

Bethel Department of Nursing



Student Handbook | 2024-2025

Bethel University • McKenzie, TN • BethelU.edu

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
VISION STATEMENT, MISSION STATEMENT & NURSING PHILOSOPHY.....	4
BETHEL UNIVERSITY PROGRAM GOALS.....	6
BETHEL NURSING DEPARTMENT EXPECTED PROGRAM OUTCOMES	7
NURSING CURRICULUM	8
APPLICATION AND PROGRESSION POLICIES.....	10
ACADEMIC ADVISING.....	16
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/STUDENT POLICIES & GUIDELINES	17
PROFESSIONAL CHARACTER	19
STUDENT POLICIES & GUIDELINES.....	29
STUDENT FEES*	33
CLINICAL AGENCY REQUIREMENTS.....	34
HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA).....	39
PATHOGEN EXPOSURE	41
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STUDENT HAND BOOK.....	43
FORMS AND APPENDICIES	

INTRODUCTION

We, the faculty of the Department of Nursing (DON), are honored that you have chosen Bethel University to assist you in achieving your goal of becoming a baccalaureate-prepared Registered Nurse. We look forward to providing you with numerous educational experiences that will facilitate your transition from student to professional nurse.

This handbook is designed to provide you with information that will be useful throughout your nursing school experience at Bethel University. Standards, policies and procedures for the Department of Nursing are included. Nursing students are also governed by the Bethel University College of Health Sciences Catalog and Bethel Undergraduate Student Handbook – The Log. Each nursing student is expected to familiarize themselves with the information contained within each of these three documents and abide by the policies as stated.

Administrative Organization

Dr. Perry Moulds, PhD.

Bethel University President

Dr. Joe Hames, MD

Vice President and Dean College of Health Sciences

Delecia Parker, DNP, MSN, RN

Director, Department of Nursing

Nursing Faculty

Dayna Edwards, MN, RN, CNS

Jason Hypes, MSN, RN, AEMT

Ashley Johnson, PhD, MSN, RN, CNEcl

Glenda Wothers, MSN, RN

Nursing Staff

Mrs. Traci Shepherd

Administrative Assistant/Simulation Lab Coordinator

VISION STATEMENT, MISSION STATEMENT & NURSING PHILOSOPHY

The mission statement and philosophy of the Bethel University Department of Nursing are consistent with the mission statement, operational definitions, and objectives of the parent institution (Bethel University). The mission statement and philosophy reflect the beliefs of the faculty and give direction to the baccalaureate nursing program.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Bethel University Department of Nursing is to be the premier nursing program in the region. The faculty expects our graduates to be distinguished as a result of their caring and compassion, academic, clinical and professional excellence, commitment to professional nursing, advocacy for their patients' and communities' health, contribution to the advancement of safe, quality patient care, and leadership in the implementation and standardization of evidence-based practice in an ever-changing healthcare environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bethel University Department of Nursing is to provide accessible educational experiences that meet the needs of our diverse learning community. This includes opportunities, environment, mentoring, and leadership necessary for our students to develop to their highest potential as professional nurses.

Highest potential is defined as each student being prepared to exhibit excellence by positively impacting the health care of the diverse patient communities served, demonstrating competency by delivering the ultimate level of safe, quality care through participation in interprofessional collaboration, life-long learning, and advanced education, and implementing evidence-based practice as the standard of care.

In alignment with Bethel University's mission, we are committed to fostering an environment that values diversity, promotes equity, and ensures inclusion. We strive to create a supportive and respectful atmosphere where every student, regardless of background, can achieve their intellectual, spiritual, and social potential, embodying Christian ideals of reverent spirituality and respect for all members of the community.

Philosophy

We, the Bethel University Nursing Faculty, believe that each person is a unique product of his or her environment; that learning is a result of the teaching-learning process; that health impacts quality of life; and that nursing is the art and science of care-giving, the prevention of illness, and promotion of health.

We believe that each person is a global citizen who exists and functions within the context of family, community, and world. We believe that each person is responsible and accountable for the decisions he or she makes and for the consequences resulting from those decisions. We believe in the intrinsic value of each person and that he or she is deserving of respect and dignity throughout the lifespan. We see each person as a holistic being whose interaction with his or her environment has the potential to positively influence the purpose and meaning that others derive from their existence.

We believe that environment shapes the person, just as the person exerts an influence upon his or her environment. Our belief is that a person's environment is the sum of the physical aspects of one's internal and external existence as well as moral, cultural, psychosocial, socioeconomic, spiritual, political, educational, ecological and technological forces. We also believe that individuals make choices about how they interact with their environment resulting in an impact on their lives.

We believe that learning is the principal way in which individuals enhance the efficacy of their interactions within their environment. We believe that learning gives people the skills and knowledge they need to be successful on a personal level while allowing them to contribute to the benefit and welfare of society. We believe that learning is an individual process, that every person has potential and can learn. We also believe that every person has the responsibility to be an active participant in the learning process and is personally accountable for his or her learning outcomes.

We believe that learning is the sum of the outcomes from the teaching-learning process. The teaching-learning process is a reciprocal endeavor that involves the active, mutually cooperative participation of faculty and students in the learning environment. We believe that it is our responsibility to provide our students with the leadership, professional guidance, and academic foundation to be successful in the nursing profession. It is our professional obligation to instill a passion for life-long learning in our students to enable them to stay well-informed of the changes in health care science, technology, and evidence-based practice.

We believe that health—on the individual, community, and global level—is nursing's reason for being. Our belief is that health is a dynamic, constantly adapting state and is influenced by multiple variables, including the physical environment, culture, gender, age, ethnicity, lifestyle, socioeconomic status, education level and genetics. Our position is that the meaning of health is unique to each individual and exists on a continuum from wellness to death. The

science of nursing strives to improve health maintenance and health management to achieve optimal wellness while participating in multidisciplinary care.

We believe that nursing is a profession founded upon caring. Nursing is an art and a science. The art is in our caring and in the manner of our care; the science involves health promotion, illness prevention, risk-factor identification, acute and chronic care, rehabilitation, and chronic disease management. Nurses are leaders, care-givers, designers of care, change agents, teachers, role models, decision makers, scientists, managers, and advocates. We believe that the future of nursing lies in taking a leadership role in health promotion, health care and the health care system.

BETHEL UNIVERSITY PROGRAM GOALS

The Bethel University Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree prepares graduates for entry-level professional positions in primary, secondary and tertiary care settings serving persons of all ages from diverse populations and for advancement to a graduate degree program in nursing.

The Bethel University nursing graduate is expected to embody certain characteristics. These characteristics are as follows:

- Demonstrates professional excellence as evidenced by a practice that reflects moral, legal, and ethical principles and accepted standards of practice.
- Integrates liberal arts, science, and nursing knowledge as the foundation of professional practice.
- Displays caring, compassion, and respect for human dignity.
- Acts as the patients' advocate, making their care and well-being the highest priority.
- Shares responsibility for and assumes a leadership role in the provision of quality health care and its continuous improvement based upon current evidence.
- Utilizes clinical reasoning and evidence-based practice to improve health care of individuals, families, communities, aggregate populations and the world.

- Collaborates and communicates effectively with teams, both intra and interdisciplinary and other health care stakeholders using verbal, written, and informatics skills.
- Exhibits the cultural competence needed to provide holistic health care to individuals, families, communities, aggregate populations and the world.
- Applies knowledge of the health and wellness continuum to educate about and advocate for measures to maximize the health of individuals, families, communities, aggregate populations and the world.
- Accepts responsibility as an advocate for health care policies that improve health care for all, taking into account the needs of the profession, the health care system, and society.
- Functions as a professional nurse generalist providing safe, competent, evidence-based quality care
- Demonstrates a commitment to professional excellence through life-long learning.

BETHEL NURSING DEPARTMENT EXPECTED PROGRAM OUTCOMES

These Numbers reflect the Bethel Nursing Program goals and are used to measure the success of the program. The actual numbers vary from year to year and are available upon request from the Nursing Department.

Completion Rate	≥70% within three years of full-time enrollment in the nursing program
Employment	100% of those seeking employment
1st time NCLEX pass rate	>85%
AACN/SkyFactor Graduate Exit Assessment	≥ mean 5.0 on factors measured
AACN/SkyFactor Undergraduate Nursing Alumni Assessment	≥ mean 5.0 on factors measured

NURSING CURRICULUM

Prerequisite: Associate of Science in Pre-Nursing (61 hours)

Common Core courses are pre-requisites to admission to the Nursing Program and are offered by the College of Arts & Sciences. Course descriptions for these classes are listed in the 2021-2022 CAS catalog.

A. Liberal Arts Core (33 hours)

COE 102	2 hours
ENG 101	3 hours
ENG 111	3 hours
ENG 201	3 hours
ENG 202	3 hours
MTH numbered MTH 123 or higher	3 hours
CHE 111, 111L	4 hours
HIS -200 level	6 hours
REL or PHI (Excluding REL 213, 310, 410)	6 hours

B. Program Core (28 hours)

BIO 111, 111L	4 hours
BIO 201, 201L	4 hours
BIO 202, 202L	4 hours
BIO 211, 211L	4 hours
PSY 211	3 hours
HEA 211	3 hours
MTH 202	3 hours
SOC 111	3 hours

After Notification of Admission to the Nursing Program:

SEQUENCE OF NURSING MAJOR HOURS

Semester 1 = 14 hours

NUR 305	Success in Nursing School	1
NUR 300	Adult Health Assessment in Nursing	4
NUR 311	Foundations in Nursing Care	5
NUR 317	Pharmacology in Nursing I	2
NUR 321	Concepts in Professional Nursing	2

Semester 2 = 15 hours

NUR 318	Pharmacology in Nursing II	2
NUR 322	Nursing Care of Clients with Psychosocial Disorders	4
NUR 323	Pathophysiology in Nursing	3
NUR 326	Complex Illness in Adults I	6

Semester 3 (Summer Session) = 8 hours

NUR 334	Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents	5
NUR 381	Research in Nursing	3

Semester 4 = 15 hours

NUR 410	Nursing Care of the Community	4
NUR 414	Nursing Care of Women and Neonates	5
NUR 418	Complex Illness in Adults II	6

Semester 5 = 15 hours

NUR 422	Complex Illness in Adults	4
NUR 424	Capstone Practicum in Nursing	6
NUR 430	Leadership & Management in Nursing	4
NUR 450	Issues in Health Care	1

TOTAL NURSING HOURS = 67

TOTAL GRADUATION HOURS = 128

APPLICATION AND PROGRESSION POLICIES

Requirements

Students must apply for full time enrollment in the nursing program by completing the nursing application. This application is available on the nursing program page on the Bethel website at <https://www.bethelu.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-health-sciences/nursing-program/nursing-program-application-process> or in the nursing department. The application deadline for fall admission is March 1 of each year. Applicants must also take the ATI TEAS examination prior to March 1 as part of the admission process. This examination is administered by the Department of Nursing at scheduled times during January and February of each year.

