



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

**Undergraduate  
BSN Program  
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2026 - 2027**



School of Nursing  
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The Official Handbook with the most recent updates is located here:

**<https://www.unco.edu/nhs/nursing/>**

and it will be updated as changes occur.

***Students will be responsible for accessing and using the most current version.***

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## Mission

To improve the health and well-being of society by preparing compassionate, courageous, and competent nurses who advance nursing through leadership, scholarship, innovation, and practice.

## Vision

The University of Northern Colorado School of Nursing will be known for excellence in the preparation of exceptional practitioners and nurse educators. Through innovation in practice and education, our faculty and students will transform the healthcare landscape to meet the needs of society and advance our discipline.

## Values

**Excellence:** being outstanding; fostered through intentional decision-making and development of high standards and processes for ensuring quality.

**Professionalism:** consistent demonstration of and adherence to accountability, competence, responsibility, dependability and a commitment to life-long learning.

**Caring:** an integral component of nursing practice requiring ongoing development of empathy, conscience, compassion, resilience, and confidence in interactions with patients, families, communities, other healthcare professionals, and ourselves.

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:** acknowledgement of human dignity and autonomy, privacy, equity, freedom, and inclusivity as central to cultivating deep understanding of people in the betterment of health and well-being of all members of society.

**Social Justice:** We can achieve a just and equitable healthcare system for all by recognizing and combating discrimination in healthcare and becoming aware of implicit bias and its effects. We oppose discrimination in healthcare and are committed to continued efforts to prevent discriminatory acts.

**Student-Centered Teaching and Learning:** Evidence-based, innovative teaching and learning is critical to meeting the changing demands in healthcare, nursing practice, and nursing education.

**Community Engagement:** collaboration with community-based partners to enrich learning, foster equitable decision-making processes, and deepen relationships and trust to meet the healthcare needs of the region.

**Innovation:** We value creativity, curiosity, and responsible innovation in nursing education and practice. By integrating AI thoughtfully and ethically, we prepare nurses to use technology to improve patient care, optimize systems, advance research, and strengthen clinical and academic decision-making, while upholding the humanistic values central to the nursing profession.

**University of Northern Colorado  
School of Nursing  
Goals/Program Outcomes**

To prepare well-educated baccalaureate and graduate prepared nurses who understand the impact of professional nursing on a dynamic, diverse, and technologically advancing health care system.

**Goals - Undergraduate Programs:**

- Graduates will acquire a solid foundation of knowledge in the liberal arts and sciences.
- Graduates will develop critical thinking and knowledge of research-based therapeutic interventions.
- Graduates will demonstrate a thorough understanding of the professional leadership and management skills necessary to be successful in a complex health care system.
- Graduates will effectively interact with people from diverse cultural, socioeconomic, geographical (urban/rural), and global perspectives.
- Graduates will positively influence the health and well-being of individuals and their communities as well as engage in practices that promote personal health and well-being.
- Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of professional values and standards of practice to provide quality nursing care in a variety of health care settings.
- Graduates will incorporate multidisciplinary perspectives and will effectively communicate and collaborate as nursing professionals in a variety of settings.
- Graduates will develop a lifelong commitment to learning, scholarship and service.
- Graduates will acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that prepare them for beginning level professional practice with a foundation for future graduate level study.

**Program Outcomes:**

1. Safely and competently demonstrate comprehensive person-centered therapeutic interventions guided by the nursing process and evidence-based standards of care to restore, maintain, and promote optimal health and/or quality of life in individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. (1, 2, 3)
2. Demonstrate intellectual inquiry and analysis by integrating healthcare technologies, knowledge, research, and other evidence from humanities, arts, general science, and nursing science in the design and provision of quality patient care. (1, 4, 8)
3. Employ effective communication strategies, techniques, and technologies to provide a person-centered, inter/intradisciplinary approach to the delivery of safe, quality, inclusive, care of diverse individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. (5, 6, 7)

4. Practice nursing with respect and caring for all persons through awareness and integration of social, cultural, and spiritual factors, patient preferences, and social justice. (7)
5. Assume the roles of leader, manager, and professional nurse through participation in measures to improve the quality of health care delivery outcomes within complex systems, promote the nursing discipline, and demonstrate accountability for lifelong personal, professional, and leadership development. (9, 10)

Updated NFSO 12/1/2023

# Mission and Vision for the UNC School of Nursing Simulation Center

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## **Mission**

The mission of the UNC School of Nursing simulation center is to provide applied educational activities, support scholarly work, and inspire critical thinking in simulated clinical environments with students at all levels.

