress.*

Fourth Semester: 14 credits

NUR 222	Nursing 4	8 credits (4 lec, 12 clinical)
Arts & Humanities	Elective	3 credits
Math 142 or >**	College Math with Appl. (or higher)	3 credits

- *Additional Courses (2 credits)*

Total credits required for degree: 67 credits

*Select one requirement as per the AWC Catalog, Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) General Education Course List, section C. Arts and Humanities

**Select one requirement as per the AWC Catalog, Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) General Education Course List, section B. Mathematics.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS / GUIDELINES

The standards for professional conduct are an integral part of the AWC Nursing Program and students are expected to adhere to those standards while enrolled in the program. Students are bound by the Arizona State Board Nurse Practice Act, the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses, the policies and regulations of the healthcare facility where they are assigned for clinical, and the guidelines published in the AWC Nursing Student Guide as well as the AWC Student Code of Conduct.

1. Nursing students are responsible for reading, understanding and following the AWC Student Code of Conduct found at <https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-conduct>
2. Violations of academic integrity, as well as any student who knowingly or intentionally helps another student perform any acts of cheating and/or plagiarism, is subject to Formal Disciplinary action.
Informal and Formal Resolution Processes can be found in the AWC Student Code of Conduct: Policies and Procedures on: <https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-conduct>

Standards of professional conduct include:

- *Confidentiality: Respects the privacy of clients and respects privileged information.
- *Accountability: Is answerable for one's action; answers to self, the client, the profession and the institution.
- *Responsibility: Executes duties associated with the nurse's particular role.
- *Agency's Policies and Procedures: Reads and adheres to the agency policies and procedures.
- *Veracity: Truthfulness; adherence to precision and honesty.
- *Punctuality and Promptness: Is on time for all class, lab, and clinical assignments.
- *Dependability: Is trustworthy and reliable.
- *Respect: Treats others with consideration and courtesy.
- *Professional appearance: Adheres to established dress code in all clinical and professional activities.
- *Ethical: Adheres to the Code of Ethics for Nurses for Interpretive Statements establishing the ethical standard for the nursing profession:
<https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/nursing-excellence/ethics/code-of-ethics-for-nurses/coe-view-only/>
- *Legal: Operates within the standards of care related to student role.
- *Safety: Prevents or minimizes risks for physical, psychological, or emotional jeopardy, injury, or damage.
- *Civility: All students in the nursing program are expected to contribute to positive learning environment. Nursing students are expected to be reflective, courteous, respectful, and empathetic to classmates, instructors and college and clinical staff.
Retrieved Dec 3, 2020 from: Maricopa Community Colleges, Nursing Student Handbook.
<https://www.maricopa.edu/degrees-certificates/healthcare-education/maricopa-nursing>

AMERICAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS FOR NURSES

1. The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.

4. The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to promote health and to provide optimal care.
5. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.
6. The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality healthcare.
7. The nurse in all roles and settings, advances the profession through research and scholarly inquiry, professional standards development, and the generation of both nursing and health policy.
8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.
9. The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organizations, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principals of social justice into nursing and health policy. (ANA,2015)

STUDENT EXPECTATION FOR REPORTING UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As required by the Arizona State Board Nurse Practice Act, students with knowledge of any behavior that may, or has, caused harm to a patient, is obligated to report such behavior to a member of the faculty or the Director of Nursing immediately.

LEGAL LIMITATIONS FOR LICENSURE

1. Admission or graduation from the nursing program does not guarantee obtaining a license or certificate to practice nursing. Licensure and certification requirements and the subsequent procedures are the exclusive right and responsibility of the State Board of Nursing in which a student applies to. Students must satisfy the requirements of the Nurse Practice Act: statutes, rules and regulations independently of any college or school requirements for graduation.
2. In Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1606(B) (17), an applicant for professional or practical nurse license by examination is not eligible for licensure if the applicant has any felony convictions and has not received an absolute discharge from the sentences for all felony convictions. The absolute discharge must be received five or more years before submitting this application. If you cannot prove that the absolute discharge date is five or more years, the Board cannot process your application.
3. All nurse and nursing assistant applicants for certification and licensure will be fingerprinted to permit the Department of Public Safety to obtain state and federal criminal history information.
4. If there is any question about eligibility for licensure or certification, contact the nursing education consultant at the Arizona State Board of Nursing at: <http://www.azbn.gov>

ACADEMIC REMOVAL FROM THE NURSING PROGRAM:

If a student fails to achieve an average of 78% or higher on the faculty prepared exams, the student will be removed from the program but will be eligible for readmission if they meet the criteria set forth in the Readmission Guidelines of the Nursing Student Guide.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

Purpose: The confidentiality statement is required in order to ensure adherence to the confidentiality policy and procedures of the contracted clinical affiliates.

1. Maintain client confidentiality at all times. No discussions regarding clients shall be acceptable outside the classroom or clinical settings. In these areas, all discussions related to clients must take place in a location where the conversation cannot be overheard by uninvolved parties. In clinical conferences or classrooms, the client shall be referred to by initials only.
2. Any identifiable patient information must not be removed from the health care facility. Identifiable patient information includes copies of any health care records with or without patient demographic data. Health care records are the property of the health care facility.
3. If the student commits a violation of confidentiality, a grade of "F" may be given for the course followed by immediate dismissal from the program. The student may be ineligible for readmission. A second breach of confidentiality, at any time during the course of the student's enrollment in any AWC Nursing Department course will result in dismissal from the course and the student will be ineligible to readmit to that course or seek admission to another course/program offered through the AWC Nursing Department.

GUIDELINES FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

Social networking websites provide unique opportunities for students to get to know one another, share experiences, and keep in contact. As with any public forum, it is important that users of these sites are aware of associated risks and act in a manner that does not embarrass students, the Nursing Department, clinical agencies, or Arizona Western College. It is also important to ensure patient information is not made publicly available. A breach in professional behavior regarding information about students, faculty, staff, administrators, clinical agencies, and/or patients will result in immediate disciplinary action and possible withdrawal from the Nursing Department Course.

The Nursing Department has adopted the following guidelines to assist students to safely use these sites.

1. Personal Privacy Recommendations
2. Set profiles on social networking sites so that only those individuals with approved access may see personal information. Keep in mind that privacy settings are not impervious, and information can be shared willingly or unwillingly with others, even with "Friends Only" access.
3. Evaluate photos of that are posted to these sites and "un tag" photos that depict you in what may be construed as compromising situations.
4. Protection of Patient Information
5. Comments made on social networking sites should be considered the same as if they were made in a public place in the hospital.
6. HIPAA rules apply online, and students may be held criminally liable for comments that violate HIPAA.
7. Remember that simply removing the name of a patient does not make them anonymous. Family members or friends of that patient or of other patients you are caring for may be able to determine to whom you are referring based on the context.
8. Use of these sites can have legal ramifications. Comments made regarding care of patients or

that portray you or your colleague in an unprofessional manner can be used in court or other disciplinary proceedings.

9. Statements made under your profile are attributable to you and are treated as if you verbally made that statement in a public place.
10. Use discretion when choosing to log onto a social networking site at school. Keep in mind that the use of these sites during lecture, lab, and clinical assignments is prohibited.
11. Photographs and statements made are potentially viewable by future employers.
12. You are representing the AWC Nursing Department when you log on a site and make a comment or post photograph.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class and Clinical Preparation

1. General guidelines are to allow at least two hours of study for each hour of class that you have per week and one hour of study for each hour of lab or clinical per week. Students are expected to be prepared for their clinical experience in order to give safe patient care.
2. Learning experiences include: classroom, lab, clinical, online communication and assignments, and computer interactive learning and simulation.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Policy: Student illness, other health limitations, will be dealt with according to the College student code of conduct for the protection of students, College employees, other persons and themselves.

Procedure:

1. Students will use good judgment when illness occurs.
2. Students with a fever and/or symptom of infectious disease will NOT report to the lecture, lab, or clinical setting. A student must be free of fever without the use of antipyretics for a period of 24 hours before returning to lecture, lab, or clinical.
3. A student may be dismissed from the lecture, lab, or clinical setting if the nursing faculty or clinical instructor determines the student poses a safety risk to themselves or others, including patients.
4. Dismissal from clinical for illness will be recorded as a clinical absence and will follow the policy of clinical attendance.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

1. Each nursing student is assigned a nursing faculty advisor at the beginning of NUR 121. The student is responsible for meeting with this advisor a minimum of one time during each semester. Failure to meet with a nursing academic advisor may affect future readmission requests.
2. **Students are required to provide a copy of unofficial transcripts to their assigned advisor after completion of NUR 221 (Nursing 3)** and prior to graduation to ensure all graduation requirements will be met.

PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT

A student at risk for failing a nursing course is encouraged to seek faculty advisement. A plan for improvement may be established in order to enhance the student's potential for success. (Form available as download at <http://www.azwestern.edu/nursing>)

READMISSION

Policy: Readmission

Arizona Western College Nursing Program supports the readmission of qualified students with ONE withdrawal or failure (D, F, W, WF). Extenuating circumstances that resulted in the 2nd failure will be reviewed by the nursing program. The student may be asked for documentation to support circumstances. The maximum amount of time students can be out of the program is **2 semesters**.