The Nursing Committee on Admission & Retention carefully examines each applicant's complete college scholastic record and ATI TEAS results. Selection of applicants is made on a competitive basis and equal educational opportunity is offered to all students meeting the entrance requirements regardless of race, sex, color, religion, marital status, age, national origin, or veteran status. Selection is based on a points ranking system which assigns points to the college GPA achieved, the ATI TEAS composite score earned, the ATI TEAS reading score earned and subtracts points (on a case by case basis) for courses that were repeated or withdrawn from due to academic risk. A class is admitted in the fall semester of each academic year.

Procedure

Enrollment in any nursing course is limited to students who have applied for Department of Nursing admission and have been admitted into the Bethel University Nursing Program. To be considered for admission into the nursing program, the student must have completed College of Health Sciences core requirements and nursing program core requirements with a grade of C or higher. All common core and program core courses must be completed prior to entering the nursing program except for 9 credit hours which may only be taken from REL or Fine Arts courses. The student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75. Transfer courses grades will be included in the calculation of GPA to determine eligibility for admission to the nursing courses.

Course Repetition

Students may repeat one nursing course if less than a "C" grade is earned. Students are ineligible to continue in the nursing program at Bethel University if grades of "D" and/or "F" are

earned in two or more nursing courses. Students who transfer from another nursing program with a “D” or “F” in one nursing course on the transcript will be ineligible to continue in the Bethel Nursing Program if grades of “D” and/or “F” are earned in one or more nursing courses. Students who have earned a “D or “F” in two nursing courses from another nursing program may apply for admission to the Bethel nursing program and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If the Admissions committee decides to grant admission to the nursing program, the student must enroll as a first-time student and take all courses in the Bethel nursing program. The student may not make a “D” or “F” in any nursing course and will not be eligible to continue if either grade is earned.

Grading Scale

A	94-100	Excellent
B	85-93	Very Good
C	76-84	Good
D	75-65	Unsatisfactory
F	64 or below	Failure
W		Withdrew
WP		Withdrew Passing
WF		Withdrew Failing
P/F		Pass/Fail

Methods of Evaluation

The Department of Nursing faculty has adopted the following evaluation plan for progression in the nursing program:

[Format for Standardized Evaluation of Students](#)

1. Instructor determined number of unit exams with a minimum of three throughout the semester (Optional in NUR 341, NUR 430 & NUR 450)
2. Quizzes as appropriate (announced & unannounced)
3. Comprehensive Final

4. ATI Content Mastery Assessment (if available for the course)
5. Clinical Evaluation Tool (if clinical component included in course)
6. Nursing Care Plans, Concept Mapping
7. Projects, Papers, Journals, Presentations, Debates, Portfolios, Homework (not an all-inclusive list)
8. Medication Calculation Examination (for each clinical course)
9. Skills Check-offs

Weight of Percent of Each of the Above Evaluation Methods

Objective Evaluation Methods = 80%

1. Unit Exams 40 - 80% total
2. Quizzes..... 0 – 10% total
3. ATI Content Mastery Exam..... 10% total
 - Level 3 proficiency - 10 pts
 - Level 2 proficiency - 10 pts
 - Level 1 proficiency - 0 pts
 - Less than Level 1 proficiency - 0 pts
4. Comprehensive Final 20% total

Subjective Evaluation Methods = 20%

1. Projects, Papers, Journals, Presentation 0 - 20% total
2. Clinical Evaluation Tool Pass/Fail
3. Nursing Care Plans, Concept Mapping..... Pass/Fail
or graded to be included in the 20% subjective score

Criteria for Successful Completion of Each NUR Course

1. Comprehensive Final must be completed with a grade of 76 or above to progress to the next NUR course.
2. Total average of grades for all objective evaluations must be 76 or above to progress to the next NUR course (Unit Exams, Quizzes, ATI Content Mastery Exam, Comprehensive Final Exam)
3. Total average of all grades for the NUR course must be 76 or above to progress to the next NUR course.
4. Clinical Evaluation must be a passing grade to progress to the next NUR course.
5. Completion of the Medication Calculation Examination in each clinical course with a 80% or higher grade. Each student will have two opportunities to achieve this grade. An opportunity will be forfeited should the student miss one of the two opportunities provided for the Medication-Calculation Examination. Students will be administratively withdrawn if they do not achieve an 80% or higher on the medication calculation examination.
6. Successful completion of skills check-offs. Students will have 3 opportunities to successfully complete a skills check-off.
7. Each of the above criteria must occur to progress to the next NUR course. If any of the first four criterion are not met, the grade earned will be a "D" or below. If the criterion in #5 is not met, the student will administratively withdraw from the course during the first week of class. This withdrawal is not considered a failure of the course and will not be considered when evaluating eligibility for readmission.

Transfer Coursework

After admission to Bethel University Department of Nursing and prior to taking courses at other institutions, students must receive written permission from the College of Health Sciences Registrar to enroll in any course at another institution. Students should not base their progression or graduation on permission being granted to take coursework off campus. Students must notify their advisor when courses are not taken as scheduled, are dropped or failed, and should subsequently contact their advisor or Director to receive authorization to alter the originally agreed upon permission form. Students who fail to adhere to this policy

may not receive credit. Courses taken at other colleges and universities may alter the Bethel University GPA. Students are responsible for having official transcripts for all authorized work taken at other colleges and universities forwarded to the Bethel University College of Health Sciences Registrar's Office for proper recording within one (1) semester of completion. It is the student's responsibility to determine that the transfer courses have been recorded in the College of Health Sciences Registrar's Office.

Governance and Re-admission to Nursing Program

Students who are accepted into the Bethel University Department of Nursing Program will be governed by the policies in effect at the time admission to the program is granted. If a policy is modified while the student is enrolled in the nursing program, the Director and Student Affairs student representative will be responsible for notifying all students of the change in policy. Additionally, students will receive a copy of the revised policy from the Director. This copy may be delivered in hard copy or electronic form.

Students who have been absent from the nursing program at Bethel University for one or more semesters for any reason must apply to the department for readmission and follow the Readmission to the Nursing Program policy requirements. The policy is available from the Department of Nursing and on the nursing program web page at <https://www.bethelu.edu/academics/colleges/college-of-health-sciences/nursing-program/nursing-program-academic-information>. Space availability will be one of the criteria used for the readmission decision as well as review of the student's previous academic record, completion of the readmission remediation program and the student's actions taken to address the reason for absence from the program.

Students who are transferring nursing credit from another university or students who have previously received two D's in nursing course from another university will be required to follow the Admission of Transfer Nursing Students policy regarding admission and progression in the program.

The faculty and academic advisers are available to help students understand and meet academic requirements for the Baccalaureate of Nursing degree, but the students themselves are responsible for understanding and fulfilling the requirements. The degree cannot be awarded until all requirements as defined by the Bethel University Department of Nursing are met. It is essential that each student become familiar with all requirements and remain informed throughout the program career.

Grade and Academic Honesty Appeals

If a nursing student feels that he or she is a victim of unfair grading practices, classroom procedures, or treatment of academic dishonesty; the following procedures should be followed:

1. The nursing student should first discuss the complaint with the nursing faculty member.
2. If the situation remains unsettled, the student should discuss the complaint with the Director of Nursing.
3. If the situation remains unsettled, the student should discuss the complaint with the College of Health Sciences Vice President/Dean.
4. If the situation remains unsettled, the student may appeal to the College of Health Sciences Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee.
5. If the situation remains unsettled, the student may appeal to the President of Bethel University.

In addition, nursing students are expected to adhere to the Appeals Process of Bethel University as stated in *The Log*.

National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX)

Each student is required to write the NCLEX after graduation from the nursing program. Successful completion of this examination is required for licensing as a Registered Nurse. Licensing is required of any graduate who wishes to practice as a Registered Nurse. The Director of the nursing program will assist the senior nursing students in the final semester to complete the application process required to be eligible to take the NCLEX and achieve licensing. Fees for the application process are the responsibility of the student and are listed in this handbook.

The student must complete the Virtual ATI (VATI) and receive the green light from the ATI mentor before the Director will sign and submit the student's application for licensing to the Board of Nursing. Students will be required to complete VATI during their Capstone course. Keeping in congruence with the policies that govern CHS, students will be required to complete the VATI Comprehensive Predictor during final exams week prior to graduation. Any student who is unsuccessful on the VATI Comprehensive Predictor prior to graduation will receive a grade of incomplete (I) for NUR 424 Capstone Practicum in Nursing Care and be required to

complete 40 hours per week of study time at the nursing building until the time of the retake VATI Comprehensive Predictor. Students who are unsuccessful on the V-ATI prior to graduation will have a maximum of six weeks to complete remediation of and successfully complete the VATI Comprehensive Predictor.

