

CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

Nursing clinicals are provided in agencies located primarily in Kay, Garfield, Payne, and Oklahoma counties. Students should expect to travel to any of these locations throughout the clinical experience. Other local facilities provide specific clinical experiences such as schools, daycares, clinics, private homes, and chemical dependency units. All student learning activities are planned, supervised, and evaluated by Northern Oklahoma College nursing faculty and are chosen to provide experience with clients of all age groups in varying degrees of wellness.

Certification of **American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR (BLS)** for infant, child, and adult is required prior to the first day of class (July 1 for fall semester and January 1 for spring semester). The certification must show a hands-on demonstration in-person was performed with a program instructor. This requirement is arranged by the student. This certification must be current throughout the program. Completely online courses are not accepted.

It is essential that nursing students be able to perform a number of physical activities in the clinical portion of the program. At a minimum, students will be required to lift at least 50 pounds, stand for several hours at a time, and perform bending activities. Students who have a chronic illness or acute condition must be able to implement safe, competent, direct client care. The clinical nursing experience also places students under considerable mental and emotional stress as they undertake responsibilities and duties impacting clients' lives. Students must be able to demonstrate rational and appropriate behavior under stressful conditions. Individuals should give careful consideration to the mental and physical demands of the program prior to course drop date.

PHYSICAL EXAM AND IMMUNIZATIONS

All students on initial enrollment to their first nursing course must have a physical health form completed by a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner **prior** to the first day of class (August 1 for fall semester and January 1 for spring semester) in order to remain eligible for admission. Students are responsible for expenses incurred.

Immunization requirements:

- Hepatitis B vaccine series (3 doses).
- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) adult booster within the past 10 years.
- Documented varicella titer or varicella vaccine (2 immunizations).
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine (2 immunizations at least one month apart or born before 1957) **or** titers for all 3. Immunizations are required if titers are low.
- Upon initial enrollment – two (2) TB skin tests at least one week apart (and less than 21 days apart) or serum test within past 12 months. Annual validation is required with either a negative TB skin test, serum test, or chest x-ray.
 - If TB skin test is positive or contraindicated, a chest x-ray must have been taken within the past 12 months and results reported or a form stating no signs and symptoms so chest x-ray is not needed by a care provider or nurse practitioner.
- Seasonal influenza vaccine must be completed annually after October 1 and no later than October 24 **or** as required by the clinical facility.
- COVID-19 vaccine according to current recommendations.

All students must provide documentation of compliance with immunization requirements prior to the first day of class (July 1 for fall semester and January 1 for spring semester) in order to remain eligible for admission and progression. Immunizations must remain current and cannot expire during a semester.

Clinical facility requirements are subject to change at any time, and students are expected to maintain compliance. Students who are not in compliance with the clinical facility requirements will not be able to attend clinical and will therefore be unable to meet course outcomes and progress in the nursing program.

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