1. NUR 121, NUR 122, NUR 221 & NUR 222 are capped at 40 students each semester. Starting in the Spring of 2023, NUR 121 will be capped at 60 students. Each following semester the program will adjust the next sequential course student cap to 60 students until NUR 121, NUR 122, NUR 221, and NUR 222 is capped at 60 students. This change in student capacity guideline will be in full effect starting Fall 2024.
2. Readmission to the failed semester is not guaranteed and is based on seat availability and Ranking Criteria.
3. NUR 117 grades will not be factored in the ranking.
4. Readmission to the failed semester is available for NUR 121, NUR 122, NUR 221 & NUR 222 courses. A student exiting the program for any reason must complete an Exit Interview (form 335.1) with the instructor to be eligible for readmission.

If readmission is granted to NUR 121, NUR 122, 221 or 222, a drug screen must be submitted, and TB and CPR must be current. All requirements must be submitted into Castle branch before registration in the nursing course.

Procedure:

Requests for readmission to the program must be submitted in writing to the Director of Nursing using the Readmission Request form available for download online at: <http://www.azwestern.edu/nursing>. Individuals will be informed in writing of their readmission status within 45 days of the readmission application deadline.

Request for readmission **less than one semester** to NUR 122, NUR 221, NUR 222:

1. Requests must be received by the Department of Nursing no later than noon (12 pm), on the last day of Final Exam Week.
2. Submit readmission request (form 506-6)
3. Must be current in all Health and Safety requirements (*If out of the program for more than one semester, a drug test must be submitted to Castle Branch before registration in the nursing course*)

Requests for **readmission into NUR 121:**

1. Requests must be received by the Department of Nursing by the due date posted in the Nursing Department website.
2. Submit readmission request (form 506-6) and admission application (form 305).
3. Arizona Western College will admit 60 students into the nursing program each fall and spring semester. Upon submission of applications, all applications will go through a three-part review to ensure completeness and accuracy of ranking scores. Upon completion of the review process students will be ranked according to score.

Acceptance letters will be sent out to the top 50 students in the ranking and the following 20 students will be accepted as alternate students. Ten seats will be held open for students who are currently enrolled in NUR121 and may need to repeat the course. Ranking of NUR121 students for readmission will be carried out as follows:

4. Ten students with the highest non-passing (<78%) NUR121 grade who have completed the course will be given first opportunity for readmission.
5. Students are not required to seek immediate readmission to NUR121. Students should make this decision in conjunction with their advisor, faculty, and support team.
6. Students must have met with Remediation and Retention specialist according to remediation policy to be considered for immediate readmission.
7. Students who receive a clinical failure will not be eligible for immediate readmission to NUR121 and will need to reapply to the Nursing Program during the next application cycle.
8. If there is a tie for the 10th spot, the tie breaker will go to the student who received the highest grade on the final.

LOA

A leave of absence may be granted, on a case-by-case basis, to a student who is experiencing a situation beyond their control that is negatively impacting their ability to succeed. This includes injuries that are such that mobility is affected. Students will receive an incomplete for the semester.

The situation must be reported to the semester faculty team immediately if the student is experiencing such a situation or believes that such a situation is imminent. The leave of absence requires the consensus agreement of the program faculty. Supporting documentation must be submitted with LOA request before a final decision is determined. If granted, the student must withdraw from the program within 10 days of being approved for the leave of absence or by the last day to withdraw from the course as determined by the AWC Academic Calendar, whichever comes first.

Leave of absence must be submitted to the nursing department at least 7 days before the withdrawal deadline, if applicable. Leave of absence request must be approved by the withdrawal deadline as determined by the AWC Academic Calendar if requesting a leave of absence for the current semester.

If the student fails to withdraw within the established timeframe, the leave of absence approval will be withdrawn.

A withdrawal secondary to a leave of absence will not count against the student even if it would otherwise be considered the second program exit. The leave of absence will not be granted retroactively. If the student fails the semester and then informs the faculty of a situation, the request will be denied.

Failure in NUR 117:

1. Student must retake the course the following academic term and may not progress to NUR 122.
2. A student who fails NUR 117 a second time, will be dismissed from the program.

Advanced Placement students (LPN) who previously withdrew or failed (D, F, W, WF) in any AWC or other nursing program core nursing (NUR) course - have one opportunity for admission and may not readmit.

1. Must have at least one year of practice as LPN.
2. Must rank in NUR 121 cohort for the semester the Adv PI application is submitted for.
3. All other advanced placements follow admission guidelines

REQUESTS FOR READMISSION TO FAILED NUR COURSE AFTER MORE THAN 2 SEMESTERS:

1. Student may be out of the nursing program for no more than two semesters if expected to return to same NUR course. Readmission is based on seat availability.
2. Decision may need to be based on ranking criteria.
3. After two semesters, student will be readmitted to the previous semester in which they were successful (*Applies to students that failed NUR 221 & NUR 222*).
4. Requests must be received by the Department of Nursing by the due date posted in the Nursing Department website (form 506-6).

If readmission is granted to NUR 122, 221 or 222, a drug screen must be submitted and TB and CPR must be current. All requirements must be submitted into Castle branch before registration in the nursing course.

1. A student with 2 withdrawals or failures must wait 6 semesters before applying to NUR121.
2. Requests must be received by the Department of Nursing by the due date posted in the Nursing Department website.
3. Submit readmission request (form 506-6) and admission application (form 305). Individuals will be included in the ranking for the next semester if they meet all current admission requirements.

Approved: 5/03, rev-5/20, 1/21

READMISSION SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Students who were granted a leave of absence (incomplete) the previous semester.
2. Current students with course failure who submit their readmission request by the stipulated due date (Noon (12pm) on the last day of finals week). In the event that 2 students have the same grade, the GPA from admission to the nursing program will be used.
3. Students who requested reentry prior to the readmission deadline posted on the nursing website and advanced placement students who have a planned reentry date noted on their advisement record prior to dates stipulated in nursing website.
4. Advanced placement students who seek advisement after the due dates posted in nursing website.

CALCULATOR USE GUIDELINES POLICY

Nursing students will provide safe medication administration.

Purpose: Drug calculations occur in a variety of settings with or without the luxury of calculators or high-tech equipment. Therefore, to maintain mathematical proficiency, a safe and prudent nurse calculates using the long hand or written method first, and then verifies the result using a calculator.

Procedure:

1. All students will be required to demonstrate drug calculations using the paper and pencil method.
2. A calculator can be used to verify the dosage calculation.
3. Classroom or clinical settings require 'show your work' method allowing for use of a calculator to verify answer.

CLASS SECTION AND CLINICAL GROUP ASSIGNMENT PROCESS

Purpose: To establish greater balance in clinical groups in order to enhance the student's clinical experiences.

Procedure:

1. Each course team assigns their prospective students to class section and clinical groups, taking into consideration faculty recommendations from the previous course by the end of finals week.
2. The program will not accept any requests for accommodation to clinical and simulation scheduling.
3. Incoming students (NUR 121) will be placed into a class section after they complete their health and safety requirements. (Rev 04/14)

ACADEMIC CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Progression within the Nursing Program

Theory Grading System:

All grades are carried to two decimal places throughout the course. There is no rounding of grades on the final course grade (i.e. 83.95 is an 83%). The student must average 78% or higher on all exams to successfully pass the course.

Clinical Grading System:

The clinical component of the nursing course will be evaluated as satisfactory or unsatisfactory for each competency on the Clinical Evaluation Tool. Progression to the next nursing course will be measured as follows:

1. Nursing 1 and 4: The student must obtain a satisfactory on every clinical competency for the semester.
2. Nursing 2: The student must obtain a satisfactory on every clinical competency for the semester.
3. Nursing 3: The student must obtain a satisfactory on every clinical competency for the rotation.
4. A clinical grade of unsatisfactory on any competency will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

CLINICAL JEOPARDY

The Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET) identifies competencies that, if not met, may place the student in clinical jeopardy. Practice of nursing that is evaluated as unsafe by the instructor may be considered as grounds for dismissal from the program. This may occur at any point during the clinical component of the program. A student dismissed for unsafe practice will be given a grade of "F" for the course. This program policy and procedure supersedes the AWC "Withdrawals" policy and procedure stated in the college catalog.

STUDENT ID BADGES

Students are required to return any clinical facility ID badge to their course faculty **before** the Final Exam. The student will receive a grade of incomplete and may jeopardize their progression in the program if the ID Badge is not returned as required. (Rev 11/14)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Courses within the Nursing Program use online resources as a learning and testing tools. The nursing program partnered with Exam Soft to administer all exams. Students are required to have a laptop or iPad as Exams will be administered in a classroom. Exam Soft works with any laptop EXCEPT Google's Chrome book.

For students that do not have a laptop/iPad, AWC has a laptop rental program that is available for all students <https://www.azwestern.edu/support/topics/laptop>

CLASSROOM TESTING GUIDELINES

1. Students are expected to take all examinations on the designated day and time.
2. No extra time will be allotted to students who arrive late.
3. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, which prevent a student from attending an exam, the instructor must be notified **prior** to the administration of the exam. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the missed exam.

4. Students are responsible for making arrangements with the instructor for an exam make-up. Make-up exam will be a different version and may be in alternate format.
5. Students with accommodations must test at the same time as the rest of the course students.
6. Any testing outside of the class scheduled will not be analyzed and graded as is.
7. All belongings- including but not limited to: books, papers, smart devices including watches and cell phones (turned off), hat/baseball caps, food must be stowed away and placed at the back/front of the room during the testing process.
8. Calculators issued by the Nursing Program for classroom and mandatory standardized exams must be used exclusively.
9. All standardized examinations must be completed within the scheduled timeframe.