- Students who continue to remain unsuccessful on the VATI Comprehensive Predictor at the end of six weeks will receive a grade of C in NUR 424 Nursing Capstone Practicum in Nursing Care and will be required to renew their VATI account at his or her expense.
- Students who are successful on the VATI Comprehensive Predictor will be required to submit a minimum of 25 NCLEX prep questions/day to the Director of Nursing, and Capstone Instructor until completion of the NCLEX exam. These questions may come from BoardVitals, VATI, etc.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Academic advising is necessary to meet your goals in the nursing program. Advising involves discussion of program options, assistance in program development and course sequencing, planning future goals, and preparing for graduation and licensure. All students must meet with their advisors during the published registration and advising periods. Faculty will post open hours of availability for advising appointments at least one week prior to scheduled pre-registration dates.

You should seek guidance from your faculty advisor to: 1) discuss problems that hinder your academic progression, 2) select courses for the semester, 3) review your plan of study, 4) discuss any changes like dropping or adding a course, 5) seek advice regarding unsatisfactory academic outcomes, 6) review progress throughout the program, and 7) seek advice on future goals.

To be prepared for the advising session, you must: 1) check your advisor's office for office hours, 2) sign-up on your advisor's posted advising schedule to set up an appointment, 3) arrive on time, 4) be open to suggestions for improvement in study habits, work schedules etc. 5) maintain your own academic file including a copy of your transcript, 6) bring your academic file and other documents, like copies of emails, petitions etc. to the session if appropriate, 8) contact your advisor if you are unable to arrive on time or need to change your appointment, and 9) refer to Bethel University College of Health Sciences Undergraduate Catalog and

College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Catalog for any questions regarding degree requirements and progression.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/STUDENT POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Clinical Experiences

The safety of patients may necessitate removal of a student from a clinical experience. Faculty members are responsible for recommending this action to the Director of the Department when indicated. The student who demonstrates clinically unsafe behavior can be administratively removed from the program and will fail the clinical course, therefore failing the course.

If the clinical agency recommends the removal of a student from a clinical facility, the student will be removed from the facility and may be removed from the Department of Nursing for failure to meet the objectives of a specific nursing course.

When in the opinion of the instructor a student is not prepared for the educational activity or is in violation of Standards of Conduct as outlined in the Nursing Student Handbook, the student will be dismissed from the clinical experience for the day by the instructor. The student will fail to meet the critical behaviors for the clinical experience on the day of removal from the clinical experience. The student will receive a clinical unsatisfactory for the day, and the instructor may recommend further action to the Director of the Department.

Attendance at all scheduled clinical and laboratory experiences is required. Penalties for a missed experience will be determined by the clinical faculty responsible for the experience. Opportunity for completion of the missed experience will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will take into consideration faculty availability, availability of facility resources and student history of reliability and responsibility as well as reason for absence.

Failure to complete required clinical experiences successfully may result in failure of the nursing course even if a grade of "C" or higher is obtained on the didactic portion of the course.

Dosage Calculation Examination

The Bethel University Pre-Clinical Dosage Calculations Testing Policies exist to facilitate dosage calculations competence necessary for safe nursing practice. Nursing literature reports that most nursing errors occur in medication administration. Many hospitals require nurses to demonstrate dosage calculation proficiency as a requirement for employment.

Therefore, it is imperative that nursing students assume personal responsibility for maintenance of math skills throughout the nursing curriculum. The dosage calculation testing serves as a means for continued assessment by students and faculty of these important required skills. Bethel University is committed to assisting students who need additional instruction in dosage calculations to maintain safe medication administration in clinical courses. All clinical students who have successfully completed NUR 317 Pharmacology in Nursing I are required to pass a dosage calculation test by the end of the first week of each clinical semester. The student is provided 2 attempts to pass the test; the passing score is 80% or above. Students who do not achieve 80% or above on the first attempt are required to wait a minimum of 24 hours to retest. If the student does not pass the 2nd attempt of the exam with a score of 80%, the student will be required to immediately administratively withdraw from all nursing courses at Bethel University, and the tuition refund policy of Bethel University will be applied. Students who miss one of the 2 testing opportunities will forfeit the opportunity that is missed and will have only one opportunity to achieve an 80% or higher on the medication calculation examination.

Nationally Normed Proficiency Testing

Students will be required to take nationally normed tests throughout the nursing curriculum specific to the content studied, with the expectation that an identified proficiency level or above be obtained. Remediation and re-testing may be required prior to receiving a grade in the nursing course during which the test is administered. All students are required to take a nationally normed comprehensive examination at the completion of NUR 424 Capstone Practicum in Nursing course and are expected to score at an identified proficiency level or higher. The identified proficiency level will be stated in the Capstone Practicum in Nursing course syllabus and should be attained for successful completion of the course. It is the expectation of the Department that students will complete the nationally normed comprehensive predictor prior to graduation. Refer to the National Council Licensing Examination section of the handbook for additional information.

Purpose of Testing

- Assists in documenting student outcomes
- Identifies strengths & weaknesses of students and aggregate groups of students
- Provides curriculum evaluation data
- Strengthens the potential for successful NCLEX outcomes

The fee for one year of testing is added to tuition charges for NUR 311 and NUR 418. These fees include access to all ATI practice exams, ATI content mastery examinations, ATI Nurse Logic, ATI Touch, ATI Achieve, Learning System, Dosage Calculation & Pharmacology Made Easy, all skills modules, Real Life clinical reasoning scenarios, electronic copies of all review materials, printed copies of review materials, quest for NCLEX success module and access to Virtual ATI review program after graduation.

Skills-Check-off Requirement

Each student must achieve a score of 80% on skills checkoffs to pass the laboratory/clinical component of the program. Each student will be given an opportunity to remediate and demonstrate a repeat session if an 80% is not achieved during the first session. Simulations are part of the lab/clinical experience and serve as method of delivery for course content and professional integrity is expected. To preserve the integrity of the clinical scenarios, it is expected that all participants will maintain professional integrity related to the scenarios. Participants are not allowed to share any content, events, actions pertaining to the scenarios with those who are not involved in the event. Violation of confidentiality will be considered a violation of ethical professional conduct and will result in the participant being dismissed from participation in the scenarios with the outcome being an unsatisfactory or potential failure in the clinical component of this course.

Community Service

A total of three hours per semester of community service is required of each student. This activity is NOT GRADED, but documentation must be received by the Clinical Course Coordinator or Department of Nursing Office Manager by the last week of the semester (prior to finals week) if the student is to pass each clinical. The documentation should be submitted on the approved department form. It is the intent of the requirement that the student volunteer with a health-related community service.

PROFESSIONAL CHARACTER

Bethel University Department of Nursing requires that all nursing students exhibit exemplary professional character, and uphold the values of Bethel University.

Evidence of exemplary professional character includes: 1) ability to distinguish right from wrong; 2) ability to think and act rationally; 3) accountability for his or her own behaviors; 4) ability to recognize and honor the interpersonal boundaries appropriate to any therapeutic

relationship or health care setting; and 5) ability to promptly and fully self-disclose facts, circumstances, events, errors, and omissions when such disclosure could enhance the health status of patient or the public or could protect the patient or the public from unnecessary risk of harm.

Academic Integrity

Areas of Student Responsibility

The University's expectations commence when the University initially accepts a student. They apply to the student's conduct wherever the student may be, on or off the campus, and when the student is engaged in university-related activities and when the student is not.

Basic Honesty

The University insists on basic honesty and encourages the development of relationships characterized by integrity. Cheating, lying or misrepresentations concerning official university business threaten the welfare of the university community and are considered forms of academic dishonesty and are prohibited.

Academic Responsibility

Academic honesty is an essential condition for the health of Bethel University and is vital to the achievement of its intended objectives. Consequently, any effort on the part of a person to submit work that is not his or her own or violate the policies of the nursing department, Bethel University or Professional Standards of Conduct as stated in this document in fulfillment of course or examination requirements shall not be tolerated. Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to, the following definitions:

- A. Cheating: The unauthorized use, or attempted use, of any form of notes, tables, books, or other devices in the writing of an examination or test of any kind is prohibited.
- B. Plagiarism: Using the ideas (e.g., concepts, theories), data, language, media, or images of another source (e.g., human or an Artificial Intelligence (AI) program) and representing it as one's own original work, without specific and proper acknowledgement constitutes plagiarism and is prohibited. All sources used in the preparation of a paper or other assignment should be listed in the bibliography and specific quotations and references should be indicated by appropriate citation.

- C. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty:** Any student giving or receiving unauthorized aid, by any means including notes, signs, words, or gestures, is guilty of cheating.
- D. **Fabrication:** The submission of work that is not the actual accomplishment of the person submitting it is a violation of academic honesty.
- E. **Multiple Submissions:** Submitting, without prior permission, any work previously or concurrently submitted to fulfill another academic requirement.
- F. **Unfair Advantage:** Exercising or attempting to exercise unauthorized or unfair academic advantage over others or impeding the academic work of others.
- G. **Misrepresentation of Academic Records:** Misrepresenting, tampering with, or attempting to tamper with any portion of a student's academic record.
- H. **Theft:** The removal, misappropriation, or destruction of academic material in an unauthorized manner from the person, the office, or the vehicle of an instructor, from the library, or from another person is prohibited.
- I. **Drug and Alcohol Use:** The use, possession, distribution, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on school property, at school sponsored events, or in clinical settings is strictly prohibited. Violations will result in dismissal from the nursing program. The DON is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students.
- J. Assistance in typing or proofreading a paper is not considered improper unless specifically forbidden by the instructor.

