



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

SUBJECT: Cover Sheet

Online RN to BSN
Student Handbook for
Nursing Majors



Supplement To:
Southern Utah University
Student Handbook
and
The SUU General
Catalog

Created by
SUU Department of Nursing Faculty and Staff

Date of Last Review: 04/2024



Notice to Students:

All students in the RN to BSN program have the responsibility to read, understand, and use the information contained in this handbook. Failure to comply with any of the policies and procedures contained herein may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, dismissal or termination from the program. Students will be responsible for any tuition or fees that are not refundable as the result of dismissal or termination due to non-compliance.



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Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#4
Date Originated: 8/2004
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SUBJECT: Southern Utah University (SUU) Department of Nursing (DON)

Welcome to Baccalaureate Nursing at Southern Utah University! Your educational experience will be challenging and bring you many opportunities to increase your knowledge and develop your skills.

The faculty and staff are pleased to be able to learn and grow with you. I encourage you to fully engage in the reading, course work and experience-based learning, provided to you while in this program. If you commit to full participation you will graduate with a strong foundation that will serve you well throughout your professional life.

This Student Nurse Policy Handbook was developed to assist you in understanding your role and responsibilities in the SUU Nursing Program. The handbook is a resource that complements university student policies. The Department of Nursing student handbook provides nursing- specific policies that clarify policies in the SUU General Catalog (www.suu.edu/academics/catalog) and the SUU Student Handbook (<http://help.suu.edu/handbook/>).

This handbook contains essential information about your role and responsibilities in the program. Nursing faculty and staff utilize the handbook as a guide in making decisions when questions arise. The handbook should be reviewed frequently for updates; you are held accountable for the most recent policies and procedures.

Other resources important to role development as a nurse are *AACN's Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice*, *ANA's Standards of Clinical Nursing Practice*, *ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses* and *ANA's Social Policy Statement*. These documents form the foundation of the nursing curriculum. Concepts from these four documents are used to design meaningful course and experience-based learning.

Once again, welcome! We are glad you are a part of SUU Nursing. Your success will be determined by your commitment to learning. We are committed to facilitating that success.

Suzie Campbell, Chair
Department of Nursing



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
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Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#5
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SUBJECT: Faculty and Staff

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Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
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RNBSN#6
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SUBJECT: Historical Background: Department of Nursing

Introduction to Southern Utah University

Welcome to Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah — located among five breathtaking national parks — where learning is our primary focus. What you learn and experience while obtaining your degree will affect you — and those around you — for the rest of your life.

SUU was launched over 115 years ago. The story of how this institution began is inspirational; I encourage you to read our fascinating history, or view the historical re-enactment, [Back Up The Mountain](#). The spirit of the founders of SUU to support education and to foster student success remains evident even on today's campus. At SUU students are our first priority in all that we do.

Explore the numerous and diverse majors offered through our seven outstanding colleges and schools. There are more than 85 undergraduate programs at the associates and bachelor degree levels. SUU also offers several graduate programs. All of Southern Utah University's programs are fully accredited.

At SUU, we're interested in contributing to your character as well as your intellect. At SUU we have some of the most enriching, extracurricular activities, including a roster of nearly 100 clubs and organizations, the Utah Summer Games, and the Utah Shakespeare Festival. SUU is the region's cultural center.

For all of these reasons, and many more, a degree from SUU is a valuable investment in your future. Our graduates enjoy working in the field of their choice. We are driven to fulfill the charge in our Vision Statement — that is, to "promote personalized learning, and academic integrity (to) enable students and graduates to honor thought in all its finest forms and to excel in life."

<https://www.suu.edu/president/>

We look forward to being part of your success!

School Colors: Red, Black, White & Gray **Mascot:** Thunderbird



Introduction to the Baccalaureate Nursing Program

The Southern Utah University Department of Nursing established a baccalaureate nursing program in 2004. The first student class was admitted in August, 2004. The SUU Nursing Program was accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education in April of 2006 with a reaffirmation of accreditation in 2020. From the beginning, the nursing program has prided itself on meeting the regional health care needs of Southern Utah through personalized, quality education provided by qualified, dedicated, and supportive faculty and staff.

The SUU Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) curriculum prepares students for generalist positions in professional nursing practice. Graduates are prepared to provide nursing care across the lifespan to culturally diverse individuals and groups.

The SUU Department of Nursing has grown to offer several programs:

- Pre-licensure (Face to face)
- Health Professional to BSN (Face to face)
- RN to BSN (Online)
- MSN in Leadership and Administration (Online)
- FNP (Online)

The BSN degree provides flexibility in career choices as well as a foundation for continued formal study in graduate programs. Alumni have the opportunity to work in hospitals, health departments, correctional facilities, home health, long-term care, educational institutions, leadership roles, and international experience.



SUBJECT: Vision, Mission, Goals and Student Learning Outcomes of SUU Department of Nursing

I. Vision

The Southern Utah University (SUU) Department of Nursing will be a *nationally recognized* Baccalaureate Nursing Program, providing quality innovative nursing education that efficiently and effectively meets the needs of students and the regional community.

II. Mission

The Department of Nursing is made up of academic programs that prepare individuals for professional nursing practice. A Bachelor of Science in Nursing is recommended for students preparing for entry into nursing practice. We offer a learning-centered education that meets the requirements for a baccalaureate degree at SUU and ensures that graduates have the abilities to be successful, *excellent*, professional nurses. The purpose of the Department of Nursing is to provide learning opportunities that engage students in a comprehensive program of classroom and experiential learning that emphasizes caring, critical thinking, patient safety, ethical decision making, communication, civic responsibility and professional excellence.

III. Goals

The observable, measurable goals of the Department of Nursing and our outcomes by which we will accomplish them are:

- **To excel in its commitment to high-quality outcomes and student achievements** by supporting faculty members as health care professionals. Faculty will demonstrate excellence in teaching, scholarly endeavors, practice, and professional community service and provide leadership in nursing practice by fostering good teaching, encouraging participation in clinical practice, professional service, and scholarly engagement.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Southern Utah University Baccalaureate Nursing Program, graduates will be able to do the following:

1. Provide quality professional nursing care based on a synthesis of theoretical and empirical knowledge from nursing, physical and social sciences, arts and humanities, and life experiences.
2. Use evidence as the basis for clinically competent contemporary nursing care.
3. Communicate effectively using various means in a variety of roles and settings.
4. Optimize health care to diverse individuals, families, groups and communities through collaboration with interdisciplinary health care teams.
5. Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and motivation toward life-long learning.
6. Influence the quality of nursing and health care using leadership skills, management concepts, and a knowledge of the political system.
7. Be legally and ethically accountable for clinical nursing practice.



SUBJECT: Organizational Structure, Department of Nursing

I. Chair of the Department: The Department of Nursing Chair is directly responsible for administrative interface with faculty and departmental programs and with lines of authority from the Dean through central administration. Department assignments requiring departmental level action automatically go to the department chair.

REFERENCES: SUU Policy and Procedures, 6.2, Academic Officers

- a. Standing Committees.** Standing Committees are permanent committees created to accomplish department goals.
 - i. Level Work Groups:** Consists of all faculty who teach any course in any given level/cohort. The lab Specialist serves as a resource when invited. Level Work Groups ensure smooth functioning, coordination, and implementation of each level of the curriculum. The level group meets a minimum of two times per semester and is headed by a faculty member (Level Coordinator) selected by the group. Every faculty member who teaches on the level is a member of the level work group.
 - ii. Level Coordinating Council:** The Level Coordinating Council (LCC), consisting of the department chair and level coordinators (or may include all faculty), ensures smooth functioning, coordination, and implementation of the curriculum within and between levels. The committee meets at least once a semester and is headed by the department chair.
 - 1. Responsibilities Include:**
 - a.** Admission and Advancement Committee meeting for selection of students and to address admission and advancement needs and other times as deemed necessary by faculty or chair.
- b. Department Meetings**
 - i.** Assure that the department engages in annual curriculum review and analysis, receive reports of such analyses, and make recommendations to faculty. Headed by Curriculum Committee Chair.
 - ii.** Assure that all components of the curriculum adhere to the standards and policies of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.
 - iii.** Serve as the Policies and Procedures Committee; ensuring smooth coordination, writing, approval, and implementation of the policies of the Department of Nursing.
 - iv.** Implement review and development of new and/or improvement of existing courses and other elements of the curriculum.
 - v.** Receive and act on curriculum and program proposals submitted by other committees and faculty members.
 - vi.** Conduct annual reviews and analysis of data concerning program function and outcomes.
- c. Ad Hoc Committees:** Ad Hoc Committees are temporary committees created to accomplish department goals or to focus on examining a specific subject. Most are created with a deadline by which they must complete their work, or expire.