CLASSROOM TEST ADMINISTRATION

Purpose: The test administration process is designed to meet the following needs: 1) to prepare students for the timed standardized licensure exam, 2) to give students input in the test analysis process in a rational manner, 3) and to maximize test security.

TIMING OF TESTS AND QUIZZES

Written exams will be timed to assist students with time management and to prepare for standardized computerized exams, which are timed. Guidelines for this is as follows:

NUR 121: 1.5 minutes per exam question

NUR 122: 1.5 minutes per exam question

NUR 221: 1.5 minutes per exam question

NUR 222: 1.5 minutes per exam question

EXAM REVIEW

1. Students will be given the option to review their course exam (incorrect answers only) during a subsequent class period after all students in the course have completed the exam. This will be completed using Exam Soft (Exemplify) one time only and is only available in person at the time designated by course faculty.
2. Exam reviews will not include discussion of any specific items on the exam to preserve exam integrity. Note taking (electronically or via paper) will NOT be allowed during the review. If any student is caught note taking (electronically or via paper) access to the course exam review for everyone will be taken away and the review will end immediately.
3. The student caught note taking will be reported to the Academic Integrity Officer and an Academic Integrity form will be submitted. The student will be in jeopardy of being removed from the Arizona Western College Nursing Program and will NOT be allowed for readmission.
4. Any notes taken during the class session after the exam review MUST be presented to the course faculty before leaving the class session/room.

5. A maximum of 15 minutes will be allowed to review (incorrect answers only) on course exams.
6. Only students who are present for class at the appointed exam review date and time will be given access to their course exam review.
7. If a student is not present for class at the appointed exam review date/time, they will NOT be given access to their exam review and will forfeit their opportunity for the review.
8. Once the course exam review time is completed, students will NOT have access to see their exam again.
9. Exam review will NOT occur for any midterm and/or final exams.
10. The faculty reserves the right to omit completing exam reviews at any time.
11. Students may request to meet privately with their course faculty to discuss their performance on an exam, but specific exam content/questions will NOT be discussed. This is strongly encouraged for students who do not achieve a passing score on the exam.

TEST ANALYSIS

In the application of evidence-based practice (EBP), core-nursing course exams are processed for statistical analysis. Based on the statistical data and the review of written student comments, questions lacking in validity or reliability are evaluated and adjustments may be made to test scores based on the statistics and faculty judgment. The number of points that may be added are dependent on the type of question (multiple choice vs multiple answer).

1. Post-analysis results are provided the next class day, when available. Grades are posted in Canvas
2. Students are given the individual "Student Test Report" when they review the exam with faculty.
3. Based on test analysis, major concepts may be clarified, re-taught, and discussed as deemed necessary by the professor.
4. The concept review may be verbal and/or written and distributed as a handout. A written review does not provide the actual questions and answers from the test.
5. Students have one week after grading to contest issues related to exams.

REMEDIATION PROCESS FOR NURSING STUDENTS

Identifying at-risk students

1. Remediation will be required when a Nursing Student meets the following criteria:
 - a. Scores below 78% on a course exam.
 - b. A student is repeating the course.
2. Students who meet the criteria above must meet with either the Remediation Specialist and Course Faculty.
 - a. *Course Faculty is responsible for content clarification.*
 - b. *Remediation Specialist is responsible for assessing exam prep and study trends, test taking trends and reviewing tips, time management, review self-remediation activities, and implement other remediation strategies to support students' path to success.*
3. *Students who fail to meet this criterion may risk their eligibility for readmission.*

Process

1. The Remediation Specialist will assist course faculty in identifying at-risk students, monitoring exam grades, generate exam reports, lead the remediation strategy efforts, contact students to schedule meetings, and keep faculty updated on student progress.

2. Students will meet with course faculty and remediation specialist prior to the next exam. Remediation Specialist will be responsible for documenting in the student advisement file of the occurrence.
3. Remediation activities include but are not limited to textbook resources, content review, tutoring, mentoring, coaching via group and 1-1 sessions, case studies, ATI, HURST, Prep U adaptive quizzes, NCLEX style questions, and workshops, etc.
4. The remediation specialist and course faculty will use various strategies to guide the remediation efforts. These include but are not limited to holistic assessments, coaching on study habits, reading and exam preparation habits, reviewing test-taking skills and self-remediation tips, review of Lippincott resources, and providing campus referrals and resources as needed. Additional documents that may be used include: the Student Success Plan, Course Success Map, exam analysis, and content review.

STUDENT ADVISEMENT

1. All students with an exam grade of 80% or less, will be required to schedule a remediation meeting with the course faculty member in order to review the test and discuss improvement strategies.
2. Further discussion relating to test results must be made by individual appointment with the professor within 2 weeks following the dissemination of final test results. (Rev04/14)

SUCCESS AND REMEDIATION STRATEGIES

1. The AWC Nursing Faculty is focused on ensuring retention and success within the nursing program for all our students. Recommendations include (not limited to):
2. Nursing Orientation for incoming first semester students.
3. Ensuring students are aware of the resources available such as the writing lab and student success center.
4. Faculty intervention each semester for students obtaining 78% or less on any quiz or test throughout the semester. Suggestions that may help students improve exam and quiz grades include:
 - a. Writing a detailed study plan every Sunday evening that includes all reading, studying, assignments, end-of-chapter reviews, Evolve-Elsevier online support, and projects due or in progress.
 - b. Schedule in time for family, work, sleep, etc. This is important, and you may feel less stressed about family demands if you set specific times to be together.
 - c. Plan to study AT LEAST 2-4 hours, 3-5 times a week. Because of your current performance, you should aim for 20 hours/week. Study away from home if there are distractions that affect your ability to concentrate. Include 10-15-minute breaks every hour that allow you to get up and move, go outside, and give your brain a short rest.
*Student must meet with the current faculty by designated time frame, to discuss strategies for success. *
 - d. Reduce the number of hours you work if possible.
 - e. Complete a minimum of 25 NCLEX-style questions each week from any NCLEX-RN or other review book to improve your test-taking skills.
 - f. Join a study group or find a study partner.

- g. Take lecture notes, make index cards, and tape lectures to increase your exposure to the material.
- h. Do all reviews, critical thinking exercises, and other available online resources for your fundamentals and
- i. pharmacology texts.
- j. Do all practice test available in your study guides or at the end of the chapters in your texts.

CLINICAL ACADEMIC PREPARATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Skills Review

Since students will be required to demonstrate competency in previously learned skills, all nursing students are strongly advised to return to the skills lab prior to the start of each semester clinicals and to continue reviewing all previously learned skills.

Failure to show clinical skill proficiency in the clinical area, will result in a grade of ND for the day and student may be sent home which will be counted as an absence. A Lab Referral form will be given and student is then required to return to skills lab to practice the skill and demonstrate proficiency prior to the next clinical day.

GENERAL CLINICAL EXPECTATIONS

- 1. Nursing plans of care are a vital part of the clinical experience. It is the student's responsibility to make an appointment with his/her clinical instructor if clarification becomes necessary at any time during the semester.
- 2. A student may be required to re-demonstrate clinical skills in lab. The clinical instructor will give a Lab Referral form to the student. (See Clinical/Skills Lab Referral Policy and Procedure)
- 3. Students who are not meeting clinical expectations will receive a Skills Lab Referral. Course faculty will identify areas of weakness and what remediation is needed to meet course expectations. Student may also be referred to Clinical Facilitator to help guide student while in a clinical setting.
- 4. Students are required to prepare for each clinical experience. If a student is unprepared to carry out the clinical assignment safely, the clinical instructor is authorized to exclude a student from participation and count the day as a clinical absence.

CLINICAL / SKILLS LAB REFERRAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy: The lab referral process is intended for nursing students needing improvement in lab demo on the "skills checklist," the clinical faculty will initiate the following process. The nursing student is not permitted to return to the clinical site until the skills are successfully completed and signed off by the course faculty. If a student is unable to perform a skill in the clinical setting at a satisfactory level following documentation of their clinical skills and to ensure follow-up in a timely manner. Procedure:

- 1. The form titled "Clinical Lab Practice Referral" is provided to all clinical instructors.
The form is completed by the clinical instructor including:
 - a. Date of referral
 - b. Student's name
 - c. Clinical instructor's name

- d. Specific skill to be reviewed, practiced, and demonstrated by the student
(e.g.: IV therapy: needs to maintain sterile technique during insertion of the IV catheter or needs to be able to prime an IV tubing without wasting a large amount of fluid)
2. The clinical instructor will send the completed Clinical Lab Practice Referral Form via email to the course faculty and to the student (cc to skills lab coordinator) with details of why student needs practice and remediation. The student is informed of the responsibility to review the references for the specific skill and be prepared to practice in the skills lab with observation by the skills lab coordinator
3. The student is responsible to make arrangements with the skills lab coordinator to practice the specified skill.
4. The student is responsible to make arrangements with the course faculty to perform the specified skill.
5. The course faculty completes the section "Successful completion of skill(s)" with an objective description. Date of skills completion and signature must be filled in.
6. The course faculty then emails completed form back to clinical instructor and student.
7. The clinical instructor will attach a copy of completed referral to the Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET-faculty copy).
8. An annotation of the referral is made on the student's Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET- faculty copy).