Students found committing an act of academic dishonesty will receive the following punishments:

- a). For the first offense the student will receive a grade of zero on the first assignment
- b). A second offense will result in a course failure and dismissal from the nursing program

Students are expected to adhere to the academic conduct policies of Bethel University. Violation of any of these policies may result in dismissal from the nursing program. (refer to *The Log*, The Student and Residence Life Handbook for further clarification)

The following actions, while not all inclusive, are examples of academic misconduct: 1) cheating during an exam, 2) plagiarism, consisting of representing someone else's work as your

own in a paper, report, care plan etc., 3) use of alcohol or drugs while performing duties in the classroom or clinical, 4) falsification of any data in the classroom or clinical setting, and 5) any academic behaviors that violate the policies of the nursing department, Bethel University or Professional Standards of Conduct as stated in this document.

Professional Conduct

All students enrolled in the Bethel nursing program must exhibit professional conduct.

Bethel University Department of Nursing defines exemplary professional conduct as the integrated pattern of personal, academic and occupational behaviors exhibited consistently by an individual that meet the rules and regulations for licensure by the Tennessee Board of Nursing as well as meet the Tennessee Nurse Practice Act requirements.

Failure to exhibit professional behavior in academic, clinical laboratory experiences or personal performance may result in the removal from the Bethel nursing program. Students who are dismissed from the nursing program for violations of the academic integrity policy are ineligible for readmission to the nursing program.

The Bethel University Department of Nursing student is expected to display professional behaviors that are always conducive to the practice of professional nursing. Professionalism is a concept that embraces conduct, attitudes, values, and standards relating to the practice of a profession. Professionalism in nursing can be witnessed in individual and collaborative practice and organizational participation. The nursing student is expected to incorporate into their behavior the Bethel University Student Code of Conduct and Professional Standards of Conduct as discussed throughout this section of the handbook and the policies and regulations as established by the following regulatory bodies:

- 1) American Nurses' Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses
- 2) Nurse Practice Act—Tennessee Board of Nursing
- 3) American Hospital Association Patient Bill of Rights

The faculty of Bethel University Department of Nursing expects professional nursing students to conform to the standards of nursing practice. The term unprofessional conduct is described as any act, practice or omission that fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession.

Unprofessional conduct includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Failing to assess and evaluate a patient's status or failing to institute nursing intervention which might be required to stabilize a patient's condition or prevent complications.
2. Knowingly or consistently failing to accurately or intelligibly report or document a patient's symptoms, responses, progress, medications, and/or treatments.
3. Knowingly or consistently failing to make entries, destroying entries, and/or making false entries in records pertaining to the giving of narcotics, drugs, or nursing care.
4. Appropriating medications, supplies, equipment, or personal items of the patient or employer.
5. Failing to administer medications and/or treatments in a responsible manner.
6. Performing or attempting to perform nursing techniques and/or procedures in which the nursing student is unprepared, unsafe, and/or without appropriate supervision.
7. Violating the confidentiality of information or knowledge concerning the patient except where required by law.
8. Causing, permitting, or allowing physical or emotional injury to the patient or failing to report same in accordance with the incident reporting procedure in effect where the nurse is employed or working. Leaving a nursing assignment without notifying appropriate personnel.
9. Expressly delegating nursing care functions or responsibilities to a person who lacks the ability or knowledge to perform the function or responsibility in question.

(Adopted from the American Nurses' Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses, Nurse Practice Act—Tennessee Board of Nursing, American Hospital Association Patient Bill of Rights)

Failure to meet these standards **will result** in a failing grade for the clinical course.

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 health care.
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 principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

© 2015 American Nurses Association

If a nursing student violates any of the above standards and is involved in an unsafe incident in the clinical area, the Unsafe Clinical Performance Incident Report must be completed by the student and faculty member.

Professional Appearance

Students are to be professionally attired at all times. Students should be aware of their high visibility as a Bethel University Nursing student and should act accordingly. Wearing the adopted uniform is a form of commitment to certain personal and professional principles.

All Bethel University nursing students are expected to conform to the Standards of Professional Appearance as outlined below. All articles of personal attire should be scrupulously clean, i.e. freshly washed and wrinkle free, non-canvas shoes in good condition are required. Name badges identify the student with Bethel University Department of Nursing. The name badge has the first name on one line and "BUSN" on the second line.

Guide to Good Grooming

The Close physical contact of nurse to patient requires consideration of every factor that could cause offense. Frequent bathing, dental hygiene and use of deodorants are basic considerations. Scented after-shave lotions and perfumes should not be used. Cosmetics may be worn but should be tastefully applied. Artificial eyelashes and fingernails are not allowed in the classroom, lab, or clinical. Chewing gum is not acceptable, even as a breath freshener.

Classroom

In the classroom environment on the campus of Bethel University, the student nurse is required to wear a purple scrub uniform with the Bethel University logo embroidered on the front left. The purple scrub should be appropriately fitted and may be worn with a long sleeve neutral colored shirt underneath during cold months. A lab coat may also be worn over the scrubs. Students may not wear sweatshirts, hoodies, or fleece type jackets in the classroom, lab, or clinical setting. Closed-toe shoes are required at all times. Slippers, crocks, flip-flops etc are not allowed.

At off campus Bethel University Department of Nursing sanctioned events; "business casual" is considered professional attire. Professional attire does not include jeans, shorts, skirts, casual sandals, flipflops, halter tops, athletic wear, sweatshirts, tank tops, muscle shirts, or tee shirts. Shoes should be clean and comfortable with low heels (less than 3 inches). Socks or hose must be worn if appropriate.

Jewelry is kept to a tasteful minimum. No necklaces or bracelets are allowed. Wedding bands and/or engagement rings are acceptable. No multiple visible piercing. The only visible piercing is to be up to two small earrings in two pierced holes of each ear and/or one small piercing in the nares. In the classroom, lab, and clinical setting. No jewelry may be worn in the clinical setting. Flesh tone or clear gauges may be worn to cover obvious holes in nose, lip, and ear piercings.

Single Daith piercings for the prevention of migraine headaches are allowed with a written medical necessity statement from a qualified healthcare provider.

Fingernails should be clean and trimmed no longer than the fingertip. No nail jewelry or artificial nails are permitted. Clear or neutral colored nail polish may be worn.

Tattoos must be covered.

Clinical Experiences

The general requirements for the uniform for students of Bethel University Department of Nursing will be as follows:

Students accepted into the Bethel University nursing program must purchase one white lab jacket and previously described scrub uniform, all with the Bethel DON logo embroidered on the left front from Uniform Source in Jackson, TN.

Nursing shoes must be all white and/or solid black. They may be leather or non-porous sport shoes. Shoes must be clean, comfortable and quiet. (Canvas shoes as well as open toe or open heel shoes are not acceptable). Socks or hose must be worn. Socks are to be white or black if shoes are black.

The Bethel Student ID is to be worn on the left upper chest area, on the uniform, street clothing, lab coat, or scrubs when functioning as a Bethel University student nurse. The ID is not to be worn at any other time, such as during a work shift in a hospital setting.

Some clinical experiences will require the wearing of street clothes with lab jacket and Bethel Student ID. Street clothes include skirt or slacks with a shirt or blouse or dresses. Permissible street clothes do not include jeans, shorts, skorts, casual sandals, flipflops, halter tops, tank tops, muscle shirts, or tee shirts.

Shoes should be clean and comfortable with low heels (less than 3 inches). Socks or hose must be worn if appropriate.

Hair should be well groomed, of a natural color, with no artificial attachments/adornments such as hair extensions, dread-locks, beads, ribbons, feathers etc. Hair must be pulled back, secured and up off the collar for all clinical experiences.

Facial hair must be neatly trimmed, and beards may not be longer than one inch below the jaw line.

Fingernails should be clean and trimmed no longer than the fingertip. No nail jewelry or artificial nails are permitted. Clear or neutral nail polish may be worn.

Students must wear a watch that allows them to count seconds so that heart and respiratory rates may be counted. All students are recommended to bring a personal stethoscope to clinical experiences as appropriate.

Tattoos must be covered and should not be visible through clothing. If you have a tattoo, it is your responsibility to wear adequate clothing to cover up the tattoo(s) while providing care in the clinical setting.

Any questions about grooming or professional attire should be addressed to the faculty of the Bethel University Department of Nursing prior to the clinical experience.

Attendance and Tardiness

Attendance at the first session of all nursing classes (Didactic and Clinical Laboratory Experiences) and new student orientation is mandatory.

Attendance is required for each course. If the student must miss a class for any reason, the student must get an excused absence from the instructor prior to the event. Students are responsible for all material presented in their absence and completing all requirements and the objectives of material presented.

A student missing any scheduled assignments, quizzes or exams without prior notification of the faculty member will earn a grade of zero. Opportunities to complete and resubmit assignments or take quizzes or examinations at other than scheduled times will be provided at the discretion of the faculty and as outlined in the course syllabus.

Punctuality is required. All students are required to be in the classroom seated and ready to begin work at the scheduled time for class to begin. When a student is tardy for two scheduled classes (if not excused), an absence will be recorded.

Attendance at all scheduled clinical laboratory experiences is required. Penalties for a missed clinical laboratory experience will be determined by the clinical faculty responsible for the missed laboratory experience. This clinical faculty member will consider and evaluate each missed experience on an individual basis considering such factors as previous patterns of reliability and responsibility demonstrated by the student, availability of facilities, availability of faculty, and reason for the absence.

Punctuality is required for a scheduled clinical laboratory experience. When a student is tardy for any scheduled clinical laboratory experience, appropriate action will be determined by the

faculty and might consist of dismissal from the clinical laboratory experience for that day and/or an additional assignment.

Two unexcused tardiness and/or absences from scheduled clinical laboratory experiences will result in dismissal from the clinical course. If a student misses a clinical activity for any reason, the student will be required to make up the clinical hours. The type of clinical activity will be determined by the instructor.

Nursing students enrolled in clinical nursing courses must attend clinical orientation scheduled according to the nursing course. This may be the first week of each semester or later in the semester. Absence will cause cancellation of enrollment in these courses.