II. Faculty: SUU Department of Nursing Faculty is an academic employment status for those persons who have responsibility for the conduct of approved nursing courses, scholarship and service activities for the Department.



SUBJECT: Organizational Structure, Department of Nursing

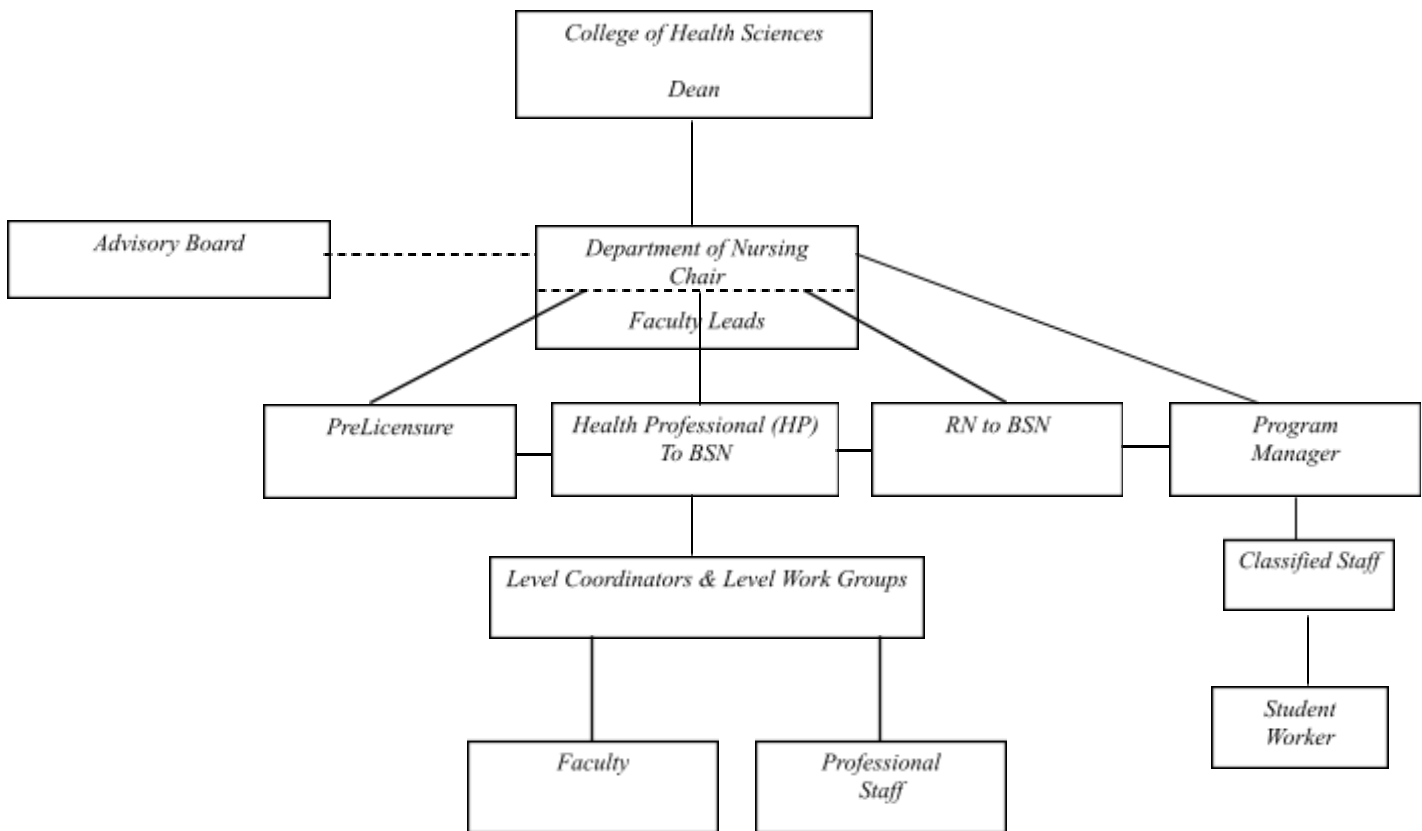
III. Advisory Board: The Department of Nursing Advisory Board meets at least annually to provide a forum for direct communication between the department and stakeholders. The advisory board serves to keep the community informed of department activities and provide community and stakeholder input to the department.

- 1. Definition of Community of Interest:** The following groups and individuals have an interest in the mission, goals, and expected outcomes of the SUU Department of Nursing and our effectiveness in achieving them:
 - a. Internal Stakeholders:** Current nursing students; SUU Department of Nursing faculty, staff, and administrators; SUU community.
 - b. External stakeholders:** Prospective students; alumni; community members served by alumni; contracted health care agencies; employers of alumni; Utah State Board of Nursing; Department of Nursing Advisory Board.



SUBJECT: Organizational Structure, Department of Nursing

Organizational Chart, Department of Nursing





SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#9
Date Originated: 8/2006
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SUBJECT: Curriculum Pattern (Suggested) 100% Online

The RN to BSN program is 100% online. An affordable, CCNE accredited program that is delivered in an online format and designed for working students. Begin when you are ready and complete your nursing core in as few as ten-months by taking advantage of six starts a year and accelerated seven-week courses.

TO GRADUATE WITH A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN THE STATE OF UTAH, the RN to BSN student needs a minimum of 120 credits with 40 of those credits being upper division courses. Students must complete at least 30 credits at SUU and 16 of these must be in SUU nursing coursework. In addition students will receive ten upper division credits and twenty lower division credits with proof of their RN license.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

An Associate of Science (AS) degree from a Utah State Institution satisfies General Education requirements if your degree includes: American Institutions Requirement (see Chapter 14) and MATH 1040 or MATH 1031 (Statistics). Otherwise these courses must be taken and Statistics must be completed before students can take NURS 4361, Essentials of Evidence Based Practice for the RN to BSN. All other degree types will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Some or all of the General Education classes below may need to be completed before students can graduate.

Minimum requirements to apply for admission include the following:

- Acceptance to SUU with all transcripts transferred to SUU (\$50.00 non-refundable application fee and official transcripts are required).
- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale

Application Information can be obtained from: gradapps@suu.edu, <https://online.suu.edu/online/sap/nur/>, or <https://online.suu.edu/programs/rn-bsn.aspx>

Accreditation requires every RN to BSN program (as with every nursing program) to have some face-to-face experience-based learning. The courses with an experience-based learning component require face-to-face interactions with live patients, groups, or communities. The details of the experience-based learning activities are different for each experience-based learning course and the number of hours required will vary in each experience-based course. The student will complete these activities as guided by the course instructor. The experience-based learning components are not completed in an acute care setting (unless the student chooses to do their leadership clinical in that setting).

Advanced Standing Requirements: 30 credit hours

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 3101 | (3) Foundations of Prof. Nursing, RN to BSN | <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4361 | (3) Nursing Theory & Research RN to BSN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 3121 | (3) Health Assessment for the RN to BSN | <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4421 | (3) Influencing Quality Within Healthcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 3261 | (3) Health Promotion for the RN to BSN | <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4441 | (3) Contemporary Issues RN to BSN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4341 | (3) Nsg for Wellness in Older Adults for the RN to BSN | <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4471 | (3) Management of the Complex Patient |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4351 | (3) Community Health Nsg for RN to BSN | <input type="checkbox"/> NURS 4551 | (3) Leadership & Mgmt for RN to BSN |

Example Pattern - (Full-Time)

Semester 1 - Term A (Summer, Fall, Spring)			Semester 1 - Term B (Summer, Fall, Spring)		
Course		Credits	Course		Credits
NURS 3101	Foundations of Prof. Nursing, RN to BSN	3	NURS 3261	Health Promotion for RN to BSN	3
NURS 3121	Health Assessment RN to BSN	<u>3</u>	NURS 4361	Essentials of EBP for the RN to BSN	<u>3</u>
		6			6
Semester 2 - Term A (Summer, Fall, Spring)			Semester 2 - Term B (Summer, Fall, Spring)		
Course		Credits	Course		Credits
NURS 4341	Nursing for Wellness in Older Adults <i>(has experience based learning hours)</i>	3	NURS 4351	Community Hlth Nursing RN to BSN <i>(has experience based learning hours)</i>	3
NURS 4421	Influencing Quality Within Healthcare	<u>3</u>	NURS 4471	Management of the Complex Patient	<u>3</u>
		6			6
Semester 3 - Term A (Summer, Fall, Spring)					
Course		Credits			
NURS 4441	Contemporary Issues RN to BSN	3			
NURS 4551	Leadership & Management RN to BSN <i>(has experience based learning hours)</i>	<u>3</u>			
		6			
Total Major Hours:					30



SUBJECT: Technology Requirements

Southern Utah University and the SUU DON recommend that students have the following (minimum) technology competencies. The University publishes yearly Student Computer Hardware Recommendations.