CLINICAL ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Purpose: To ensure adequate clinical experience for nursing students to develop proficiency in their skills, knowledge, and clinical judgment. Attendance and promptness are expected professional behaviors of all nursing students. Attendance for all clinicals, including hospital, outside clinical facilities, skills lab and simulation, is required. Each nursing course requires a specific number of clinical hours to meet the course requirements.

Procedure:

Clinical Attendance

1. Students are expected to attend every clinical experience. In the event a clinical absence is necessary, the student must notify the clinical instructor and course faculty at least one hour prior to the clinical scheduled start time through the preferred/established communication method (i.e. email, text message, app. notification, etc.).
 - a. It is at the discretion of the course faculty to establish whether the clinical absence is excused or unexcused and whether the student must make up the clinical experience. Supporting documentation will be requested.
 - b. Unexcused absence: any clinical absence where the student fails to notify course faculty and the clinical instructor based on the established communication guidelines and/or no supportive documentation that meets the excused absence criteria, failure to maintain health and safety requirements, failure to meet skills requirements.
 - c. Excused absence: any unforeseen event or circumstance such as an emergency, accident, illness, or death that inhibits the student from attending clinical, and communication meets the established guidelines based on the determining

circumstances. Supporting documentation will be requested.

2. One unexcused clinical absence will result in a clinical makeup day based on the decision of the faculty course team. The student will be responsible for completing the clinical makeup by the date provided by course faculty. Although the student may complete the required clinical makeup day, the missed clinical will still be counted as an unexcused clinical absence and will be documented on the course evaluation tool for program tracking. The opportunity to make-up a missed clinical cannot be guaranteed.
3. If there is a second unexcused clinical absence throughout the duration of the program, the student will be required to meet with the Clinical Facilitator and may result in clinical and course failure.
4. If the clinical is determined to be an excused clinical absence, the clinical makeup day replacement will be at the discretion of course faculty.
5. All clinical absences will be monitored throughout the duration of the program. Students may be placed on improvement plans based on clinical attendance. Failure to meet goals established in the improvement plan or this policy may result in clinical and course failure.
6. Failure to follow the above guideline may result in denial of a clinical makeup day. A denial will be identified on the weekly clinical evaluation tool, under professionalism objective on the formative/summative evaluation.

Tardiness

1. Tardiness is defined when a student is 5 minutes or more late to their assigned clinical experience.
2. Tardiness is defined by the following:
 - a. Excused tardy: when a student properly communicates with the clinical instructor prior to the start of the assigned clinical time.
 - b. Unexcused tardy: when a student is tardy to the clinical site without notifying the clinical instructor prior to the scheduled start time of clinical. For unexcused tardiness, the student will be asked to leave the clinical site immediately and will receive an unexcused absence (see Clinical Attendance Policy).
3. For any student who misses more than 30 minutes of the clinical experience for any circumstances, even with prior communication, may be dismissed from the clinical experience day. The student will receive an unexcused absence for the day if students are dismissed from clinical (see Clinical Attendance Policy). Opportunities to make up the clinical experience cannot be guaranteed.
4. All tardiness for any clinical experience will be documented on the weekly Clinical evaluation tool.
5. Two unexcused tardiness will be documented on the weekly clinical evaluation tool, an unsatisfactory performance will be documented under the professionalism objective on the formative/summative evaluation which could lead to clinical and course failure.

6. Appeal: To appeal the decision, refer to the grievance procedure in the Nursing Student Guide.

CLINICAL EVALUATION

Faculty believes clinical evaluation is an educational as well as evaluative process. The clinical evaluation tool (CET) focus on the achievement of student learning outcomes (SLOs). Clinical instructors will record weekly progress notes related to the course outcomes and share the notes with students. Throughout the program, students are responsible for previously taught skills and components of a skill. Behaviors that jeopardize patient safety show a lack of professionalism or show a lack of progress towards reaching the expected course outcome will result in clinical failure.

UNSAFE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE

1. If at any time a student's clinical performance is evaluated by the clinical nursing faculty to be unsafe or grossly negligent, the student will be dismissed from the clinical area.
2. A student who withdraws from any nursing course due to or following an unsafe clinical performance incident, will also be ineligible for readmission into the program.
3. Overall performance is considered unsafe when a student's action (s) or pattern (s) of behaviors reflects a substantial departure from that which is expected of students at the same level under similar circumstances and when the student's action have or could have resulted in physical or emotional jeopardy. Nursing students are held accountable to the same Standards Related to Registered Nurse Scope of Practice (R4-19-402) and Unprofessional Conduct (R4-19-403) from Arizona State Board of Nursing
<https://www.azbn.gov/education/nurse-practice-act>
4. The student, who earns an "unsafe" in clinical performance, will earn an "f" and is ineligible for readmission to the program.
5. Any student exhibiting unprofessional/unsafe behavior may be dismissed from clinical immediately which may result in getting an unsatisfactory grade. These include but are not limited to:
 - *Unsafe acts
 - *Repeated medication errors
 - *Violating confidentiality
 - *Being unprepared for clinical
 - *Not completing or turning in clinical paperwork on time
 - *Failure to demonstrate progression in clinical performance
 - *Failure to report significant changes in patient status
 - *Unprofessional behaviors
 - *Clinical absence and tardiness, specially without notification.

PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE CODE GUIDELINES

If professional appearance code is NOT met and unable to be corrected on site, the student will be sent home and counted absent for the clinical day

Guidelines for students when present in the clinical, skills lab or simulation settings, include the following:

1. Being meticulous regarding personal hygiene
2. AWC approved uniform, clean and pressed.
3. Hair, nails and skin clean, Noun natural colors.
4. Hair arranged neatly, will not fall in front of the shoulders and must be secured from falling across the face. No hair adornments may be worn in the hair unless approved due to cultural or religious reasons.
5. Fingernails must meet the following criteria:
 - a. No longer than ¼ inch
 - b. No artificial nails, nail wraps, nail gels, decorations, nail jewelry or other addition to natural nails.
 - c. No chipped nail polishes.
6. Good hygiene must be maintained, including oral care. Student will be free of offensive body odor and/or cigarette odor.
7. No strong scents (including, but not limited to; laundry detergents, deodorants, lotion, perfume, cologne)
8. Beards neatly trimmed, remaining face/neck area clean shaved.
9. Jewelry and body art:
 - a. Jewelry limited to one pair small stud earrings and wedding bands only.
 - b. Visible body piercing decoration, i.e. nose, ear, or tongue rings must be clear when on duty. Ear gauges should not be worn when on duty, flesh colored plug may be substituted; should not exceed 1 " in diameter.
 - c. Body Art should be limited in body coverage and may not include: violence, obscene language, hate, or graphics (nudity and profanity) nor have gang affiliations.
10. No gum chewing.
11. No smoking during clinical hours.

NURSING STUDENT UNIFORM

1. Scrubs must be clean, neat and free of wrinkles.
2. Properly fitting scrubs. White top and wine-colored bottoms. **NAME TAG MUST BE WORN ABOVE THE WAIST.**
3. Clothing must be of appropriate material and fit so that underwear is not visible through uniform.
4. Uniforms should fit so that when the student bends forward, the bottom hem of the top covers the pants waistband in the back. Visible chest cleavage is not permitted.
5. White or neutral undergarments under scrub top.
6. White Scrub dresses must be 1 inch below the knee.
7. Flesh or white colored hose for women wearing scrub dress, white socks for students wearing pants.
8. Pant hems should be tailored as to no drag on the floor when walking or standing and must cover the ankle.
9. Long sleeve white scrub jacket with patch on left sleeve.
10. Shoes must be solid covering closed toe. Clogs with heel straps are allowed. (Material must be easy to clean and maintain.) May not include: violence, obscene language, hate, or graphics (nudity and profanity) nor have gang affiliations.

11. For specialty areas, conform to the dress code for that area as specified by clinical instructor.
12. School patch must be worn on uniform at all times; it must be sewn on left sleeve 1 inch below shoulder seam. Watch indicating seconds. (No cellphones).
13. Student's must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in all clinical rotations.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Scrub pants, skirts, dresses, tops and gait belts may be purchased from any uniform store. Patches must be purchased from the AWC Bookstore. ***Stethoscope and watch must be available on the 1st lab day.*** Nametags will be provided to students prior to the first clinical day.

USE OF ELECTRONIC HAND-HELD DEVICES

1. The use of electronic hand-held devices during clinical experiences is permitted in order to facilitate access of resources and information necessary to provide safe and effective client care.
2. Client privacy protection:
 - a. Students may not use electronic hand-held device cameras for any purpose during clinical.
 - b. Healthcare data with client identification is not to be removed, or transmitted from the clinical site. Lab values and other assessment data can be stored on devices, but must not include client names or identification numbers connected to the data.
3. Professional Conduct:
 - a. Students must not use devices for personal business during clinical without faculty permission.
 - b. Students must not use devices for phone calls, voice-mail, texts, internet browsing, or social media while performing clinical duties.
 - c. Violations regarding hand-held electronic devices will be reflected on clinical evaluation tools in relation to clinical objective(s). Violations may result in failure of the clinical course. (Adopted 4/14)

NURSING SKILLS LAB / CLINICAL GUIDELINES

1. Scheduled skills lab hours will be posted.
2. Students must wear the AWC nursing uniform when in the skills lab.
3. Practice in the skills lab on the student's own time is required to be successful in the clinical portion of the course. The student must request instructor assistance as needed.
4. Students must satisfactorily perform each skill in the Skills Lab by the designated date set by course faculty.
5. A specific time frame may be allotted for the successful completion of certain skills.
6. Students are not allowed to perform designated skills in a clinical setting without initial skills demo in the skills lab and instructor approval.
7. Success will depend on early planning, preparation, and *practice*.
8. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the course faculty or clinical instructor properly annotates his/her Skills Checklist.
9. Student must bring their skills lab kits to the lab as directed by the instructor.