If illness or other conditions occur that prevents participation in a scheduled clinical laboratory experience, it is the student's responsibility to follow course guidelines published in syllabi for notifying the faculty and the agency. Outcomes and penalties for a missed clinical laboratory experience will be determined by the clinical faculty member who coordinated that clinical experience. The faculty member will evaluate each case on an individual basis and will make the final determination for when a student is ready to re-enter the clinical experience.

A student with a communicable condition should not participate in a scheduled clinical laboratory where risk of exposing others exists. Follow course guidelines for notifying the faculty and the agency. If treatment is indicated, the student should follow up with recommendations from a health care provider. Outcomes and penalties for a missed clinical laboratory experience will be determined by the clinical faculty member who coordinated that clinical experience. The faculty member will evaluate each case on an individual basis and will make the final determination for when a student is ready to re-enter the clinical experience.

STUDENT POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Examinations

Examination dates are listed in the course syllabus. Students will take each examination at the scheduled time. If the student is unable to take the examination at the scheduled time, the instructor must be contacted prior to the class period the examination is being taken. Reasons for missing an examination must be considered academically valid, such as illness, death of a family member, car accident etc and will be accepted on a case-by-case basis by the faculty. Unacceptable reasons for missing an exam are vacation or travel, work, and loss of a distant family member or pet. The student will make up the examination within 120 hours (not including weekends or holidays) after returning to class or clinical laboratory experience. Arrangements to make up the examination will be made through the course instructor. Make up exams may be a different form and format such as essay. A student who fails to comply with the above will not be permitted to take the examination, and the grade will be recorded as zero.

Final Examinations

Final examinations will be given on dates and times as specified by the Bethel University Department of Nursing.

Quizzes/Assignments

Students are responsible for attending class prepared. This includes completion of all assigned readings and learning activities as designated in the course syllabus.

Quizzes may be announced or unannounced. All assignments are due on the date specified on the class schedule. Quizzes cannot be made up. Any assignment turned in late may have points deducted as stated on the evaluation form of the assignment.

Classroom/Clinical Participation

Students are expected to participate in class discussion. Each student will be accountable for all assigned objectives. The student will be held accountable for all content taught in previous courses.

Performance in Clinical Experiences

Students are expected to arrive at the clinical laboratory experience prepared and may be sent home if not prepared. Clinical preparation may include but is not limited to research related to assigned patient health care needs, reviewing readings related to assigned patient health care needs, viewing skills modules, practicing in the skills lab, or developing care plans

or care maps prior to arrival at clinical experience. As part of the clinical experience students will have the opportunity to work in several clinical settings and with numerous persons during their years as a student in the nursing program. As professional nursing students, students are expected to keep confidential all information entrusted to them by patients, family members, peers, and colleagues.

Nursing students will be expected to travel to the clinical facility the day before clinical practice to meet the patient they will be caring for during clinical practice. Students will also collect data from the patient documents and patient that will assist them in planning for care during the clinical practice experience.

Utilization of Handheld Electronic Devices

All students are required to use a handheld electronic device [Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), Smartphone (iPhone®, Android, Blackberry, etc), iTouch®, or any other handheld electronic device (HED)] in the clinical area for quick reference on clinical topics. The use of the HED is guided by the policies of the individual clinical sites and the Department of Nursing Guidelines for use of Handheld Electronic Devices in the Clinical Setting. HIPAA policies are to be followed when using any HED device. No patient identifiers or personal patient information may be placed on the HED. Telephone and camera must be in the “off” mode while in the clinical area. Text messages may only be sent to your clinical instructor to notify him or her that you need their assistance. No text messages may be sent to other students or external sites. No pictures may be taken while in any clinical area including documents, patients or computer screens. Appropriate asepsis techniques must be used when referencing the HED in the clinical area.

If non-adherence occurs, the student will be removed from the clinical area immediately. The incident will be reported to the Director and consequences will range from an unsatisfactory for the clinical day, failure of the clinical component of the courses to removal from the nursing program.

Inclement Weather Policy

The Department of Nursing recognizes that adverse weather conditions can impact the day-to-day operations within the department. While every attempt will be made to maintain normal operation and conduct class in person, it may occasionally be necessary to curtail specific activities due to inclement weather. This policy will delineate actions to be taken should in person activities need to be curtailed to maintain the safety and well-being of all faculty, staff, and students, and to maintain instructional continuity. Balancing weather conditions and holding class remotely can be difficult but safety is of the utmost concern.

When any of Bethel's campuses are closed or the decision is made within the DON to curtail face-to-face activities, faculty within the DON will hold classes virtually utilizing videoconferencing (Zoom, Google Classroom, or Google Hangout) and utilize instructional tools in eMedley for maintaining instructional continuity as appropriate.

Class and clinical laboratory experiences may be cancelled by the faculty in the following situation:

At those times when the University or school district within the county of location of the classroom or clinical experience is closed due to inclement weather. Consideration will be given to student and faculty travel to the learning experience.

Each faculty member is responsible for evaluating the weather conditions in the geographical area of the clinical site. If the decision is made to cancel a clinical experience, it is the faculty member's responsibility to contact the student and the clinical facility with the relevant information. All missed clinical hours will be made up. The type of clinical activity will be determined by the instructor.

Membership on Nursing Committees

Since nursing faculty and students are involved in governance of the educational process, students are elected or appointed to the following faculty committees:

1. Department of Nursing Curriculum Committee
2. Department of Nursing Student Affairs Committee

Employment

Students may be employed on or off campus as opportunities are available and the course load and schedule permits. However, the Department of Nursing faculty urges caution in scheduling more than a few hours of work per week; work schedules must allow time to study and must be scheduled around the student's class schedule. Students employed in clinical agencies may not wear the school uniform or Bethel Student ID during employment. The uniform worn during such employment should be the one required by the employing agency. Students who are employed in a clinical setting must not sign their names as Bethel University Student Nurse.

Change in Health Status

A change in physical or emotional health status must be reported to the clinical instructor and program director as soon as it is suspected and /or verified. Although the student's right to

privacy is recognized and respected, it is important that the faculty be aware of the situation to protect the student, Bethel University, and affiliated organizations. The student may be required to seek evaluation by a health care provider and provide documentation regarding ability to function safely in the classroom and clinical setting.

To progress academically, the student must demonstrate the ability to fulfill program requirements and objectives. If the student is unable to meet the course requirements due to health problems, he/she will be asked to withdraw from the class or to withdraw from the university for the semester.

STUDENT FEES*

In addition to tuition and University fees, nursing students have the following estimated costs:

- Uniform expense \$100.00 - \$200.00
- Purchase of electronic device for e-books varies according to device
- Nursing Central (6 e-books) \$269/program
- Textbooks varies by semester
- Clinical/lab fees \$100.00/course/semester
\$110 for NUR 422
- Professional Liability insurance \$18.00/year
- Student Nurse Association Membership \$50.00/year
- Standardized exams \$1,650/year
- NUR 305 ATI Launch Nursing Academic Readiness \$250.00/first semester
- Criminal background check \$125 for each check
*(admission to nursing program, before application for state board examination
& as required by clinical agency requirements)*
- Drug screens \$30.00/year
- Transportation to and from clinical experiences
(Memphis, Nashville, Bolivar & Jackson as well as local health care facilities)
- Bethel University Department of Nursing pin \$21.00 - \$200.00
(to be awarded to graduating seniors during pinning activities)
- Nursing Licensure Examination \$375.00
- Health Insurance (Cost determined by insurance company)
- Graduation 100.00

** Student expenses may vary from semester to semester according to increases in costs from participating organizations.

CLINICAL AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

Drug testing and criminal background checks of nursing students are required by the facilities which serve as the sites for the clinical learning experience for nursing students. These facilities require drug testing and criminal background checks of each student, prior to the time the student would have contact with the facility's patients or employees.

Drug Screen

Drug screens are performed at the beginning of each semester (fall, spring, and summer). The Department of Nursing arranges for a laboratory to collect urine specimens on campus at a specified time.

At the time of drug testing, the student is required to pay the cost and any additional expenses related to further investigation, if needed, by the Medical Review Officer.

If a positive drug screen occurs, the following will occur:

1. the student will be immediately suspended for a minimum of one year (12 continuous months from the date of the beginning of the suspension) from the nursing program; and
2. the positive drug screen will be shared by the Bethel University Department of Nursing Director with the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences for further action, including but not limited to referral for a drug abuse education program, referral to counseling, and/or referral to a drug treatment program,
3. other appropriate action, if any.

Any nursing student with a positive drug screen is encouraged to seek treatment.

Bethel University Department of Nursing encourages impaired students to seek assistance voluntarily and assume responsibility for their personal and professional conduct. A student who has on one occasion had a positive drug screen under this policy, and who desires to reapply to Bethel Department of Nursing may reapply for a school semester beginning after the period of suspension (one year minimum). The student will, in addition to meeting all other requirements for similarly situated applicants, be required to provide documentation of successful treatment and the student will be required to consent to and undergo drug testing.

The decision on whether to re-admit the student is not guaranteed and will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Additionally, a student assigned to a facility for a clinical experience, and who is suspected by the facility or faculty of substance use or abuse, will be asked to consent to a drug test, plus other consequences. In this situation, the student is required to sign the consent and complete an immediate drug test. Some clinical facilities also require a drug test if an injury occurs to the student on site. The student is required to pay for all drug tests.

Criminal Background Check

Each student who will be the subject of the criminal background check is required to cooperate with the company conducting the check so that it can be completed at the time required by Bethel University prior to a clinical laboratory experience. Each student is required to provide the screening company accurate identifying information requested so that the company can carry out the screen upon the student. Each student is required to sign any and all consents/releases, in the form(s) designated by Bethel University, including consent to the criminal background check and permission for it to be provided by the company to Bethel University. It is intended that the background check include all cities and counties of known residence for the 7-year period prior to the check.