All students must have access to a computer, and be proficient in word processing, e-mail, file transfer and literary searches. Registration is done by computer. All nursing courses in the **RN-BSN** program track are online and program communications are sent via the SUU e-mail server. Specifically, the student must be able to:

1. Access course and program material through CANVAS, selected publishers sites, and other online materials and sites as noted in each faculty members syllabi
2. Use email and post, upload and respond to assignments and discussion forums
3. Complete, send, and receive assignments to faculty or other students using email and attachments/files
4. Read/print email and attachments/files from students, staff, and faculty
5. Use the SUU Gerald R. Sherratt Library online services for research and completion of course assignments
6. Create and upload PowerPoint presentations, google slides or other programs as outline by course syllabi.
7. Use appropriate software for the course/School (standard Microsoft products include MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint)
8. Submit word documents in the following file formats as indicated by course instructions: .doc .docx .pdf
9. Use an appropriate anti-virus application to ensure the files transmitted and received are virus-free
10. Navigate and evaluate websites
11. Purchase of broadband internet connection and home computer is required. A working computer microphone and camera is required and other technology as required by individual faculty per course syllabi

The SUU IT Help Center is your point of contact for all technology issues. The SUU Help Center provides technical support to SUU students, faculty, and staff on a variety of university technology services.

SUU Help Center

Answering your SUU technology questions.

<https://help.suu.edu>

Call: (435)-865-8200

Monday - Friday 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Email: support@suu.edu



SUBJECT: Misc. Policies and Procedures

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

General scholarship information at SUU is available at the following site, <http://www.suu.edu/ss/financial/scholarships.html>. Financial Aid at SUU offers several types of financial assistance to students. (<http://www.suu.edu/ss/financial/>). The SUU/SNA officers can provide you with information about scholarships through the student nurses association.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Papers/assignments are due at the time designated by faculty. With unforeseen circumstances, you may not be able to submit an assignment on the designated due date. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor and negotiate a reasonable alternate due date. *Faculty members retain the option of not accepting late papers/assignments and may deduct points for late work. Individual faculty members maintain final determination in situations related to late work. Please refer to each course syllabi.*

ADA STATEMENT

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 206 of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8235. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

The Department of Nursing strictly follows SUU Policy 11.9, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.suu.edu/studentaffairs/ada.html>).

Photographs, Audio Recordings, and Written Material in Online Classrooms and Clinical Agencies

Release forms (see Appendix) must be signed prior to taking photographs, using any form of technology (camera, video, digital images, cell-phone cameras, etc.) of faculty, students, staff, clinical personnel, or clients. Audio and/or video recordings require signed release forms prior to such recordings being made. Students or faculty must not copy any documents from clinical agencies. Student work may not be copied or publicly displayed without written permission by the student. Patient information must not be obtained/stored using any technology.

Safety in the Experience Based Learning Environment

It is the responsibility of the student to understand and be aware of safety concerns where experience-based hours are completed and to reach out to the assigned course faculty if there are questions or concerns regarding safety.

Liability Insurance

Liability insurance is provided by SUU only for students officially enrolled in courses. Students are not allowed to function as a student nurse in any clinical setting if not officially enrolled in the nursing course. Students should never present themselves as a student nurse without the knowledge of a faculty member.

General Statement of Risks

You are expected to manage your own transportation and assume your own risks when traveling to and from experience-based learning hours. There are inherent risks involved in travel and in experience-based learning. The most obvious risks are accidents, contracting infections or other communicable diseases or workplace violence. Please take precautions to avoid risks and provide for your safety.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

Policy #5.5.4
Date Originated: 8/2007
Date Reviewed: 7/2020
Date Amended: 8/2020

SUBJECT: Academic Integrity/Due Process

The SUU Department of Nursing holds their students to the highest of standards and take very seriously items of Academic Integrity, Conduct, Misconduct, and the rules of Due Process.

Academic Integrity

The Department of Nursing will follow the policies of the Division of Student Affairs on Academic Honesty (<https://www.suu.edu/studentaffairs/academicintegrity.html>) and the SUU Academic Integrity Policy, Policy # 6.33 (<https://help.suu.edu/uploads/attachments/PP633Academic.pdf>).

Student Conduct

Professional behavior is an expectation not just as a student with SUU but also as a member of the nursing community. This puts an added responsibility on you to be familiar with the ethical and legal requirements and responsibilities addressed by SUU and by the nursing profession. The following links will provide you with the information you need to function ethically and legally in your role.

SUU General Catalog, www.suu.edu/academics/catalog; SUU Student Handbook, <https://help.suu.edu/handbook/>, which is a publication of student government; NSNA code www.nsna.org; ANA code www.nursingworld.org; Utah Nurse Practice Act www.dopl.utah.gov).

Student Misconduct

Student misconduct can result in suspension or dismissal from the SUU RN to BSN program. Suspensions will be based on unsafe and/or unprofessional conduct. In addition to the observation of misconduct relative to the University Student Code, students in the Department of Nursing must act in a safe and professional manner. Unsafe or unprofessional behavior may be grounds for immediate suspension or dismissal from the nursing class or clinical, regardless of previous academic or clinical performance as described in the department General Professional Behaviors and Clinical Professional Behaviors.

Due Process

Due process is a system of rules and guidelines designed to achieve fair and reasonable resolution to a dispute. Southern Utah University has developed procedures that apply to all disputes involving or regarding students. Problem resolution precedes due process. It is always preferable to resolve differences through informal means when possible before resorting to due process procedures. Informal resolution means going directly to the person with whom you have a conflict to work things out between the parties involved. The next phase of informal resolution will involve the immediate supervisor (department chair) to assist in resolution by functioning as an intermediary. If the problem cannot be resolved through these informal means, the concern is elevated to a formal complaint as the student submits a written explanation of the complaint to the department chair. Refer to the university due process policy for specific steps (SUU Policies and Procedures 6.22).



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#13
Date Originated: 8/2007
Date Reviewed: 3/2024
Date Amended: 08/2010

SUBJECT: RN to BSN Course Credit Expiration

The Department of Nursing has made it policy that all RN to BSN pre-requisites can be up to fifteen years old with current certification.

Pre-requisites, for consideration of admission into the nursing programs of RN to BSN may be up to fifteen (15) years since completion if the applicant is active in practice with current certification or license in that professional practice.

Requests for credits beyond fifteen (15) years will considered on a case-by-case basis.



SUBJECT: Student Progression in Nursing Program (Grades)

- I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for successful progression of students through the RN to BSN program.
- II. **POLICY:** Successful progression in the program requires a consistent demonstration of ability to master professional skills, apply these skills in clinical practice, and to adhere to professional nursing ethics and values.
 1. The faculty members believe students' mastery of the major concepts, frameworks, processes, and thinking abilities identified in the curriculum will demonstrate that students can successfully act in the role of a professional baccalaureate nurse.
 2. A variety of assessment and validation methods will help students, the faculty, and outside mentors determine their consistency in meeting the ability-based outcomes of the program.