10. Needles & syringes must never be removed from the lab.
11. Failure to satisfactorily complete skills may decrease the number of clinical opportunities for patient care experience be reflected in the student's evaluation of preparedness for clinical experiences result in an unsatisfactory clinical grade

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

Health and Safety Requirements-Student

Purpose: All students participating in the AWC Nursing Program (Program) are required to provide safe, effective and supportive patient care. The Program must ensure that students meet the health and safety requirements of all contracted clinical affiliates.

Procedure: The Program will provide applicants with the Health and Safety Requirements information as part of the admission process. All students entering core curriculum nursing courses must meet all Health and Safety requirements to maintain enrollment status for the course.

All documentation of Health and Safety Requirements must be submitted as directed by the date and time indicated in the Entry Requirements packet.

1. Fingerprint ClearanceCard:

- a. Fingerprint clearance is required for enrollment in the Nursing Program. Fingerprint clearance is required to work and care for children, the elderly, and any vulnerable adult. If there is a positive criminal history, a fingerprint clearance may be denied. Students unable to obtain a fingerprint clearance card will be withdrawn from the Nursing Program. The Fingerprint Clearance Card required for the Nursing Program will not meet the requirements for certification through the Arizona State Board of Nursing.
- b. Students applying for enrollment in the Nursing Program are required to disclose any felony conviction on the Nursing Program application form. Falsification or presentation of fraudulent information on the application form may result in denial of enrollment in the program and once enrolled, is grounds for disciplinary action by the College including suspension or expulsion and conditions placed on future enrollment.
- c. Clearance of a student with a criminal history to participate in clinical settings in the College's Nursing Program does not insure that, upon completion of the Program, the student will meet the requirements for licensure. A student with any criminal history must disclose his or her criminal background at the time of application to take the licensure examination. At that time, the Arizona Board of Nursing will review his or her eligibility for eventual licensure as a registered nurse.
- d. Students will be provided a State of Arizona DPS Fingerprint Application packet at the New Student Orientation.
- e. Students that are in possession of a State of Arizona DPS Fingerprint card will be required to submit a copy to the College's Nursing Department, and validity will be verified with DPS before the student is allowed to enter the program.

2. Drug Screening

- a. Students entering the Program are required to submit to a urine drug screening. This drug screening is required by the Program's clinical affiliates. These affiliates require AWC Nursing students to obtain the same type of drug testing as they require of their own employees who work in a clinical setting.
- b. The required drug screening is the student's responsibility and is initiated online _ at <http://www.CertifiedBackground.com>
- c. The required urine sample must be provided in the manner directed by CertifiedBackground.com not more than 60 days prior to the health and safety requirements documentation submission deadline.
- d. If a urine sample tests positive, it will be sent to a Medical Review Officer (MRO) contracted by CertifiedBackground.com. The MRO will contact the student to discuss the positive result and elicit any prescription drug usage or other relevant information that could potentially impact the test result. The MRO will then make a final determination concerning the test result and will convey such determination to the College's Director of Nursing.
 - i. A student who receives a positive drug screen as reported by the MRO will temporarily be excluded from nursing classes pending a final administrative determination.
 - ii. If the determination is that the student (a) tested positive as the result of use of an illegal substance or a non-prescribed legal substance, or (b) for any other reason poses an unreasonable risk to the health or safety of others in a clinical setting, the student will not be permitted to continue in the Program. In addition, if the student is currently licensed by the Arizona State Board of Nursing, a report will be made to such Board.
 - iii. A student may not submit previous drug screen results that were obtained at the request of a person or agency other than the AWC Department of Nursing.
 - iv. A student who is excluded from the Program pursuant to the above process may appeal the decision to the Vice President for Student Services.

3. Physical Examination:

- a. A physical examination is required within 2 months prior to the due date (after June 15th for fall admission; after November 1st for spring admission). The student's medical history must be documented on the Student Medical History form. A physical examination must be completed and documented by a licensed nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or physician (MD or DO).
- b. Should there be any change in physical or mental status throughout the program, the student is required to submit an updated evaluation form completed and signed by a licensed nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or physician, stating the student is able to continue to provide safe, effective and supportive client care.
- c. MMR: Measles (Rubeola, Mumps, and Rubella):
 - i. Documentation of 2 MMRs or laboratory evidence of immunity is required.
 - ii. MMR Vaccine is available for a fee at the county health department.
- d. Varicella:

- e. Documentation of 2 Varicella (Varivax immunizations or Proof of immunity must be provided (Positive Titer)
 - i. If negative, the student must complete and submit a Varicella Susceptibility Awareness Form.
 - ii. In the event of a Varicella (chicken pox) exposure, individuals presumed immune on the basis of vaccination may still be at risk to develop the disease. They do not need to be removed from healthcare settings, but rather monitored by Employee Health from day 10 – 21 following exposure for prodromal signs of infection.
- f. Hepatitis B vaccinations:
 - i. Proof of immunization or waiver must be provided. (Waivers are available from the Nursing Department)
 - ii. The hepatitis B vaccine is strongly recommended. The Hep B is administered in a series of 3 injections over a 6-month period.
- g. Tetanus (Tdor Tdap):
 - i. Documentation of Tetanus booster within the last 8 years.
- h. CPR Competency:
 - i. We will only accept American Heart Association (AHA) life support cards to include BLS, ACLS, PALS and NRP.
 - ii. The CPR card must remain current/valid throughout the program (2 years) in order for student to participate in the clinical component of coursework.
 - iii. An online CPR course is not accepted. Classes are offered at various locations in the community.
- i. Influenza vaccination:
 - i. Documentation of a flu shot administered during the current flu season or proof of declination/waiver by October 30th of each year while enrolled in the program.
- j. TB Screening:
 - i. TB Skin Test (2 Step) or Chest X-Ray
 - ii. For initial TB Testing one of the following is required:
 - iii. Two 1-Step TB skin tests (Step one must be administered within the past 12 months, and step two must be administered within the past 9 months of the due date) OR Negative QuantiFERON Gold blood test dated within 9 months of the due date (lab report required) OR Negative T-SPOT blood test dated within 9 months of the due date (lab report required) OR if positive result, submit:
 - a. A clear chest x-ray (lab report required) dated in the past 12 months AND
 - b. A symptom review survey dated within 9 months of the due date.
- k. A TB test is required annually while enrolled in the program.
 - i. The renewal date will be set for one year.
 - ii. Upon renewal, one of the following is required:
 - iii. 1-Step TB skin test OR Negative QuantiFERON Gold blood test (lab report required) OR Negative T-SPOT blood test (lab report required) OR if past positive result, a symptom Review survey.
 - iv. Hospital medical records or Military records are acceptable.
- l. Students who fail to comply with Health and Safety requirements by the due date will not be allowed to attend clinical experiences until the requirements are met. The

student will be documented as absent for each clinical experience missed. The instructor will document on the weekly clinical report the student did not meet the professional competency and will be considered as not being prepared for clinical.

The student will receive an unsatisfactory

(U) on the Professionalism objective on the upcoming clinical evaluation, either formative or summative. A clinical grade of unsatisfactory on the summative evaluation will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Enrollment denial or dismissal related to the Health and Safety Requirements may be appealed through the Student Grievance Procedure as described in the AWC Catalog.

(Rev 12/15)

CLINICAL INJURY OR EXPOSURE TO INFECTIOUS MATERIALS

Professional Risks

Interactions with patients in the health care system have inherent risks to both the patient and the caregiver, including but not limited to infectious diseases. The nursing program requires handling of and/or contact with human bodily fluids and tissues. The student may be exposed to diseases carried by bacteria and microorganisms. The program provides information regarding known risks for various diseases and the training to appropriately address those risks. All students are expected to provide care to all patients assigned to them in any setting. It is the responsibility of the student to implement appropriate precautions in the care of all assigned patients.

In the event of an injury or exposure to infectious materials while in the clinical setting, the student must immediately inform the clinical instructor and follow the clinical agency's policy.

Health Insurance claim:

1. Students must report the incident to Diversity Inclusion and Access Ability and they will facilitate instructing the students in the process and care options.
<https://www.azwestern.edu/administrative-services/risk-management/injury-or-incident-reporting>
2. It is best for the student to report the incident as soon as possible (i.e. within 24 hours/ the next day), to keep the details fresh when filling out paperwork.
3. If the student's blood work returns zero-negative, the student will be retested 6 weeks post-exposure and on a periodic basis thereafter (e.g. 12 weeks and 6 months after exposure) in order to determine whether transmission has occurred. Results will be sent to AWC HS and the Medical Director. The initial cost for blood work will be sent to Health Services.
4. Students shall be counseled regarding safe sex, deferred from donating blood, etc. until results of source HIV/HBV/HC are known.