Under this policy, the term “failing” the criminal background check is defined as the screening company reporting to Bethel University that the student had any of the following, during the 7-year period prior to the check:

- A felony conviction.
- A misdemeanor conviction or felony deferred adjudication involving a crime against a person (physical or sexual abuse).
- A misdemeanor conviction related to moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc).
- A felony deferred adjudication for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances.
- Registration as a sex offender
- Any requirement specific to each clinical facility used for clinical experiences

The company conducting the criminal background check will communicate the criminal background check results to the Director of Bethel University Department of Nursing. It is the policy of Bethel University to maintain the confidentiality of these criminal background check results to the extent required by law. The student must give permission for the clinical agency to view the results if requested due to concern over violation of the facility's criminal background check policy.

When a student fails the criminal background check, the following will occur:

1. The student will be immediately suspended from the nursing program until the company conducting the check reports to Bethel University that the student no longer fails the check,
2. The student will be notified of a description of the adverse action taken, the name of the company which prepared the report, a statement that the company did not make the decision to take the adverse action, that the student has a right to obtain a free copy of the company's report from the company, and to contest its contents.
3. The results will be shared by Bethel University Department of Nursing with the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences for further action. The results may be shared with the appropriate contact from the clinical facility.
4. Other appropriate action, if any.

A student who is convicted of or receives deferred adjudication for any of the criminal offenses while enrolled in the program must report the conviction to the Director of Bethel University Department of Nursing within three days of the conviction, and the student will be referred to the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences. Action taken will be predicated on the type of criminal offense and particular policy violated by the offense.

At the time of the background check, the student must pay all expenses associated with the criminal background check process.

Immunization, Current CPR Card & Health Insurance

Up-to-date immunization status as well as current CPR training is required of all students by the facilities in which Bethel schedules clinical experiences.

Required immunizations include:

- Tetanus/Diphtheria (TD) (within past 10 years) or TDaP if renewal required while enrolled in the nursing program
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR and blood titer)
- Hepatitis B and blood titer
- The Department of Nursing requires the QuantiFERON Gold as the accepted standard of practice for detecting the absence or presence of TB. The blood test will be done prior to admission and yearly while in the program.
- Varicella (chickenpox) and blood titer
- COVID-19 Immunization (Moderna-2 doses, Pfizer-2 doses, or Johnson & Johnson-1 dose)
- Annual Flu Shot (between September 1 and September 30 each year)

CPR certification must be from the American Health Association and must be for the Healthcare Provider CPR. Copies of documentation of immunization status and American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR training card must be submitted to Certified Background Student Immunization Tracker prior to the first day of class. Information regarding the process to accomplish this requirement is included in the admission packet sent to newly admitted nursing students. This information is also available from the Department of Nursing.

If annual renewals are necessary, copies of the renewals should be submitted to the Student Immunization tracker before the first day of classes each semester.

Bethel Department of Nursing students enrolled in clinical nursing courses must submit proof of health insurance yearly to Student Immunization Tracker.

Student Malpractice Liability Insurance

All students are required to purchase malpractice liability insurance prior to participating in clinical experiences. This is a requirement of all clinical facility in which Bethel nursing students practice. The Department of Nursing contracts with an insurer to provide blanket malpractice insurance for all students enrolled in the nursing program. The yearly fee for the insurance is added to the charges for NUR 311 and NUR 418.

Compliance with all Policies

Students who are not in compliance with the above policies regarding drug testing, background checks, immunizations, CPR, health insurance and malpractice insurance will not be allowed to participate in clinical activities involving patient contact. The missed time cannot be made-up and will be counted as unexcused absences and handled according to policies stated in the student handbook.

**** It is the students' responsibility to follow all guidelines and requirements set forth in the *Bethel University Department of Nursing Student Handbook, Bethel University Log and Bethel University Catalog.***

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)

1. All students must sign a Bethel University Nursing Confidentiality Statement (NF-337) prior to accessing patient files in any agency used for clinical education. Some agencies require additional confidentiality forms specific to their facility be signed in addition to the Bethel University DON Statement.
2. All student documents related to patient assignments (journals, care plans, papers, assignment sheets, etc) must be protected to assure privacy of the patient(s) information by de-identifying the health information. Your course faculty will tell you the de-identification method to be used.
3. Students should maintain the de-identification of health information when communicating with faculty, one another, or any other entity through any means including electronic means.
4. Any documents submitted to faculty should contain no protected health information (PHI) or the information should be de-identified. For example: course papers, care plans, interview information, etc.
5. If protected health information is re-identified for any reason, it is deemed to be protected health information and is subject to the applicable privacy protections. The student is responsible for maintaining the security of the re-identified information.
6. Only students wearing the approved Bethel University identification badge will be granted access to patient information by the clinical agency.
7. Student IDs are to be worn on the L. upper chest on the uniform, street clothing, or scrubs when representing self as a Bethel University student nurse. The ID is not to be worn at any other time, such as during a work shift in a hospital setting.

Any student research or professional projects should maintain the protection of health information collected during the duration of the project by including no identifying patient information on project instruments. If a code is used to re-identify the participant information, the codebook must be maintained in a locked, secured file. If an informed consent document is signed, the documents should be maintained in a locked, secured file apart from any patient/subject information.

HIPAA Privacy Official

1. The Director of the Bethel University Department of Nursing is the Privacy Official but may delegate his or her duties to others if so desired. The appointment is continuous and will transfer when and if a new Director is named.
2. The duties of the Privacy official includes: a) Maintaining program compliance with HIPAA regulations b) developing Bethel University policies and procedures related to HIPAA regulations c) maintaining documentation of complaints and sanctions d) overseeing HIPAA training program.
3. The chain of command under the Director, Bethel University Department of Nursing, as the Privacy Official is student to faculty, faculty to lead teacher of course (if applicable), and faculty/lead teacher to Director. At times it may be appropriate for the student and faculty/lead teacher to meet simultaneously with the Director.

HIPAA Training

1. All Bethel University students enrolled in clinical courses for the first time will complete a training program regarding HIPAA regulations and policies during the first week of the academic semester. Each will be asked to sign a form indicating understanding of the Bethel University Department of Nursing policies and procedures related to HIPAA and the Bethel University Department of Nursing Confidentiality Statement. The clinical agencies may require additional HIPAA training as well.
2. If a breach in confidentiality occurs, the student will complete a retraining program as soon as possible following the incident.
3. All students will complete retraining within 1 month following a significant change in privacy practices.

HIPAA Complaints

1. A complaint regarding a breach in patient privacy may be brought to the Privacy Official with the assurance that no retaliatory measures will be taken against the person bringing the complaint.
2. The Privacy Official will document the complaints received and their disposition and maintain the document in a locked, secured file.

3. Students who violate the protection of health information are subject to sanctions, which may include, but are not limited to: failure of course or suspension from the program.

PATHOGEN EXPOSURE

Any exposure to blood borne pathogens, tuberculosis, or communicable pathogens other than blood borne communicable diseases during clinical laboratory experience should be reported to the person in charge on the unit and the individual(s) must follow that institution's policy regarding blood borne pathogen or communicable disease exposure. The student will pay for any exposure testing requested. If post-exposure procedures are not available to the involved individual, the student should go immediately to the nearest emergency room.

The student must immediately notify the supervising faculty promptly of the incident or exposure no matter how small it might be. Incident reports are to be completed by the faculty member and student(s) involved at the facility. The agency may require additional documentation as well.

The student may receive immediate testing/treatment at the agency if offered OR report to the nearest Emergency Room. Immediate reporting will afford the opportunity for the initiation of the process of appropriate follow-up of possible exposure to bloodborne pathogens or tuberculosis as well as provide timely administration of appropriate therapy in the event of known any infectious exposure.

The student and faculty together must complete the Bethel University Department of Nursing Post Exposure Incident Form for Bloodborne Communicable Diseases or Tuberculosis as soon as possible after the incident or exposure.

The supervising faculty member will assist the student with the above reports and clarify the student's understanding of the treatment recommendations.

Other exposures or incidents not related to pathogens or tuberculosis, the student must:

1. Notify the supervising faculty member promptly
2. Report the incident immediately to the appropriate individuals within the agency and complete any records required by agency policy
3. Receive immediate treatment at the agency if available OR report Immediately to the nearest emergency room

4. Complete the Bethel University DON Post Incident Form within 24 hours of the incident

In the case of all exposures or incidents, the supervising faculty member will inform the Bethel University Director of the Department of Nursing immediately of the incident or exposure. The faculty will help the student complete the required reports and forms, clarify information regarding reporting and treatment, and file the appropriate forms in the student's file. The Director of Bethel College Department of Nursing will inform the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences of the incident or exposure and follow any guidelines or regulations set forth by Bethel University or other reporting agencies.

Fees acquired for bloodborne pathogen, tuberculosis, or other exposures and incidents are the responsibility of the student. The student will have financial responsibility for all testing and resulting treatment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STUDENT HANDBOOK

I, _____, have read the Bethel Student Nurse Handbook and agree to abide by all policies as stated in the handbook.

Printed Signature: _____

Legal Signature: _____

Date: _____

** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form in the student's folder for one year after graduation.

STUDENT CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT (FORM NF-337)

Patient confidentiality at the facilities used by Bethel University Department of Nursing is of primary importance. In addition to each facility policy, a federal law called the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires patient health information to be kept confidential. Additionally, patients and their families have a right to deal with their issues in a private and secure manner, trusting that their privacy will be maintained. In order to protect this right to confidentiality and to comply with federal and state laws, students must agree to hold all information (including, but not limited to, patient names, their health information, and relevant agency information) gained through their clinical assignments or professional/research projects at any facility used by Bethel University Department of Nursing in strictest confidence. Confidentiality includes, but is not limited to, not discussing patients or their health conditions with persons who do not have a need to know and not removing any documents with individually identifiable patient data from the facility.