REFERENCES: SUU Policies and Procedures, 6.13, Grading

SUU Policies and Procedures, 6.19, Grade Appeal

SUU Policies and Procedures, 6.31, Academic Standards

SUU Policies and Procedures, 11.2, Student conduct code

SUU Policies and Procedures, 11.4, Student Complaints

SUU Registrar's Office, <http://www.suu.edu/ss/registrar/student-forms.html> Incomplete Contract

III. DEFINITIONS:

1. **Assessment** is defined as a measurement of student activity that provides information for analyzing and evaluating student's progress towards meeting course and program outcomes.
 - a. Analysis of information is completed by faculty members, and at times, an external evaluator.
 - b. After analysis, plans are made for improvement in subsequent assessments.
2. **Grades:** Grades for all courses are determined in accordance with the policy of the Department of Nursing. Final percentages may be calculated and converted into whole numbers using the rounding rule of rounding up for 0.5 or more and rounding down for less than 0.5. Grades will be determined using the following grading scale:

94-100% = A (4.0)	77-79% = C+ (2.3)
90-93% = A- (3.7)	74 -76% = C (2.0)
87-89% = B+ (3.3)	< 74% = Fail
84 -86% = B (3.0)	
80-83% = B- (2.7)	



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

Policy #5.5.3
Date Originated: 8/2006
Date Reviewed: 7/2020
Date Amended: 09/26/2018

SUBJECT: Student Progression in Nursing Program (Grades)

IV. PROGRESSION GUIDELINES:

1. Students are strongly encouraged to take a minimum of one course per calendar year in order to stay active in the system. Students who elect not to take at least one course per calendar year are jeopardizing the program requirement to finish within the five-year deadline from program admission to degree completion.
 - a. **If a student does not engage in a course by the time specified by the SUU Registrar's Office:**
 1. The SUU Registrar's Office will contact the student regarding continued enrollment in the course.
 - b. **If a student fails a nursing class and it is the first occurrence, the student will fail and can retake the course.**
 1. Students may repeat each nursing course only once.
 2. Costs incurred by fulfilling the requirements are the responsibility of the student.
 - c. **If a student is unsuccessful in the same or an additional course with the NURS prefix (in the same semester or later semesters) and it is the third occurrence:**
 1. The student will be terminated from the nursing program.
 - d. **Withdrawal from nursing classes**
 1. If withdrawal from the nursing program becomes necessary, withdrawal is to be negotiated with the course faculty and student's advisor.
 2. The SUU academic calendar identifies the last day to drop a course.
 3. Withdrawal by a student who is not meeting course outcomes at the time of withdrawal will be interpreted as an unsuccessful course completion and will be handled as such. As per SUU policy number, 6.31.
 4. The fixed first course (NURS 3101) must be completed in the student's first term and students must pass this course prior to enrolling in any experience based NURS course.
 5. The fixed last course (NURS 4551) must be completed in the student's last term.
2. Completion policy for the Nursing Program is as follows:
 - a. The RN to BSN program must be completed within five years of official acceptance to the program including withdrawals or breaks.
3. If terminated from the program, students will not be readmitted. If dismissed due to non-compliance of clinical documentation, students will be readmitted when compliance is achieved and outlined requirements are met in full.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#14
Date Originated: 1/2005
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 7/2020

SUBJECT: Department of Nursing, RN to BSN, Academic Advising

Purpose

1. To facilitate student progress in meeting program outcomes and criteria for performance and behavior.
2. To develop retention and remediation plans aimed at reinforcing areas of strength and improving in areas needing development.
3. To provide each student a consistent nursing faculty resource throughout the RN to BSN nursing program.

Process

1. Upon admission to the RN to BSN program, each student will be assigned a nursing faculty advisor.
2. Each student will be contacted by their assigned adviser through CANVAS within the first half of each term for a general check-in.
3. Individual advisement, as needed, should be initiated by the student.
4. Students may meet with a faculty adviser to create individual plans that include their adviser, course instructor, plus others as needed.
5. Unresolved student concerns will be discussed with the RN to BSN Faculty Lead and/or department chair by the student.
6. Students, as well as faculty have the option to petition for a change in assignment should the need arise. A formal request should be filed with the Department Chair.

Evidence

1. Evidence of the mid term faculty advisement check in will be stored in the RN to BSN main canvas shell messages and a copy of the initial message sent to the student will be printed and stored in the student's file.



SUBJECT: Required Student Documentation

Students are expected to complete and submit a clean background check and drug screen during their first term of enrollment in the RN to BSN program with the SUU assigned vendor, PreCheck, Inc. Students who do not submit all required documentation by the end of Week 7 of their first term of enrollment in the RN to BSN program, as instructed in NURS 3101, will not be permitted to continue in the program until they have submitted all required documentation.

Nursing License + Photo for Badge

- Submit to nursing@suu.edu
- Requirements for badge photo: Head Shot, No Hats.
- Include mailing address when emailing license and photo.

Documentation of Current/Active Licensure

A student in the RN to BSN program must have a current, active, unencumbered, RN license. A student who is scheduled to take the NCLEX-RN may be admitted to the program on a provisional basis, but must provide proof of successful completion by the end of the first term. Students are not permitted to continue in the program after the first term until an active RN license is on file. All students must maintain currency throughout the duration of the program. Students will be required to sign an attestation that they will maintain currency throughout the program. If students do not maintain currency a hold will be placed on their account prohibiting enrollment in further courses; students may re-enroll in the next term if documentation requirements are fulfilled.

Documentation of Drug Screen

To stay in compliance with SUU and clinical agency requirements, students are required to participate in an initial drug screen scheduled through PreCheck during their first term of enrollment and random drug screening as requested thereafter. Failure to complete drug screens when assigned will result in expulsion from the program. All students must maintain a clean drug screen, or be in compliance with restrictions set forth by the DON, throughout the entirety of the program.

Documentation of Background Check

To stay in compliance with SUU and clinical agency requirements, students are required to have approved background checks, completed through Pre-Check, on file in the nursing office. An applicant to the Southern Utah University RN to BSN program must submit to a criminal background check as a condition of the RN to BSN program. The student must initiate the background check process during the first week of their first term of enrollment, following the instructions found in NURS 3101. Upon completion of the student's criminal background check, if any issue is identified the student shall be required to provide a written explanation of the problem, provide information on the steps that they have taken to correct the problem, and explain any requirements for monitoring or ongoing care to address the problem.

The entire background check process, including the DON review of background check results, which may take up to 30 days, must be complete by the end of the student's first term of enrollment. The DON will not be responsible if the background review process is not completed by the end of the student's first term of enrollment if the student failed to initiate the background check request in a timely manner. All students must maintain a clear background check, or be in compliance with



SUBJECT: Required Student Documentation

restrictions set forth by the DON, throughout the entirety of the program.

Maintaining Current Documentation

All students must ensure that all documentation remains up to date throughout the duration of the RN to BSN program. Changes in license status, address, and contact information must be submitted to nursing@suu.edu as soon as possible. Students will be required to sign an attestation that they will maintain currency throughout the program. If documentation currency lapses at any point during the RN to BSN program, a hold will be placed on their account at the end of that term prohibiting enrollment in further courses. Students may re-enroll in the next term if documentation requirements are fulfilled.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

An important part of nursing ethics is maintaining the client's confidentiality. Students must maintain confidentiality in regards to all client/patient information. Client problems must not be discussed with family, friends, or others outside of the clinical setting and in the provision of care. Appropriate discussion of client cases and problems may occur in specialized settings as, for example, pre- and post-conferences without disclosing names. If confidentiality is violated, the student violating the confidence will be subject to disciplinary action. Obligation of the student to maintain confidentiality continues after completion of the program.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY – RN-BSN STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

Background checks and drug tests are required to ensure the safety of patients treated by students in the clinical education program. The reports are typically completed within 3-5 business days; however, you must submit your order in sufficient time for the report to be reviewed by the program coordinator or associated clinical site prior to starting the rotation. The background check is conducted by PreCheck, Inc., a firm specializing in the healthcare industry.

GETTING STARTED

Follow this link to [MyStudentCheck](#)

If you are unable to access the link, you may type in the web address located at the bottom of this page.

- Confirm the school name matches: **Southern Utah University – RN-BSN**
 - Select your program from the drop down menu, and then select the required services.
 - Log in with your username and password. If you do not have an existing profile, please create a new account.
 - Enter the required information, provide authorization, and continue to enter payment information.
 - If you need further assistance, please contact PreCheck at StudentCheck@PreCheck.com.
 - You will be provided with a receipt and confirmation page when your order is placed.
-

DRUG TESTING

If there is not a collection site instantly available near your location, you will be contacted and a chain of custody form will be mailed to you. Pre-registration does not set an appointment time, we recommend calling your chosen collection site ahead of time to set up an appointment.