Insurance Coverage:

AWC Student Accident insurance policy, Health Special Risk, (HSR) is secondary to all other insurances. If a student has primary insurance, they should follow protocol (pre-authorization) with their primary insurance company for filing of a claim and HSR will be secondary filing of insurance. HSR is limited coverage that has very specific definitions on what is and what is not considered an accident:

- a. *ACCIDENT means a sudden, unexpected and unintended event, which is identifiable and caused solely by an external physical force resulting in injury to a person.*
- b. *Accident does not include a loss due to or contributed to by disease or sickness.*
- c. AWC has \$1000 limit for communicable disease exposures, if the student is exposed while in the clinical setting. This insurance covers certain immediate preventative measures of exposure if reported within 48 hours of the incident but it does not cover ongoing treatment or cost exceeding \$1,000.
- d. Please note: Only the insurance company (HSR) determines if an incident is

covered under the insurance plan. (Rev6/11)

STUDENT PREGNANCY

Policy: Arizona Western College is committed to protecting its pregnant nursing students from health and safety hazards that are known to be present in the clinical health care environment. Nursing students who are pregnant are required to follow the subsequent procedures.

Procedure:

Disclosure:

1. As soon as the nursing student learns that she is pregnant, she must report the pregnancy to her course faculty and clinical instructor. The student will submit a note from a healthcare provider to course faculty. The form should include estimated due date and confirmation that nursing school clinical work may be performed. Any subsequent change in status must be documented by the healthcare provider and submitted to the course faculty. Any contraindications must be stated. Any changes resulting in light duty status will require a LOA.

Infectious Disease Precautions

1. A pregnant nursing student should not receive a TB skin test, chest x-ray or any vaccine without consulting her physician.
2. A pregnant nursing student may not have contact with a known or suspected teratogen.
3. Nursing students who may be pregnant are restricted from administering cytotoxic agents or caring for patients who receive these agents.

Precautions for Working in Radiation Environments

1. A pregnant nursing student must refrain from any patient care environment in which radiation is present.

Post-pregnancy Follow-up

1. A nursing student must submit a follow-up medical-health exam form providing a statement from the healthcare provider. This statement should confirm that the nursing student may return or continue the nursing clinical work being performed without any contraindications.

Clinical Schedules

1. Following submission of disclosure information, the student shall meet with the course faculty to discuss available options. The student will submit a written plan to complete the clinical course time and assignments within an agreed upon timeframe.
2. The course team and any involved clinical faculty will review the plan and provide accommodations based upon space availability and learning needs.

Withdrawal

1. If the clinical work is contraindicated either during pregnancy or post pregnancy, the nursing student must withdraw from the course and may request readmission as detailed in the

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

Students who have any change in their health status during the semester are required to submit documentation to the nursing office. If injury (ies) is/are such that it will impair continuing in the program, a leave of absence may be requested.

ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR CLINICAL NURSING STUDENTS

Nursing is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective and psychomotor performance requirements. Patient safety is dependent on the nursing student's ability to meet the following Functional & Technical Abilities Essential for Nursing Practice. These standards are a part of each nursing course. It is required that every clinical student meets these standards to be able to engage in learning activities that will not endanger students, faculty or patients. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether or not necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonable while assuring patient safety. Please contact AWC's disabilities coordinator to receive information regarding disability accommodations and documentation requirements. To ensure appropriate accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to request accommodations in a timely manner and to provide appropriate documentation to verify eligibility for support services. (5/02)

Policy: In order to provide safe care in the nursing program the student must be able to satisfy, with or without reasonable accommodation, physical, cognitive and behavioral abilities required for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the curriculum. Nursing students must be able to perform a variety of patient care activities without restriction in Skills Lab and Clinical Settings. The clinical nursing experience also places students under considerable mental and emotional stress as they assume responsibilities and duties impacting patient's lives. Students must be able to demonstrate rational and appropriate behavior under stressful conditions to remain in the program. Individuals should consider the mental and physical demands of the program as described below, prior to submitting an application. Any change in physical, cognitive and/or behavioral status of the nursing student would require a new student medical history form to be placed in the student file in the nursing office.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES</u> <u>(not all inclusive)</u>
Gross Motor Skills	Gross motor skills sufficient to provide the full range of safe and effective nursing care activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move within confined spaces • Sit and maintain balance • Stand and maintain balance • Reach above shoulders (e.g., IV poles) • Reach below waist (e.g., plug electrical appliance into wall outlets)
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor skills sufficient to perform manual psycho motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up objects with hands • Grasps small objects with hands (e.g., IV tubing, pencil) • Write with pen or pencil • Key/type (e.g., use a computer) • Pinch/pick or otherwise work with fingers (e.g., manipulate a syringe) • Twist (e.g., turn objects/knobs using hands) Squeeze with finger (e.g., eye dropper)
Physical Endurance	Physical stamina sufficient to perform client care activities for entire length of work role.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain repetitive movement (e.g., CPR) • Maintain physical tolerance (e.g., work entire shift)
Physical Strength	Physical strength sufficient to perform full range of required client care activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push and pull 25 pounds (e.g., position clients) • Support 25 pounds of weight (e.g., ambulate client) • Lift 25 pounds (e.g., pick up child, transfer client) • Move light objects weighing up to 10 pounds (e.g., IV poles) • Move heavy objects weighing from 11 to 50 pounds • Defend self against combative client • Carry equipment/supplies • Use upper body strength (e.g., perform CPR, physically restrain a client) • Squeeze with hands (e.g., operate fire extinguisher)
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from place to place and to maneuver to perform nursing activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twist • Bend • Stoop/squat • Move quickly (e.g., response to an emergency) • Climb (e.g., ladders/stools/stairs) • Walk

Perceptual/Sensory ability	Sensory/Perceptual ability to monitor and assess clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory abilities to hear alarms, auscultatory sounds, hear cries for help, etc. • Hear faint voices • Hear faint body sounds (e.g., blood pressure sounds, assess placement of tubes) • Hear in situations when not able to see lips (e.g., when masks are used) • Visual acuity to read calibrations on syringe, assess color (e.g. cyanosis, pallor, flushed skin) • See objects up to 20 inches away (e.g., information on a computer screen, skin conditions) • See objects up to 20 feet away (e.g., client in a room) • See objects more than 20 feet away (e.g., client at end of hall) • Use peripheral vision • Distinguish color (e.g., color codes on supplies, charts, bed) • Distinguish color intensity (e.g., flushed skin, skin paleness) • Tactile ability to feel vibrations and detect temperature (e.g. pulses, skin solutions) • Feel differences in surface characteristics (e.g., skin turgor, rashes) • Feel differences in sizes, shapes (e.g., palpate vein, identify body and marks) • Detect environmental temperature (e.g. check for Olfactory ability to detect smoke) • Detect odors from client (e.g., foul smelling drainage, alcohol breath, etc.) • Detect smoke • Detect gases or noxious smells drafts)
Cognitive/conceptual/ Quantitative Abilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to read and understand written documents in English and solve problems involving measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis and synthesis. 2. Ability to gather data, to develop a plan of action, establish priorities and monitor and evaluate treatment plans and modalities. 3. Ability to comprehend three-dimensional and spatial relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurately processes information on medication container, physicians' orders, monitor and equipment calibrations, printed documents, flow sheets, graphic sheets, medication administration records, other medical records and policy and procedure manuals. • Convert numbers to and/or from the Metric System • Measure time (e.g., count duration of contractions, etc.) • Count rates (e.g., drips/minutes, pulse) • Use measuring tools (e.g., thermometer. • Calculates appropriate medication dosage given specific patient parameters
Acquiring fundamental knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to learn in classroom and educational settings 2. Ability to find sources of knowledge and acquire the knowledge 3. Ability to be a life-long learner 4. Novel and adaptive thinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire, conceptualize and use evidence-based information from demonstrations and experiences in the basic and applied sciences, including but not limited to information conveyed through online coursework, lecture, group seminar, small group activities and physical demonstrations. • Develop health care solutions and responses beyond that which is rote or rule-based.