I also understand the terms of this Student Confidentiality Agreement, and I agree to abide by the above confidentiality requirements. I further understand that any breach of a patient's confidentiality may result in disciplinary action against me as described in the Bethel University Department of Nursing Student Handbook.

Printed Student Name

Printed Faculty Name

Student Signature

Faculty Signature

Date

Date

** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form in the student's folder for one year after graduation.

HIPAA TRAINING

I have completed the required reading of the Bethel University Department of Nursing policies and procedures regarding HIPAA and received mandatory HIPAA training. I understand that if I have questions, I should ask my course faculty for clarification or information.

I agree to comply with the Bethel University Department of Nursing HIPAA Policies.

Student Signature

Date

** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form in the student's folder for one year after graduation.

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

Patient records confidentiality at the Bethel University Department of Nursing is of primary importance. A federal law called the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that health information be confidential. To protect this right to confidentiality and to comply with federal and state laws, Bethel University Nursing Students must agree to hold all information (including, but not limited to, (patient names, birth dates, social security and insurance information, their health information, and relevant agency information) used by Bethel University Department of Nursing in strictest confidence. Confidentiality includes, but is not limited to, not discussing patients or their health conditions with people who do not have a need to know and not removing any documents with individually identifiable data from the clinical facility.

I understand the terms of this Student Confidentiality Agreement, and I agree to abide by the above confidentiality requirements. I further understand that any breach of a student's confidentiality may result in disciplinary action against me.

(Printed BU Nursing Student Name)

(Printed Name Director of Nursing)

(BU Nursing Student Signature)

(Director Signature)

(Date)

(Date)

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS TRAINING

I, _____ have completed the required reading of the Bethel University Department of Nursing policies and procedures regarding Standard Precautions and received mandatory standard precautions training. I understand that if I have questions, I should ask my course faculty for clarification or information.

I agree to implement these precautions consistently.

Student Signature

Date

** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form in the student's folder for one year after graduation.

UNSAFE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE INCIDENT REPORT FORM (Page 1)

Date of Occurrence

Student

Course

Clinical Instructor

Clinical Site

Patient Age

Diagnosis

Type of Incident: Near Miss regarding medication or patient Injury, or actual medication error or injury related to medication or injury, or other.

Student states exactly what happened (attach additional documentation if needed):

Student describes why he/she thinks the error occurred:

What harm resulted from the error or incident?

What harm could have resulted from the error or incident?

Student's plan to prevent this incident from occurring again:

Student Signature

Instructor Signature

Instructor Comments

Date of Counseling

Signature of Witness at Counseling

UNSAFE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE INCIDENT REPORT FORM (Page 2)

Referral/outcome: (Circle all that apply & comment under each section):

1. Immediate dismissal from clinical area after faculty conference
2. Faculty consultation/remedial work assignment (to be determined by faculty)
3. Referral for outside medical/counseling assistance
4. Immediate dismissal from the nursing program
5. Conference with faculty member and director
6. Conference with faculty, director, and the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences if applicable

**Return to the clinical area is dependent upon accomplishment of remedial actions recommended by the faculty and director.

*** Immediate dismissal from the program is approved by the faculty, Director, and the Vice President of the College of Health Sciences

- Faculty notified student: (Copy of this report given to student & placed in student's file)

Date _____ Time _____

- Director notified: (Copy of this report sent to Director's office)

Date _____ Time _____

- Vice President's office notified: (Copy of this report sent to the Vice President's office)

Date _____ Time _____

Student Signature

Faculty Signature

** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form in the student's folder for one year after graduation. See Nursing Form (NF) 119.

POST INCIDENT FORM (Page 1)

Date of Report

Time of Report

Name

Phone #

Email Address

Date/Time/Location of Incident

Type of incident: (please check or complete all that apply)

___ Patient injury

___ No injury to patient

___ Injury to student

___ No injury to student

___ Injury to others

___ No injury to others

___ Property damage

___ Confidentiality breach

___ Hazardous material exposure

___ Other _____

Description of occurrence or incident: (Use a separate page to document all aspects of incident to include the following information if applicable: Part of body affected, possible causes, both immediate and long term measures taken to prevent re-occurrence, treatment and follow up care, notification process, and witness(es) name & phone number)

Student responsibilities:

1. Notified supervising faculty: Date _____ Time _____

Name of supervising faculty: _____

2. Completed incident report at facility: Date _____ Time _____

3. Completed Bethel University DON Incident and/or exposure forms:

Date _____ Time _____

Please check:

Did student obtain ___ /refuse ___ examination and/or treatment? Not applicable _____

Student Signature

Faculty Signature

POST INCIDENT FORM (Page 2)

** If the student does not seek treatment or follow up care as required by Bethel University Department of Nursing, the health care provider or clinical agency, and if this places faculty, students, organizations and patients at risk, Bethel University Department of Nursing has the right to ask the student to withdraw from the nursing program until the required treatment and follow up care is completed.

*** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a copy of this signed form and other required documents in the student's file for one year after graduation.

POST BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN OR TUBERCULOSIS EXPOSURE FORM (Page 1)

Date of Report

Name of Student

Student Phone Number

Student Email Address

Date of Exposure

Exact Location of Exposure

Description of Exposure (use separate page if needed):

Student notification of supervising faculty: Date _____ Time _____

Student completion of incident report at facility: Date _____ Time _____

Completion of all required Bethel DON exposure/incident forms:

Date _____ Time _____

Student reported for initial screening and treatment:

a. Date ____ Location _____

b. Name of Provider _____ Location _____

- Student reported for required follow up treatment:

a. Date ____ Location _____

b. Name of Provider _____ Location _____

POST BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN OR TUBERCULOSIS EXPOSURE FORM (Page 2)

Student has discussed the treatment and plan of care with supervising faculty and understands that he/she is responsible for obtaining medical care. The student is responsible for all expenses related to medical treatment and follow up care:

Date _____ Signature of Student _____

Faculty notifies Director: Date _____ Time _____

Faculty places a copy in the student's file: Date _____ Time _____

** If the student does not seek treatment or follow up care as required by Bethel University Department of Nursing, the health care provider or clinical agency, and if this places faculty, students, organizations and patients at risk, Bethel Department of Nursing has the right to ask the student to withdraw from the nursing program until all required treatment and follow up care is completed.

*** Bethel Department of Nursing must keep a signed copy of this form and other required documentation in the student's file for one year after graduation.

Covid-19 Vaccination Policy

Title: Covid-19 Vaccination Policy		Number: NAD-103
Originated by: Delecia Parker, DNP, MSN, RN		Approved by: Delecia Parker, DNP, MSN, RN
Position: Director		Position: Director
Issued: 04/23/2023	Latest Rev: 04/23/2023	No. Pages: 4(policy) + 5(form)
Computer file location:		

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to address COVID-19 Vaccination requirements and requests for exemption by faculty and students. Since the advent of the COVID-19 epidemic and resulting vaccination, the Department of Nursing has encouraged but not mandated that faculty and students be vaccinated against COVID-19. Many of the clinical agencies who support the Bethel University Department of Nursing are subject to the rules and regulations of The Centers for Medicare Medicaid as well as state regulations. Therefore, these facilities mandate that faculty and students completing clinical rotations in their facility be fully vaccinated. Vaccine requirements, including any exemptions to a Covid-19 vaccine, requirement implemented by these clinical partners are beyond the control of Bethel University Department of Nursing.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing and accrediting bodies for schools of nursing recommend that students be fully vaccinated when clinical facilities require it so that students can take part in clinical experiences as they progress in their nursing education, or be disenrolled (NCSBN, 2021; Werezak, 2021). Clinical experiences in the hospital setting are recognized by the NCSBN and AACN as an integral part of nursing education and a vital component of clinical education. It is in these experiences that students apply knowledge and develop critical thinking.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bethel University Department of Nursing recognizes some individuals choose to refrain from receiving the COVID-19 vaccination for either medical or sincerely held and firm religious reasons, and that this is a right under both the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. As a private Liberal Arts Christian University, Bethel is respectful of and committed to protecting the religious liberty of an individual in area where we have control. However, clinical experiences are a critical element to the student's educational experience. These experiences allow each nursing student to apply critical thinking and knowledge in an actual clinical setting with actual clients (patients). Since these experiences are conducted in area health care facilities, it is the obligation of the Department of Nursing to ensure that in as much as possible faculty and students alike are following the policies and practices of these facilities. Per recommendations from the NCSBN, Bethel University is under no obligation to provide a student who requests an exemption

with an alternate clinical experience, thus resulting in the student being unable to complete degree requirements (NCSBN, 2021).

SCOPE:

This policy outlines the clinical requirements of participating clinical agencies and the responsibility of Bethel University Department of Nursing to ensure faculty and student compliance with vaccination policies of area clinical partners, and the process for proof of vaccination, and conditions for which one can ask to be exempt. This policy applies to all faculty and students.

DEFINITIONS:

Fully Vaccinated: Vaccinated is a primary vaccination series of either 2 doses of a multidose vaccine or 1 dose of a single vaccine (WTH, 2022).

Sincerely held religious beliefs: These are moral or ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong which are sincerely and firmly held with the strength of traditional religious views. Objections to the COVID-19 vaccination that are based on social, political, philosophical, personal preferences, or on non-religious concerns about the effectiveness or possible side effects (such as the potential inability to conceive) of the vaccine are not considered religious beliefs.

4.1: Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Department of Nursing, faculty, and students to ensure that they are following COVID-19 vaccination requirements or submit the appropriate form (See attached NF-103) for an exemption request to the VP of the College of Health Sciences. Faculty and/or students seeking a medical or religious exemption may also be required to complete the clinical facility specific exemption form. Those choosing to apply for exemption should be advised that while the College of Health Sciences and Department of Nursing may approve their request; the clinical agency is not bound to approve such request, and the College of Health Sciences and Department of Nursing is under no obligation to provide the student with an alternate clinical experience. These forms should be submitted to both the VP of the College of Health Sciences and Department of Nursing for review, consideration, approval, and/or denial of request for religious exemption.