PRICING

Background Check	\$39.50
Drug Screening	\$49.00

Applicable state sales tax will be collected based on your residential location.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. What does PreCheck do with my information?**
Your information will only be used for the services ordered. Your credit will not be investigated and your name will not be given out to any businesses.
 - 2. I selected the wrong school, program or incorrect information.**
Please email StudentCheck@PreCheck.com with the details.
 - 3. Do I get a copy of the background report?**
Yes, go to www.mystudentcheck.com, log in, and select Check Status.
 - 4. How do I obtain a copy of the drug test report?**
Please email StudentCheck@PreCheck.com to receive a copy of the report.
 - 5. I was denied entry into a program because of information on the report, who can I contact?**
Call PreCheck's Adverse Action hotline at 877-214-5496.
-



SUBJECT: Nursing student positive drug screen - substance result policy and contract

- I. **PURPOSE:** In response to regulations set by governing bodies, healthcare agencies and nursing education programs share the responsibility to ensure all personnel, including nursing students, do not pose a potential risk to patients. Effective January 1, 2005, all nursing students will be required to document a random drug screen. In response to this mandate and effective immediately, The SUU Department of Nursing will require at least one documented, clean, random drug screen as assigned within the first semester/term of the program. SUU Department of Nursing can also request a random drug screen of students at any time while enrolled in the SUU Nursing Program.
- II. **POLICY:** All SUU Nursing students are required to receive and document a clean drug screen test result. A positive drug screen test result will require documentation of a valid, current prescription. Any psychoactive drugs that appear on said results will also require the signed attestation below.

SUU Nursing Student Substance Contract

T#: _____ Name: _____

Drug Identified in Drug Screen: _____

- 1. I understand that because of the positive drug screen result of a psychoactive drug, it is my responsibility to provide documentation of a valid, current prescription for the drug listed above.
- 2. I understand that it is my responsibility to use my drug/substance listed above only as prescribed and be free from any effects of this medication when enrolled in the SUU Nursing Program.
- 3. I understand that I may be asked to participate in a random drug screen at any time while enrolled in the SUU Nursing Program and the cost for said drug screen is my responsibility.
- 4. I understand it is my responsibility to be clear of mind with no intoxicating substances when participating in SUU Nursing experience-based learning.
- 5. I understand that if I am found to show behavior that suggests intoxication or be under the influence of drugs, during any experience-based learning, I will be under review and be subject to removal from the SUU Nursing program.
- 6. I understand that if I am removed from the SUU Nursing program, I will be responsible for any cost of tuition or other fees associated with the program.

By signing this contract, I understand and agree that I am responsible to attend experience-based learning hours only when I am totally free from effects of intoxicating substances.

Student signature

Date Signed

SUU Nursing Program Manager Signature

Date Signed

SUU Nursing Program Manager Printed Name

Date Form Received



SUBJECT: RN to BSN Criminal Background Review Policy and Procedure

The purpose of this policy and procedure is to outline the steps for reviewing criminal background checks for applicants to the Southern Utah University RN to BSN program. The Southern Utah University (SUU) Department of Nursing has an obligation to patients, families, and community partners to ensure that its students meet the highest level of ethical and moral standards as Licensed Registered Nurses and students enrolled in the RN to BSN program.

Students admitted to the SUU RN to BSN program must have an active and unrestricted license to practice as a Registered Nurse (RN). In addition, students are required to complete a criminal background check and provide information to the SUU Department of Nursing (DON) about any findings on that report. Continued enrollment in the RN to BSN program shall be conditional, pending completion and review of the criminal background check.

Upon completion of the student's criminal background check, if any issue is identified the student shall be required to provide a written explanation of the problem, provide information on the steps that they have taken to correct the problem, and explain any requirements for monitoring or ongoing care to address the problem. A Background Review Committee consisting of three DON faculty members shall review all of the documents and provide a recommendation to the DON Director as to whether the student should be allowed to continue in the RN to BSN program. The committee may also choose to recommend that the student be allowed to continue in the program with restrictions or conditions.

Background Review Procedures

1. An applicant to the Southern Utah University RN to BSN program must submit to a criminal background check as a condition of their admission to the RN to BSN program. This shall be completed no later than the end of the second week of the first term of enrollment. If the background check is not submitted by the end of the second week the student will be removed from the program; the student can re-enroll in the next term. Students are responsible for all tuition and fees that are not refundable due to non-compliance.
2. An initial review of the student's background check will be completed by the DON administrative staff.
3. If the DON administrative staff identifies a problem(s) in the student's background check, the student shall then be asked to provide a written explanation of the problem(s).
4. The student's written response to the problem(s) identified on the background check may take the form of dispute and/or explanation, explained as follows. 1) If the student disagrees with the accuracy of any information in the report they may dispute the findings and the DON shall provide reasonable opportunity to address the information contained in the report. 2) If the problem(s) identified in the report are reported accurately, the student MUST provide an explanation of the problem(s). The student's written response to the information received as a result of the criminal background check shall include an explanation of the problem identified, information on the steps that they have taken to correct the problem, and an explanation of any requirements for monitoring or ongoing care to address the problem. In either case, any problems identified in the background report must be addressed in writing by the student with either a dispute or an explanation. The student must submit the requested information within 10 business days of the request from the DON.
5. The background check report and the student's letter of explanation shall be forwarded to the Background Review Committee within 5 business days of the receipt of the student's letter of explanation. All



SUBJECT: RN to BSN Criminal Background Review Policy and Procedure

identifying information on the report and letter will be removed and/or blacked out by the DON administrative staff before forwarding to the Background Review Committee.

6. The faculty Background Review Committee will review the student's background check and their written response. The Background Review Committee will assess the overall risk to persons and property in allowing the student to continue to be enrolled in the RN to BSN program. That risk assessment will include: (a) the number of crimes committed, (b) the nature and severity of those crimes, (c) the length of time since they were committed, (d) the likelihood of recidivism, and (e) other factors that may be relevant.

Where the known facts and circumstances are sufficient to warrant a person of reasonable prudence to believe that the RN to BSN student poses an unreasonable risk to persons or property, the Committee will recommend that the student's acceptance to the RN to BSN program be withdrawn immediately.

7. The faculty Background Review Committee will submit a written recommendation to the DON Department Director or their proxy within 10 calendar days of receiving the material. The recommendation to the DON Department Director or their proxy should include a recommendation on whether to allow the student to continue in the RN to BSN program without restrictions, continue in the program with restrictions/conditions, or be removed from the program. The report will also include an explanation for their decision based on the review criteria outlined in Item 6 above.
8. The DON Department Director or their proxy will make the final decision about the student's continued enrollment in the RN to BSN program and/or steps that the student must complete to address the problem(s) identified. If the student is to be removed from the program, the DON Department Director will communicate the decision to the DON administrative staff. The DON administrative staff will then communicate that decision to PreCheck, the company contracted by SUU to monitor student compliance, who will notify the student of the decision. If the student is to be allowed to remain in the program, the DON Department Director will notify the student of the conditions (if any) of their continued enrollment. In either case, the DON Department Director's decision will be communicated to the appropriate party within 5 business days of receiving the recommendation from the Background Review Committee.
9. The student has the Right of Appeal per the Southern Utah University Policies and Procedures #11.2 Student Conduct Code. To learn more about this process, see <https://help.suu.edu/uploads/attachments/PP112Student.pdf>
10. Record Keeping - documentation associated with criminal background checks will be kept secure and protected in the DON Administrative staff office.
11. Limitations on the Use of Information - the information contained in the criminal history background check will be available only to those persons involved in making decisions regarding the students application to the RN to BSN program, and the information will be used only for the purpose of making a decision on whether the student can continue in the RN to BSN program.



Southern Utah University
College of Health Sciences
Department of Nursing
351 W University Blvd. SCA 108 A
Cedar City, UT, 84720
higbeet@suu.edu

Preliminary Notice of Adverse Action

April 15, 2022

Name
Address
State

Dear Student Name,

We were notified of a sanction reported on your background report and checked DOPL's website to verify the current status of your RN license. You can review this information on the DOPL website (<https://secure.utah.gov/llv/search/search.html>) under your name. Per SUU Department of Nursing, RN to BSN Policy 4.40, Documentation of Current/Active Licensure, "a student in the RN to BSN program must have a current, active, unencumbered RN license." The enclosed document show that status of your RN license is currently "Active On Probation."