Communication	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to communicate in English with accuracy, clarity and efficiency with patients, families, their families and other members of the health team (including spoken and non-verbal communication, such as interpretation of facial expressions, affect and body language) 2. Required communication abilities, including speech, hearing, reading, writing, language skills and computer literacy 4. Communicate professionally and civilly to the healthcare team including peers & instructors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurately elicit or interpret information: medical history and other info to adequately and effectively evaluate a client or patient's condition • Accurately convey information and interpretation of information using one or more means of communication (verbal, written, assisted (such as TTY) and/or electronic) to patients and the health care team • Effectively communicate in teams • Determine a deeper meaning or significance in what is being expressed • Connect with others to sense and stimulate reactions and desired interactions.
Interpreting data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to observe patient conditions and responses to health and illness 2. Ability to assess and monitor health needs 3. Computational thinking 4. Cognitive load management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain and interpret information from assessment maneuvers such as assessing respiratory and cardiac function, blood pressure, blood sugar, neurological status, etc. • Obtain and interpret information from diagnostic representations of physiologic phenomena during a comprehensive assessment of patients • Obtain and interpret information from assessment of patient's environment and responses to health across the continuum • Obtain and interpret for evaluation information about responses to nursing action • Translate data into abstract concepts and to understand data-based reasoning.
Integrating knowledge to establish clinical judgment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making ability needed to care for persons, families and/or communities across the health continuum and within (or managing or improving) their environments – in one or more environments of care 2. Intellectual and conceptual abilities to accomplish the essential of the nursing program (AWC Student Learning Outcomes & Competencies) 3. News-media literacy 4. Transdisciplinary 5. Design mindset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accomplish, direct or interpret assessment of persons, families and/or communities and develop, implement and evaluate plans of care or direct the development, implementation and evaluation of care • Critically assess and develop content that uses new media form, and to leverage these media for persuasive communication • Literacy in and ability to understand concepts across disciplines. • Represent and develop tasks and work processes for desired outcomes
Incorporating appropriate professional attitudes and behaviors into nursing practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concern for others, integrity, ethical conduct, accountability, interest and motivation 2. Acquire Interpersonal skills for professional interactions with a diverse population of individuals, families and communities 3. Acquire Interpersonal skills for professional interactions with members of the health care team including patients, their supports, other health care professionals and team members 4. Acquire the skills necessary for promoting change for necessary quality healthcare 5. Cross-cultural competency 6. Virtual collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with clients/patients, students, faculty, staff and other professional under all circumstances. • Make proper judgments regarding safe and quality care • Function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments inherent in clinical, practice. • Demonstrate professional role in interactions with patients, intra and inter professional teams • Operate in different cultural settings (including disability culture) • Work productively, drive engagement, and demonstrate presence as a member of a virtual team

DRUG AND ALCOHOL

Purpose and Scope: All students participating in the AWC Nursing Program are required to provide safe, effective and supportive patient care. This Nursing Program Drug and Alcohol Procedure ("this Procedure" or "the Procedure") is intended to augment the restrictions in AWC's Student Code of Conduct and to establish a zero tolerance for the use of alcohol and drugs by nursing students. In light of the health care responsibilities of nursing students, the use of unlawful drugs at any time shall be deemed to affect the operation of the College. When this Procedure prohibits drug use, it shall be deemed to apply to drug use at any time.

1. The Student Code of Conduct: This Procedure shall augment, but not replace, the AWC Student Code of Conduct. In any situation where this Procedure and the AWC Student Code of Conduct are in conflict, the provisions of this Procedure shall control.
2. Definitions: The following terms shall apply to this Procedure: The term "drug" or "drugs" includes any narcotic, dangerous drug, prescription medication, steroid, vapor-releasing toxic substance, marijuana, or controlled substance as defined by Arizona law. The term "drug" or "drugs" includes imitation controlled substances and imitation prescription-only drugs as defined by A.R.S. §13- 3451. --- "Reasonable suspicion" is present when there is an objective, individualized basis to believe that a student has used, possessed, or transferred drugs, or alcohol in violation of this Procedure. This includes, but is not limited to, situations in which a student's behavior or physical appearance suggests impairment. Slurred speech, pupillary changes, impaired physical coordination, or very unusual behavior may indicate impairment. --- The term "transfer" includes any sale, purchase, or other exchange regardless of whether the exchange is completed or merely attempted and regardless of whether something of value is given or paid as consideration for the exchange.
3. Violations of this Procedure: It is a violation of this Procedure for a nursing student to: Violate the drug and alcohol policy provisions set out in Section II (A)(2) of the AWC Student Code of Conduct.
4. Receive a positive drug and/or alcohol test pursuant to the protocol set forth in section E below.
5. Use drugs at anytime, unless the use involves: (i) prescription medication prescribed by a physician, (ii) the medication is used in accordance with the prescription, and (iii) use of the medication does not adversely impact the safe practice of nursing.
6. Possess (other than in the student's capacity as a nursing student), transfer or offer to transfer drugs or drug paraphernalia at any time.
7. Be impaired to any extent as a result of the use of drugs and/or alcohol while functioning in any capacity as a nursing student.
8. Fail and/or refuse (i) to submit to a drug and/or alcohol test when requested by an AWC instructor or administrator, (ii) to comply with a required procedure of a drug and alcohol testing facility (the "Testing Facility") related to the collection of a drug and/or alcohol sample, or (iii) to authorize the Testing Facility to release the results of any drug and/or alcohol test to the Director of Nursing. It is also a violation of this Procedure to attempt to tamper with,

contaminate, or switch a drug and/or alcohol sample provided to Testing Facility.

9. Be convicted of a drug offense.

REASONABLE “SUSPICION” BASED DRUG TESTING

This procedure refers to the use/misuse of, or being under the influence of: alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or prescribed drugs that impair judgement while on duty in any health care facility, school, classroom, or institution as a representative of the nursing program. The nursing department may test students on a reasonable cause basis.

Protocol for Conducting a Drug and/or Alcohol Test:

The following protocol shall be followed if: (i) an AWC nursing instructor or an AWC nursing staff member (hereafter an instructor and a staff member are collectively referred to as an “Instructor”) observes behavior by a nursing student that provides reasonable suspicion that the student has violated this Procedure, and/or (ii) a reliable third person relays information about a nursing student to an instructor that provides reasonable suspicion that the student has violated this Procedure.

1. The Instructor shall immediately notify the Director of Nursing who will notify the Dean of Instruction of the matter.
2. The Instructor shall remove the student to a private setting. The Instructor will discuss with the student the behavior observed by the Instructor and/or the information reported to the Instructor by a third person. The student will be allowed to respond verbally to the information presented, explaining his or her behavior. The Instructor has the discretion as to whether to identify any third party that provided information to the Instructor. The Instructor may also ask the student questions concerning the student's use or possession of drugs and/or alcohol.
3. After discussion with the student as referenced in #2 above, if the Instructor determines that there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has used drugs, and/or alcohol in violation of this Procedure, the Instructor shall request that the student immediately undergo a drug and/or alcohol test at a Testing Facility chosen by the College.
4. The Instructor shall inform the student that any failure or refusal to submit to a drug and alcohol test constitutes a violation of this Procedure.
5. The Instructor shall make arrangements to transport the student to the Testing Facility. After the drug and alcohol tests are completed, the Instructor shall make arrangements to transport the student from the Testing Facility to the student's residence.
6. The student shall authorize the Testing Facility to release the results of any drug and alcohol test to the Director of Nursing.
7. The Instructor shall prepare and deliver to the Director of Nursing a written report, documenting the Instructor's involvement in the matter, and including any observations of impairment made by the Instructor and/or any information received from a third party about a possible violation of this Procedure. The report shall also describe the arrangements made by the Instructor to transport the student to and from the Testing Facility.

The Drug and Alcohol Testing Facility:

All sample collection and drug and alcohol testing shall be performed according to the following conditions:

1. The Testing Facility shall comply with scientifically accepted analytical methods and procedures for sample collection and testing. Drug testing shall be conducted at a laboratory approved or certified by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the College of American Pathologists, or the Department of Health Services.
2. The Testing Facility shall provide confirmation of any positive drug test results. Confirmation of a positive drug test result shall be by use of a chromatographic technique such as gas chromatography-mass spectrometry or another comparably reliable analytical method.

Cost of Drug and Alcohol Testing: The College shall be responsible for any cost of transporting a student to and from the Testing Facility and for the cost of any drug and alcohol testing, including the cost of any confirmatory test.

Exclusion from Clinical Experiences: Pending the results of any drug and alcohol test, a student shall be excluded from all clinical experiences.

Drug Test Indicating Use of Prescribed Medications: If a student tests positive for a prescribed medication, the student must obtain a written statement from a physician, chosen by the College, stating that (i) the drug level is within prescribed limits, (ii) the drug level does not indicate impairment or abuse, and (iii) the drug level does not interfere with the safe practice of nursing. The student must also present evidence of the applicable prescription in the student's name. The above conditions must be satisfied before the student will be allowed to resume clinical experiences, and failure to satisfy any of the above-referenced conditions within a reasonable time shall be deemed presumptive evidence that a nursing student has violated this Procedure. The College shall pay the cost of the report required by this section.

Confidentiality of Drug and Alcohol Testing: A request that a student take a drug and alcohol test, and the results of any such test, shall remain confidential, except that an instructor, the Director of Nursing and/or the Dean of Instruction may inform other College administrators, faculty members, clinical personnel, the State Board of Nursing, and other entities on a reasonable need-to-know basis. The request for testing and the test results may also be used as evidence in a disciplinary proceeding. The mere absence of a student from a clinical setting or permission for a student to later make-up work is not a reason for disclosure. Positive drug and/or alcohol test results shall be placed in a student's records. Negative drug and/or alcohol test results shall only be placed in a student's records at the request of the student.

Hearing and Appeal Rights: Upon receipt of information indicating a violation of this Procedure, including but not limited to the receipt of a positive drug and/or alcohol test, the Director of Nursing shall inform the Dean of Instruction. The Director of Nursing shall then file a complaint with the Vice President for Student Services, pursuant to Section IV of the AWC Student Code of Conduct. Upon

filing of such a complaint, a formal hearing shall be held to determine whether there has been a violation of this Procedure. The formal hearing shall occur pursuant to the procedures set forth in the AWC Student Code of Conduct, and the Vice President for Student Services shall serve as the Hearing Officer. The Dean of Instruction shall serve as the College administration representative at the hearing. If the Hearing Officer finds that the student violated this Procedure, the presumptive discipline imposed, absent what the Hearing Officer believes to be unique extenuating circumstances, shall include a suspension of the student from the AWC Nursing Program for not less than one year. At the discretion of the Hearing Officer, the student may also be suspended or expelled from the College. The student retains the right to appeal the decision of the Hearing Officer as set forth in Section V of the AWC Student Code of Conduct.