GUIDELINES:

5.1: Vaccination Guidelines

- A. All students and faculty should be fully vaccinated or in the process of vaccination, if receiving two doses of a multidose vaccine, prior to the start of the academic school year.
 - B. Eligible vaccines:
 - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine
-

- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) Covid-19 Vaccine

Vaccines can be obtained at all local health departments and many local health care clinics.

C. Proof of Vaccine:

Students will upload a copy of their vaccine card into Certified Background and provide the NUR 311 faculty with a copy to be placed in the student's file.

Faculty will place of copy of their vaccination (COVID-19) in their faculty file.

5.2. Unvaccinated Exemption Status:

Faculty and students who submit an exemption request and are granted exemption based on medical and/or sincerely and firmly held religious beliefs will be required to wear a face mask/shield; except when eating, while in the nursing building and in the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student being dismissed from class and/or lecture resulting in an unexcused absence and/or clinical unsatisfactory.

Exemptions:

Faculty and students may apply for medical or religious exemptions from the vaccine. Only those medical exemptions following the American with Disabilities Act and religious exemptions covered under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 will be considered.

A. Medical Exemptions:

Students and faculty may apply for a medical exemption; however, all applications for a medical exemption must be supported by documentation that confirms a recognized clinical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccines. Recognized contraindications include:

- Severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) after an earlier dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccines
- Immediate (within 4 hours of exposure) allergic reaction of any severity to an earlier dose or known allergy to a component of the vaccine.

B. Religious Exemption:

Students and faculty may apply for a religious exemption based on a deeply and sincerely held religious belief. All applications must be supported with a statement from the applicant and a published copy of the tenets and practices of the organization or student's recognized denomination which supports the basis of the request. Review the definition of a deeply and sincerely held religious belief as defined in number 4 above.

C. Submitting an Exemption Request:

Students and faculty must fill out an exemption form for Bethel University Department of Nursing (see attached form).

Exemption forms should be submitted to the VP of the College of Health Sciences and director of the department of nursing for review. Facility specific forms for West TN Health care may be submitted to the following mailbox:

studentexemptionrequest@wth.org

D. Determination of Exemption:

All applications submitted for exemption for either medical or religious reasons will be reviewed by the VP of the College of Health Sciences, a member of the University Chaplains office, and faculty from either PA or Nursing. Additional information may be requested by the committee to determine eligibility for exemption. Exemption requests will be approved or denied by the committee and the applicant will receive a written response via email of the decision.

Applications submitted to clinical partners will be reviewed per their policy.

Documentation regarding the exemption and any information provided by the student and/or faculty will be maintained securely.

6.1 Reasonable Accommodations

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing have concluded that up to 50% of traditional clinical hours can be substituted with high quality simulation. However, the possibility remains that an unvaccinated student may not be able to complete an adequate number of clinical hours thus placing them at risk for not completing their degree. If a student is granted an exemption under disability laws or for medical or sincerely and firmly held religious belief or observations, accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis and nursing faculty may provide the student with alternate clinical experiences, when possible. However, based upon recommendations by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing faculty are under no obligation to provide the student with an alternative clinical experience.

NF-103 Covid-19 Vaccination Exemption Request Form

The VP of the College of Health Sciences and Bethel University Department of Nursing will grant exemption to the vaccine requirement when an individual's sincerely held religious beliefs prevent vaccination requirements. Religious beliefs are moral or ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong which are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious views. Sincerely held religious beliefs do not include social, political, economic philosophies, personal preferences, or non-religious concerns about the effectiveness of possible side effects of the vaccine. The VP of the College of Health Sciences and Bethel University Department of Nursing reserve the right to request additional information reasonably needed to evaluate your exemption request and further engage in determining reasonable accommodation(s), if any, for your exemption request.

Name: _____ Date of Request: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Part 1 - To be completed by the individual requesting religious exemption

After you complete this form, submit it to the VP of the College of Health Sciences of Bethel University at hamesj@bethelu.edu. By submitting this form, you certify that it is true and accurate and that you have read and understood the Bethel University Department of Nursing's Covid-19 vaccination policy and have signed the acknowledgement form. By signing the acknowledgement form, you are also acknowledging that failure to receive the Covid-19 vaccination may result in an inability to graduate because the program requirements cannot be met.

Please identify the, sincerely and firmly held religious belief, observance, or practice that you would violate or forgo in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Describe how receiving a COVID-19 vaccine conflicts with your sincerely and firmly held religious belief, observance, or practice. Please be as specific as possible in describing your sincerely and firmly held religious belief, observance, or practice and how it supports your request for an exemption from a vaccination requirement. Please provide a copy of published tenets and practices recognized by your denomination that support your sincerely and firmly held religious belief or observance.

Without providing underlying medical information, since the age of 18, have you received other vaccinations, such as the seasonal flu (influenza) vaccine, Td/Tdap vaccine (Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) shingles vaccine, or HPV vaccine? If yes, please explain how your sincerely and firmly held religious belief, observance, or practice distinguishes between the COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines you have received.

In some cases, additional information and/or documentation about the sincerity and/or religious nature of your practice(s) or belief(s) may be requested. There may also be a need to discuss the nature of your religious belief(s), practice(s), and accommodation with your religion's spiritual leader (if applicable), or religious scholars, to address your request for an exemption. If requested, can you provide additional documentation to support your belief(s) and practice(s) and need for accommodation? Yes No

If no, please explain why:

Part 2 - To be completed by the individual requesting medical exemption

Please describe the type of reaction you had following any vaccine and/or a partial administration of the COVID-19 vaccine (See section 6 A above).

Please provide any medical documentation that will support the type and severity of the reaction that occurred and subsequent medical recommendations regarding receiving vaccines of any type.

Initials _____ I understand the benefits and risks of the vaccine; I understand the risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus, and I understand the risk of transmitting the virus to others.

I certify the above information to be true and accurate. Understanding the risks and benefits of being unvaccinated and the expectations when present in the classroom/lab and clinical facilities, I am requesting a religious or medical exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination. I understand I have the right to decline immunizations, but I may be required to adhere to additional precautions as outlined above in section 5.2 above. Should I contract COVID-19, I will immediately report it to the director of the nursing department and comply with all isolation and quarantine procedures specified by Bethel University

I understand that faculty cannot guarantee an alternate placement and/or activity to meet clinical requirements. I understand I may be required to submit additional clinical facility specific exemption request documentation to be reviewed and approved/declined by the VP of the College of Health Sciences and any affiliate clinical facility. I understand that if I am granted a religious or medical exemption, I am subject to all testing and other public health policies or measures that may apply to vaccinated individuals. If granted access on an exemption basis to any site that requires vaccination, I agree to comply with all public health measures in place for unvaccinated individuals.

I verify that the information I am submitting on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that a knowingly false statement on this form will be cause for disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the nursing program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Internal Use Only: _____ Approve _____ Disapproved Date: _____

Signature: _____ Title: _____

COVID VACCINE WAIVER

Bethel University Nursing Program has recommended that I receive the COVID Vaccine to protect myself and the patients I serve.

I am aware that there are off-campus facilities (nursing homes, clinics, and hospitals) that I will visit while in the nursing program require the COVID Vaccine. Failure to meet these facility requirements to complete clinical experiences could result in delaying my progression to graduation. To graduate from Bethel University's Nursing Program, I must meet all Didactic and Clinical requirements.

Didactic and clinical rotations: I understand that if I visit an off-site facility that requires the COVID Vaccine, it is MY responsibility to obtain and complete the necessary documents (waivers, letters, etc.) to fulfill training requirements.

By signing this document, I am declining to receive the COVID Vaccine and understand that I am still responsible for meeting all Bethel University Nursing Program requirements.

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature _____

Date: _____

REFERENCES

AAFP, (2021). COVID-19 vaccine mandates and exemptions. Retrieved from: [Mandates and Exemptions \(aafp.org\)](#) on July 22, 2022

Alexander, M. (2021). Clinical experiences for unvaccinated nursing students. *Journal of Nursing Regulation*, 12(3), 3-4.

Kauffman, C. (2022). Nursing student sues school after being denied a COVID-19 vaccination exemption. Retrieved from <https://iowacapitaldispatch.com/2022/07/25/nursing-student-sues-school-after-being-denied-a-covid-19-vaccination-exemption/> on April 12, 2023

National Council State Board of Nursing, (2021). Policy brief: Clinical experiences for unvaccinated nursing students. Retrieved from: [PolicyBriefUnvaccinatedNursingStudents.pdf \(ncsbn.org\)](#) on July 22, 2022

Nurse Journal Staff, (2021). Do nursing students need the COVID-19 vaccine to return to school? Retrieved from: [Do Nursing Students Need the COVID-19 Vaccine to Return to School? \(nursejournal.org\)](#) on July 22, 2022

University Tennessee Knoxville, (2021). Notice: COVID-19 vaccine requirements established by clinical settings, external organizations. Retrieved from: <https://provost.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2021/10/Vaccination-considerations-for-clinical-and-internship-placements.pdf> on April 12, 2023

Werezak, L. (2021). NCSBN wants unvaccinated nursing students disenrolled according to proposal. Retrieved from <https://nurse.org/education/unvaccinated-nursing-student-proposal/> on April 12, 2023

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY DOCUMENTATION FORM

Student Name (please print) _____

Semester community service performed _____

Where community service performed _____

Type of Community Service Performed and relation to health

Date community service performed _____

Hours dedicated to community service _____

Student Signature _____

Activity Coordinator Name (please print) _____

Activity Coordinator Signature _____

Inclement Weather Policy

Civility Policy

Academic Integrity Policy

NF-337 Nursing Student Confidentiality Agreement Form