Due, in part, to the encumbrance of your RN license, a decision is pending regarding your enrollment in the RN to BSN (Online) Program. This letter will serve as notice to you in advance of any adverse action being taken.

You have the opportunity to dispute the accuracy of the information or to provide any additional information you would like considered. If you would like to dispute the information or provide additional information, you may do so by contacting Teresa Higbee, Program Manager via email within five (5) business days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Teresa Higbee
Program Manager
SUU Department of Nursing
higbeet@suu.edu

Enclosure:
Utah DOPL Licensee Lookup & Verification System



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#20
Date Originated: 5/2007
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2024

SUBJECT: NURS 3101 Attestation – Program Compliance Agreement

Agreement to Maintain RN-to-BSN Program Compliance

I, _____, agree to maintain compliance to the Southern Utah University (SUU) RN-to-BSN program requirements at all times while enrolled in the program. I have access to these requirements through my PreCheck student account.

I understand that I must notify SUU of any of the following:

- € Changes in address (physical or mailing)
- € Changes in nursing license status
- € Potential or known exposure to infectious diseases

In addition, I understand that failure to remain in compliance with the SUU RN-to-BSN program requirements or failing to notify SUU of any changes in my address, license, or disease exposure status may result in being denied entry into courses with an experience-based learning component. I acknowledge that I will not be allowed to progress in the program until I am compliant with the above requirements.

Student Name (printed): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#21
Date Originated: 5/2022
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Standardized Clinical Project Agreement

The courses with an experience-based learning component require face-to-face interactions with live patients, groups, or communities. The details of the experience-based learning activities are different for each experience-based learning course. The student will complete these activities as guided by the course instructor. The experience-based learning components are not completed in an acute care setting (unless the student chooses to do their leadership clinical in that setting). Accreditation requires every RN to BSN program (as with every nursing program) to have some face-to-face experience-based learning. The number of hours required in each experience based learning course varies course to course.

The following courses have experience-based learning hours embedded into the course: NURS 4341 - Nursing for Wellness in Older Adults for the RN to BSN, NURS 4351 - Community Health Nursing for the RN to BSN, and NURS 4551 - Leadership and Management for the RN to BSN.

A Clinical Project Agreement Form (please see appendices) must be completed in its entirety, including signatures, and submitted to course faculty in NURS 4341, NURS 4351, and NURS 4551 before starting any clinical projects or participating in any clinical experiences.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

SUBJECT: Clinical Project Agreement

Today's Date: _____

The purpose of this letter is to grant _____, a student at Southern Utah University, permission to implement a clinical project at/with _____.

Title of self-designed clinical project _____
Briefly describe project _____

I understand that this project as stated above will take place from _____ to _____.

Clinical Supervisor Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____
Student Name _____ Date _____

Expected Project Outcomes

- 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Clinical Project Goals (SMART format) - Must have 3-5 goals

- 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Project approval SUU Faculty

Name of Faculty _____
Signature of Faculty _____ Date _____

Form must be completed in its entirety, including all signatures, prior to starting the project.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#24
Date Originated: 5/2007
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Uniform and Appearance

- I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines and expectations of Uniform and Appearance requirements.

POLICY: All RN-to-BSN students are expected to dress professionally during experience-based learning activities for the SUU RN-to-BSN program. Dress should adhere to the policies of the experience-based learning setting. All students are **required** to wear a photo name badge which will state their first name followed by RN to BSN Student, Southern Utah University; this badge will be provided by the Department of Nursing. It must be worn at all times when you are engaged in experience-based learning activities for the RN to BSN program.

A. APPEARANCE – Students are expected to maintain a professional appearance for all experience-based learning. Students are expected to manage personal hygiene habits to control cleanliness and avoid offensive body odor. Perfume, cologne or lotions that might interfere with those who are ill or allergic to such odors or fragrances should not be used. Students are responsible for knowing and adhering to uniform and appearance policies where they complete their experience-based learning.



SUBJECT: Unusual Occurrence/ Potential Pathogen Exposure Risk Policy & Forms

Student – Unusual Occurrence/Exposure Risk

In the event of an unusual occurrence or possible exposure to blood or body fluids or other potential pathogens the student shall notify the course instructor immediately.

The course instructor shall immediately, upon notification, discuss the incident with the involved student(s) to review the incident. If there is a risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens the student will be advised to first, assure that the exposure has been cleansed with soap and water (for a needle stick), or flush eyes, nose or mouth with copious amounts of tap water (for 20 minutes). Course instructor will then facilitate completion of appropriate forms and a medical evaluation. Any injury sustained by the student while participating in SUU experience-based learning courses, and subsequent medical treatment, with all costs associated with care will be the student's responsibility. Course instructor will encourage a medical evaluation with appropriate testing and follow-up including at least the following elements:

- (1) To be in compliance with clinical partner policies, a blood exposure will require an immediate baseline titer for Hepatitis B, unless the exposed student has a blood test with "reactive results or (6) six Hepatitis B vaccinations with blood test results of "Not-Reactive" or "Non-responder".
- (2) Documentation of the unusual occurrence and/or routes of exposure, and the circumstances of the unusual occurrence/exposure.
- (3) Identification and completion of forms and procedures required by the facility where the incident occurred.
- (4) Completion of SUU Department of Nursing forms (located in appendix).
 - a. Unusual Occurrence/Exposure form
 - b. Post-Exposure follow up form (if an exposure)
- (5) In the case of exposure, identification of the source individual, unless not feasible or prohibited by law. (Faculty member will need to work with the nursing staff and policies in the agency or facility where exposure occurred to facilitate this step.)
 - a. Seek to determine the source individual's HBV and HIV status.
 - b. Results of the source individual's testing shall be made available to the exposed student with information about confidentiality and identity protection laws.
- (6) Assistance to student to see their private care provider, an Instacare facility, or ER, ASAP with instructions to get tests for exposure to blood borne pathogens.
- (7) Inform department chair of incident and follow up ASAP. Submit SUU Department of Nursing forms to department chair within 24 hours of notification.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#24
Date Originated: 5/2006
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2012

SUBJECT: Unusual Occurrence/ Potential Pathogen Exposure Risk Policy & Forms

Faculty/Staff/Student Employee Unusual Occurrence/Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Risk

In the event of an unusual occurrence or possible exposure to blood or body fluids, during any experience-based learning hours, the course instructor will report directly to Human Resources on SUU campus.

In addition to forms and procedures initiated by Human Resources, faculty/staff and student employees should inform department chair of incident and follow up.



SUBJECT: Unusual Occurrence/ Potential Pathogen Exposure Risk Policy & Forms

Student Post Potential Exposure Follow-up Form

To be completed by the supervising Clinical Faculty Member with the involved student(s) at time of incident notification-*check circles as step is completed.*

- o 1. Discuss exposure, how it occurred, and how it could be prevented in the future.
- o 2. Discuss risk for pathogen exposure and recommend immediate follow up with private care provider or insta-care provider.
 - o Individuals who have been exposed to infectious pathogens are at risk for an infectious disease. To assess risk, provide timely evaluation of current status, and a baseline for future evaluation and potential interventions it is recommended an exposed individual seeks immediate medical attention. An appointment with a private care provider if immediately available or an insta-care provider is strongly recommended. Any injury sustained by the student while participating in Department of Nursing activities and subsequent medical treatment with all costs associated with care will be the student’s responsibility.
- o 3. Facilitate student appointment for immediate follow-up.
- o 4. Complete the following with the student:
 - o Exposed individual’s name _____
 - o Type of exposure _____
 - o Date and time of exposure _____
 - o I have been oriented to SUU’s exposure control plan and I understand I may have been exposed to an infectious pathogens. I also understand the implications of contracting these diseases. I have been encouraged to seek immediate follow-up care by my faculty member to determine whether or not I have contracted an infectious disease.
 I will visit _____ provider.
 - Date and time of visit _____
 - Student Signature _____
 - Faculty Signature _____
 - Or
 - o I have been oriented to SUU’s exposure control plan and I understand I may have been exposed to an infectious pathogens. I also understand the implications of contracting these diseases. I have been encouraged to seek immediate follow-up care by my faculty member to determine whether or not I have contracted an infectious disease. Despite all the information I have received, for personal reasons, I freely decline to seek a post-exposure evaluation and follow up.
 - Student signature _____
 _____ Date _____
 - Faculty signature _____ Date _____