Readmission to the Nursing Program: A student who has been suspended from the Nursing Program pursuant to this Procedure, may request to be readmitted to the Nursing Program at the end of the suspension period, pursuant to the general readmission

STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION

Students are encouraged to participate in the AWC Student Nurses Association. This organization provides students with an opportunity to:

1. Become aware of and participate in professional activities for nursing
2. Participate in school and community activities
3. Enjoy social activities
4. Have an active voice in influencing the future of nursing

PINNING CEREMONY

Policy: The ceremony is a Nursing Program function that takes place at the end of each semester. Graduates have the opportunity to elect a student speaker, guest speaker, and a master of ceremony. Attire for the ceremony consists of the clinical uniform. Graduates may purchase a pin, which will be attached to a ribbon to be pinned.

Purpose: Florence Nightingale established the tradition in the 1860's when she presented a medal as a symbol of merit to her most deserving graduates. The Pinning ceremony evolved into a ritual that signifies the welcoming of nursing graduates into the nursing profession.

Procedure: Information relating to ceremony planning will be disseminated to graduating students within the course Canvas.

EDUCATION POLICIES

Arizona Western College Nursing Program is congruent with the College-wide policies for non-discrimination, reporting information about discrimination/sexual harassment, safety and security, and in the providing of disability services and accommodations. Any differences in FERPA or the maintenance of student files policies are justified by the purpose of the Nursing Program.

<https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-right-to-know>

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Arizona Western College is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action institution. No person in whatever relationship with the College, shall be subjected to discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, creed, color, nationality, national origin, ancestry, age, sex/gender (including pregnancy), marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, gender identity or expression, familial status, affectional or sexual orientation, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, disability

(including perceived, physical, mental, and/or intellectual disability) or other protected categories or activity (i.e., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in the complaint process). Sexual harassment is a form of unlawful gender discrimination and, likewise, will not be tolerated. Any student who reasonably believes that they are the subject of, or witness to, harassing or intimidating behavior should report the behavior directly to the Campus Life Office. The electronic form for incident reporting is available on the AWC Campus Life website at:

<https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-conduct/incident-report>

A nursing student who believes they are subject to harassment from clinical facility staff should report the incident to their clinical instructor immediately. The clinical instructor will then be responsible for reporting to the incident the faculty team who will in turn make a report to the Director of Nursing within 24 hours.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

There is an expectation for mutual respect and civility between faculty and students. If an issue should arise, the student should schedule a meeting with course faculty to discuss the issue. Quite often, issues can be resolved through direct communication between faculty and the student.

Should a student feel that he or she has been treated unfairly and is unable to resolve the matter informally; the student may elect to file a grievance. The chain of command is as follows:

1. First, discuss the problem with the nursing instructor involved. If it is a clinical issue, the student must speak with the assigned clinical faculty member.
2. If the issue cannot be resolved with the Course faculty, the student may visit with the Director of Nursing and present the issue.
3. If the issue remains unresolved at the Director's level, the student may make an appointment to speak to the Associate Vice President for Workforce Development Career & Technical Education.

The rules and guidelines in the AWC Student Code of Conduct must be followed if a formal grievance is initiated. <https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-conduct>

SAFETY AND SECURITY

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act, AWC publishes an Annual security Report (ASR) by Oct 1st and is available for review on the Police Department web site at: <https://www.azwestern.edu/student-support/campus-police>
The website provides information including campus alerts, crime statistics or how to report an incident.

DISABILITY SERVICES/ACCOMMODATIONS

Students needing information about accommodations are encouraged to contact

<https://www.azwestern.edu/student-support/accessibility-services>

Students must self-identify with Access ABILITY Resource Coordinator and submit documentation on the disability(ies):

<https://www.azwestern.edu/student-support/accessibility-services/accommodations>

Students with accommodations are responsible for giving the completed form to their course faculty. They are responsible for discussing the accommodations they are entitled to if the provision of the accommodation(s) does not jeopardize the integrity of the course. Students are responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner. Students with disabilities must maintain the same responsibility for their education as other students. These responsibilities include maintaining the academic integrity of course and following the Student Conduct code.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (FERPA)

Arizona Western College complies fully with FERPA which is designed to protect the privacy of student educational records.

<https://www.azwestern.edu/student-life/student-right-to-know>

FEES AND FINANCIAL AID

College and program fees are found in the AWC course catalog and schedule of classes found at www.azwestern.edu. Financial aid information is also found on the AWC website at http://www.azwestern.edu/student_services/enrollment_services/financial_aid/. If you have any question about financial aid contact the financial aid office by calling 928-344-7634.

WITHDRAWALS

The program adheres to the AWC Withdrawals Policy and Procedure, which may be found in the AWC Catalog.

STUDENT FILES

The Nursing Department maintains a file of each active student, separate from the College record. The student departmental file contains information related to the admission requirements, letters to the student, clinical evaluations, and notes on program progression.

STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

Policy: A written record of student progress in the nursing program will be kept on file in the nursing department.

Procedure:

1. Records of inactive students will be archived and retained for three years.
2. The file includes: academic records, medical and immunization records, clinical evaluation records, and correspondence.
3. Exam grade records are retained for at least one calendar year from the date of issuance.

SOURCES

- American Nurses Association, 2001 Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements, Washington, D. C.
- Arizona Western College (2007) Student Code of Conduct: Policies and Procedures, Yuma, AZ.
- Cronewett, L. et. al. (2007) Quality and safety education for nurses. *Nursing Outlook*, 55(3), 122- 131.
- Gardner, H. (1995) *Leading Minds—An Anatomy of Leadership*. New York, NY: Basic Books.
- Massachusetts Department of Higher Education Nursing Initiative Nurse of the Future Nursing Core Competencies©, AUGUST 2010, BUILDING THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE OF NURSING EDUCATION AND PRACTICE.
- Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. (2014).
- National Council of State Boards of Nursing (2012), 2013 NCLEX-RN Detailed Test Plan for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses: Item Writer/Item Reviewer/Nurse Educator Version.
- Tanner, C. (2006) Thinking like a nurse: A research-based model of clinical judgment in nursing. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 45(6), 204-211.
- Wynd, C. (2003) Current factors contributing to professionalism in nursing. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 19(5), 251-261.

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NURSING STUDENT GUIDE RECEIPT

**Please sign this statement and return
it to your professor before leaving this class.**

The signature of this document signifies that I have received the Arizona Western College Nursing Student Guide. I am responsible for the information that has been provided. I am hereby notified of the availability of student policies in the AWC General Course Catalog, the AWC Student Handbook & Activity Planner, and on the AWC website. The AWC Nursing Student Guide is maintained current on the AWC Nursing Department website at <http://www.azwestern.edu/nursing>. Should the printed information differ from information found on the AWC website, the website information will take precedence.

The nursing program will maintain this receipt.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____



AWC Nursing Program Professional Behavior Contract

Expected behaviors as a Student Nurse:

I will:

1. Hold myself to the highest standards and practices of my profession:
 - a. I desire to be the nurse I would want if I or my loved ones were dependent on and needed to be cared for.
2. Hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping in the practice of my calling.
 - a. I will refrain from sharing information about my clients(s) with those who do not need to know.
 - b. I will refrain from speaking about clients in public spaces, elevators, hallways, cafeteria, and outside of clinical.
3. Assist fellow healthcare providers in their work, and devote myself to the welfare of my clients, my family, and my community.
 - a. I will demonstrate Caring, I will continue to be genuinely engaged and empathetic to the needs of my client(s)
4. Will embrace the responsibilities of my profession.
 - a. I will never take lightly the responsibility of having the life of my client(s) in my hands.
 - b. I will ask for help when I need it, and I will remember I am not alone in the care of my client(s).
5. Be prepared for class lectures, simulations, and clinical.
 - a. I will be dressed appropriately in my school uniform when I am in clinical, simulations, or representing AWC.
 - b. I will be on time for my day, present and aware.
6. Constantly endeavor to increase my knowledge and skills in nursing and to use them wisely.
 - a. I will review the material(s) for the next day so that I will be familiar with the content of the day.
 - b. I will apply learned content in clinical and simulations to better care for my client(s).
 - c. I will be prepared to provide safe care before pre-conference on my assigned clinical day.
7. To not allow incivility or disrespectful behaviors towards clients, faculty, staff, or my fellow students.
 - a. If I witness these behaviors, I will report them to my faculty or my clinical instructor(s).
 - b. If I disrespect my fellow students, faculty, staff, or clients, I know this may result in course failure.
8. I will follow the guidelines of the Student Nurse's Guide and as an extension the AWC Student Code of Conduct.
 - a. https://www.azwestern.edu/sites/default/files/programs/nursing/AWC_Nursing_Student_Guide.pdf
 - b. https://issuu.com/arizona-western-college/docs/22-1293_code_of_conduct_digital
 - c. I understand that if I do not follow these guidelines, the repercussions may result in a clinical plan of improvement, course failure, and/or dismissal from the nursing program.

I have been provided a copy of this document and have read these professional responsibilities, and I will hold myself accountable to these expectations.

Student Signature _____

Date: _____