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#24
Date Originated: 5/2006
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2012

SUBJECT: Unusual Occurrence/ Potential Pathogen Exposure Risk Policy & Forms

Unusual Occurrence/Exposure Report Form
(To be completed by Clinical Faculty Member)

Student Name _____ Date _____

Date of incident/accident _____ Time incident occurred _____

Incident location _____

Describe the incident fully (route of exposure, circumstances; describe type of controls in a place at time of incident including person protective equipment worn, identify unsafe conditions and/or actions; relevant police reports) _____

Describe student's injury (body part/type of injury) _____

SUU faculty/staff contacted about incident _____ Time of contact _____

Tell how this type of exposure can be prevented: _____

Follow up: Date: _____ Discussion: _____

Student Comments: _____

Faculty Signature: _____ Student Signature: _____



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#25
Date Originated: 5/2015
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2024

SUBJECT: Social Media Policy

Policy Statement

The Southern Utah University Department of Nursing expects nursing students in the program participating in social media to be compliant with privacy and confidentiality policies and to communicate in a professional manner.

Purpose

The SUU Department of Nursing supports the use of social media to reach audiences important to the University such as students, prospective students, faculty and staff. The Department presence or participation on social media sites is guided by university policy. This policy applies to the SUU Department of Nursing students who engage in Internet conversations for school-related purposes as well as non-school-related activities that would or possibly could reflect poorly on the Department or anyone it is affiliated with. Distribution of sensitive and confidential information is protected under HIPAA and FERPA whether discussed through traditional communication channels or through social media.

Definitions

Social Media – Digital media based on social interaction and or created using highly accessible and scalable publishing techniques, in which messages are primarily disseminated and received among users on a peer-to-peer basis. Social media is commonly thought of as a group of Internet-based applications that are built on the ideological and technological foundations of the web that allows the creation and exchange of user-generated content. Examples include Facebook, InstaGram, Twitter, Wikipedia, Second Life Flickr and networking services such as LinkedIn, blogs, Allnurses.com, etc.

General Information

Reference resources should be used to clarify the nurse's role and responsibilities. Please review the National Council State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) White Paper: A Nurse's Guide to Use of Social Media and the American Nurses Association's (ANA) Principles for Social Networking and 6 Tips for Nurses Using Social Media (1/2012).

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

Students will want to represent the University and the Department in a fair, accurate and legal manner while protecting the brand and reputation of the institution.

When publishing information on social media sites, remember, that information may be public for anyone to see and can be traced back to you as an individual. Since social media typically enables two-way communications with your audience, you have less control about how materials you post will be used by others. As one person remarked, "If you wouldn't put it on a flier, carve it into cement in the quad or want it published on the front of the Wall Street Journal, do not broadcast it via social media channels."



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#25
Date Originated: 5/2015
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2024

SUBJECT: Social Media Policy

Provisions/Policy

- Protect confidential, sensitive, and proprietary information: Do not post confidential or proprietary information about the university, faculty, staff, students, clinical facilities, patients/clients, or others with whom one has contact in the role of a SUU Department of Nursing student.
- Respect copyright and fair use. When posting, be mindful of the copyright and intellectual property rights of others and of the university. For guidance, see the Department of Nursing staff and visit the University's Information Technology site.
- Do not use SUU's and the Department of Nursing marks, such as logos and graphics, on personal social media sites. Do not use SUU's name to promote a product, cause, or political party or candidate.
- Use of the University's and Department of Nursing marks (logos and graphics) for School sanctioned events must be approved (posters, fliers, postings) by the Department's administration.
- It is expected that during clinical use of cell phones and other devices employed for social media will be used only as authorized by faculty. All cell phones and other electronic devices are expected only to be used in times as determined by the syllabus, course faculty or clinical faculty.
- No student shall videotape professors or fellow students for personal or social media use without the express written permission of the faculty or fellow student. At NO time shall patients/clients be videotaped or photographed without written permission of the patient/client and of the facility.
- Be aware of your association with SUU's and the Department of Nursing's in online social networks. If you identify yourself as a student, ensure your profile and related content is consistent with how you wish to present yourself to colleagues, clients, and potential employers. Identify your views as your own. When posting your point of view, you should neither claim nor imply you are speaking on SUU's or the Department of Nursing's behalf, unless you are authorized to do so in writing.
- HIPPA guidelines must be followed at all times. Identifiable information concerning clients/clinical rotations must not be posted in any online forum or webpage.
- Ultimately, you have sole responsibility for what you post. Be smart about protecting yourself, your and others privacy, and confidential information.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#25
Date Originated: 5/2015
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2024


SUBJECT: Social Media Policy

Procedure/Considerations

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

Consequences

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

Southern Utah University Department of Nursing Social Media Policy is adapted from http://hilo.hawaii.edu/depts/nursing/social_media_policy.php and from [Social Media Policy, Student Handbook of Purdue University School of Nursing](#) 



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#26
Date Originated: 4/2024
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2024

SUBJECT: Faculty/Student Communication

Professional communication between faculty and students is of utmost importance in this program. If the student has any questions about a course assignment, the student should not hesitate to contact the faculty via email or phone. Each nursing faculty has designated office hours which are included in the course syllabi and the canvas course home page. Faculty will provide preferred contact information at the beginning of each course for students. Students are expected to communicate through their canvas email and with the expected communication avenues set forth in each faculty member's syllabi.

E-Mail

Communication between faculty and students via e-mail is essential for successful completion of course work. Students have a SUU E-mail address through canvas. The E-mail address will be made available to other students within the canvas course under the Inbox tab on the left side of the canvas screen in which the student is enrolled.

RN to BSN Communications and Updates Canvas course

Updates and program announcements will be made through the RN to BSN Program Information and Announcements canvas course.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN#28
Date Originated: 5/2007
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Validated RN to BSN Student Outcomes

TERM PROGRAM OUTCOME EVALUATION		
<u>RN TO BSN PROGRAM OUTCOME</u>	<u>COURSE/ OUTCOMES ALIGNMENT</u>	<u># OF STUDENTS MET OUTCOMES</u>
1. Students will integrate, translate and apply nursing knowledge as well as knowledge from other disciplines in nursing practice.	3121, 3141, 3261, 4351, 4361, 4441, 4551, 4471	_____
2. Students will demonstrate respect for a client's beliefs, values, and knowledge while providing holistic, individualized care.	3121, 3141, 3261, 4341, 4361	_____
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the population healthcare delivery continuum from public health prevention to disease management of populations.	3261, 4351	_____
4. Students will describe collaborative activities with both traditional and non-traditional partnerships to promote the improvement of equitable population health outcomes.	3261, 4351	_____
5. Students will participate in the scholarship of nursing, integrate best evidence into nursing practice, and promote the ethical conduct of scholarly activities.	3121, 3141, 3261, 4341, 4351, 4361, 4551, 4471	_____
6. Students will analyze system effectiveness and individual performance to enhance quality and minimize risk of harm to patients and providers.	4361, 4421, 4441, 4551, 4471	_____
7. Employ intentional collaboration across professions and with care team members, patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.	3261, 4341, 4351, 4361, 4551, 4471	_____
8. Students will effectively and proactively coordinate community resources to provide safe, quality, and equitable care to diverse populations within complex systems of health and social care.	3121, 3261, 4351, 4361	_____
9. Students will utilize information technology and communication tools to deliver and document safe, effective nursing care to diverse populations in a variety of settings.	3121, 3261, 4351, 4361	_____
10. Students will formulate and cultivate a professional nursing identity that reflects the characteristics and values of the nursing profession.	3121, 3141, 4351, 4361, 4441, 4551	_____
11. Students will engage in learning and activities which foster personal wellness, growth, and promote lifelong learning.	3121, 3141, 3261, 4341, 4351, 4361, 4441, 4551	_____
12. Students will demonstrate professional maturity through practice to show the acquisition of professional behaviors and development and enhancement of effective leadership skills.	3141, 4441, 4551	_____



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN A1
Date Originated: 5/2004
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Acknowledgement of Student Policies

I, _____, have read and reviewed the policies in the Nursing Student Handbook for the RN to BSN Nursing Program and have had the opportunity to have questions concerning said policies answered by a faculty member in the Department of Nursing.

I understand that, as a student in this program, if I need further clarification of the policies, I am free to ask my Faculty Advisor or any faculty in the Department of Nursing.

I further certify that I agree to follow the standards and guidelines outlined within the Handbook. The Handbook is required reading and may be viewed on the Department of Nursing web site at <https://www.suu.edu/nursing/>.

By signing below I agree to the above statements and also agree that it is my responsibility to stay current with the Department of Nursing Student Policies Handbook. I have been advised that I should review the Student Handbook at least once a semester. It is agreed that if any significant changes are made by the Department of Nursing the changes will be e-mailed upon approval.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____ Program: RN to BSN



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN A2
Date Originated: 5/2004
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Student Non-Disclosure Agreement

Southern Utah University has a legal and ethical responsibility to safeguard the privacy of all patients whose records are used for educational purposes and to protect the confidentiality of their health information. In the course of my assignments at Southern Utah University and during experience-based learning activities, I will come into contact with confidential patient information.

I understand that such information must be maintained in the strictest confidence. As a condition of being a student enrolled in the SUU RN to BSN Nursing Program, I hereby agree that, I will not at any time during or after my assignments, disclose any patient information to any person whatsoever.

When patient or other confidential information must be discussed with others in my class during the course of my assignments, I will use discretion to ensure that such conversations cannot be overheard by others who are not involved with the class. I further agree to protect patient records from being seen by others in any setting.

I understand that the violation of this agreement may result in corrective action up to and including discharge from the SUU Nursing Program.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN A3
Date Originated: 5/2004
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2020

SUBJECT: Name Badge Agreement

By signing this form I am acknowledging that I have received a Southern Utah University Nursing Program name/picture badge. I am aware that this badge is issued to me for use at experience-based learning activities while I am in the nursing program.

I am aware that if I lose the badge I will have to pay \$10.00 for a replacement. I will also assume any and all responsibility for problems that may arise if I lose or misplace my name badge. I hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless, Southern Utah University, its Board of Trustees, employees, agents and volunteers from any liability from unauthorized use of my name badge.

Signed this _____ day of _____
(date) (Month,Year)

By _____
Student Signature Print Name

Please sign, scan and email to nursing@suu.edu upon receipt of badge.



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN A4
Date Originated: 5/2004
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Lost Name Badge Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge that I have misplaced or lost my Southern Utah University Nursing Program name badge. I assume any and all responsibility for problems that may arise due to unauthorized use. I hereby release and hold harmless Southern Utah University, its Board of Trustees, employees, agents and volunteer from any liability.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Date



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
RN to BSN
Policy and Procedures

RNBSN A5
Date Originated: 5/2004
Date Reviewed: 4/2024
Date Amended: 4/2022

SUBJECT: Release Form

I hereby give permission to the SUU Department of Nursing to use the following material:

1. Photographic, video, or digital images in which I appear: _____
2. Audio recordings of events in which I am a participant: _____
3. Written work and/or class assignments I have completed: _____

This material may be used or distributed for the following purposes:

1. In publications used for the purposes of education, information, promotion, public relations, and fund-raising: _____

I understand that I will receive no payment for the use of these materials. I understand that work I have completed will not be used by other parties without credit and attribution. The release of any other information about me will be governed by the Federal Educational Privacy Act.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



SUBJECT: Functional Requirements for Student Success

Southern Utah University's Nursing Program values diversity in the students who wish to enter the profession of nursing. Students interested in entering the nursing program must be aware of functional requirements, environmental factors, and psycho social demands that must be met to be considered as a candidate for entry level into the nursing profession.

Functional requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Must be able to independently push, pull, and lift a medically fragile adult when positioning or transferring.
- Must have the ability to palpate body structures and be able to differentiate and report subtle variations in temperature, consistency, texture and structure.
- Must be able to identify and distinguish subtle variations in body sounds such as breathing.
- Must be able to read, understand, and apply printed material which may include instructions printed on medical devices, equipment and supplies.
- Must be able to visually distinguish subtle diagnostic variations in physical appearance of persons served. An example would be "pale color".
- Must be able to distinguish subtle olfactory changes in physical characteristics of persons served.
- Must be able to walk and stand for extended periods of time.
- Must possess the ability to simultaneously and rapidly coordinate mental and muscular coordination when performing nursing tasks.

Environmental factors include:

- Protracted or irregular hours of work.
- Ability to work in confined and/or crowded spaces.
- Ability to work independently as well as with coordinated teams.
- Potential exposure to harmful substances and/or hazards.

Psycho social demands include:

- Ability to maintain emotional stability during periods of high stress.
- Ability to work in an emotionally charged or stressful environment.

I am aware of the functional requirements, environmental factors, and psycho social demands that must be met to be considered as a candidate for entry level into the nursing profession.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

This form is kept within your permanent nursing file.



SUBJECT: Student Understandings

Student Understandings

1. I understand that admission to the RN to BSN program does not mean success.
2. I understand that I will be evaluated on academic as well as experience-based learning evaluation and professional behaviors.
3. I understand that nursing requires honesty and personal integrity. If either come into question it will prompt faculty to review my standing in the nursing program.
4. I understand that it is my responsibility to keep my RN license current and unencumbered as noted in NURS 3101-Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice for the RN to BSN.
5. I understand the standards for success in the nursing courses and that I am responsible for monitoring my own learning.
6. I understand that if at any time in the semester I feel unsure about my “grade(s)”, I may request an assessment from the professor.
7. I understand that the course work of this program requires active participation.
8. I understand that I will be responsible to provide my own transportation to clinical sites.
9. I understand that I must maintain confidentiality of information I become aware of.
10. I understand that I will be required to complete a random drug screen and that this may occur at any time throughout the duration of the program.
11. I understand that I must act professionally and will show respect to my peers, faculty, and staff.
12. I understand that due to liability issues, I may not participate in experience-based learning courses until I have successfully completed NURS 3101.
13. I agree to release Southern Utah University from any consequences for any negligent or careless acts committed by **me**.
14. I understand that I have access to an online advisor to assist as needed in my degree planning and course registration.

My signature indicates that I have read, understand, and will adhere to the above student understandings.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name (print) _____

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY**Incomplete Grades**

<https://www.suu.edu/registrar/pdf/incompletegradecontract.pdf>

The purpose of this form is to reduce to writing an agreement between an instructor and a student concerning an incomplete (I) grade submitted to the Registrar's Office. An incomplete grade should be granted only if the **student has completed the majority of the course and is passing the class at the time.**

Within one (1) year, as agreed in writing below by both the instructor and the student, the terms of the contract must be completed and letter grade assigned by the instructor. The grade can either be the grade agreed upon by virtue of the contract or the grade earned by making up the incomplete work.

Instructions:

Instructor - Complete this form, sign and obtain the student's signature. Keep a copy for your files. Give a copy to the student, the Registrar's Office, and submit the original to your department. **Upon completion of the contract, submit a change of grade form to the Registrar's Office.** This should not exceed one (1) year from the time the course was originally taken.

Student - You have the time prescribed by this contract to complete the work or accept the grade agreed to by you and your instructor. It is your responsibility to check with the Registrar's Office to be sure the proper grade has been recorded on your permanent record. **It is not required to re-register for this class in order to complete the grade.**

Department - File original contract for future reference.

Registrar - Accept an incomplete (I) only when a contract is submitted. After one (1) year, if a grade change form is not submitted, change the grade to F.

CONTRACT TO REPLACE INCOMPLETE GRADE

To be used to specify a grade to be given if course work is not completed within one (1) calendar year or as agreed in this contract.

Name of Student (print)

Student T #

Incomplete received in:

CRNSUBJCourse #SectionSemesterYear

Course work remaining to be completed: _____

If the above work is not _____, a grade of _____ will be completed by _____

submitted to the Registrar's Office. If no report is received by the Registrar's Office, the grade will be changed automatically to an "F". **The instructor is responsible for submission of a completed grade when the student's makeup work has been accomplished.**

Instructor's Name (Please print) _____

Instructor's Signature _____

Date _____

Student's Signature _____

Date _____