## **Vision**

Faculty and staff on the simulation team at the University of Northern Colorado continue to develop critical thinking, evidenced-based practice educational interventions, scholarly work, and the establishment of collaborative inter/intra professional relationships, with the goal of educating students at all levels in a safe environment.

Approved NFSO 10.2.2020

## Campus and Student Resources: UNC Dean of Students

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The Dean of Students Office's purpose is to help all students be successful at the University of Northern Colorado. They do that by enhancing and recognizing student learning and personal responsibility through:

- Encouraging the positive growth and development of students
- Helping in the resolution of student issues and concerns
- Serving as an information and referral center for students and the campus community
- Assisting student learning through values-centered accountability by administering the Student Code of Conduct

### **Contact Dean of Students:**

- [www.unco.edu/dean-of-students/](http://www.unco.edu/dean-of-students/)
- University Center 2205
- Phone: 970-351-2001
- Email: [dos@unco.edu](mailto:dos@unco.edu)

## **Campus and Student Resources:**

### **Financial Aid and other funding opportunities**

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The Office of Financial Aid connects you to financial solutions such as Grants, Scholarships, Student Employment, and loans to help bridge the gap between what you can afford to pay for your college expenses and the cost of attending.

#### **Contact the Office of Financial Aid:**

- [www.unco.edu/financial-aid/](http://www.unco.edu/financial-aid/)
- Campus Commons
- Phone: 970-351-4862
- Email: [ofa@unco.edu](mailto:ofa@unco.edu)
- Office Hours: 8am - 5pm, Monday through Friday

## Campus and Student Resources: Student Support and Resources

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Below is a list of on-campus resources:

**Assault Survivors Advocacy Program (ASAP):** provides confidential 24-hour crisis response and intervention, advocacy, and resources to survivors of sexual violence, relationship or intimate partner violence, and stalking.

**Contact ASAP:**

[www.unco.edu/assault-survivors-advocacy-program/](http://www.unco.edu/assault-survivors-advocacy-program/)  
Cassidy Hall, 2nd Floor  
Office Hours: 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday  
Phone: 970-351-1490  
Crisis Line: 970-351-4040  
Email: [advocacy@unco.edu](mailto:advocacy@unco.edu)

**UNC Bear Pantry:** UNC's Bear Pantry is a collaborative initiative on campus to assist students in our community who are faced with food insecurity.

**Contact Bear Pantry:**

[www.unco.edu/bear-pantry/](http://www.unco.edu/bear-pantry/)  
University Center 2166  
Phone: 970-351-3667  
Email: [bear.pantry@unco.edu](mailto:bear.pantry@unco.edu)

**UNC Bookstore:** [www.bkstr.com/northerncoloradostore/store-hours](http://www.bkstr.com/northerncoloradostore/store-hours)

**Campus Recreation Center:** Open to students, faculty, and friends of UNC. Provides facilities, activities, and services for every ability level.

**Contact UNC Campus Recreation:**

[www.unco.edu/campus-recreation/](http://www.unco.edu/campus-recreation/)  
Phone: 970-351-2062

**Center for Career Readiness:** [www.unco.edu/career/](http://www.unco.edu/career/)

**Counseling Center:** The UNC Counseling Center staff include licensed professional counselors, licensed psychologists, advanced master's and doctoral level trainees, new professionals working toward licensure, and administrative staff.

**Contact UNC Counseling Center:**

[www.unco.edu/counseling-center/](http://www.unco.edu/counseling-center/)  
Cassidy Hall, 2nd Floor  
Phone: 970-351-2496

**Cultural and Resource Centers:** The Cultural and Resource Centers provide tailored personal support services to empower students to reach their academic, personal, and professional aspirations. Cultural/Resource Centers include:

- Asian Pacific American Student Services
- César Chávez Cultural Center
- Gender & Sexuality Resource Center
- Marcus Garvey Cultural Center
- Native American Student Services
- Stryker Institute for Leadership Development
- Veteran's Services
- Center for Women's & Gender Equity

**Contact Cultural and Resource Centers:**

[www.unco.edu/equity-inclusion/departments/](http://www.unco.edu/equity-inclusion/departments/)

**Dining Services:** [www.unco.edu/living-on-campus/dining/](http://www.unco.edu/living-on-campus/dining/)

## Campus and Student Resources: Student Support and Resources

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**Disability Resource Center (DRC):** The DRC Office collaborates with the University in its commitment to recognize disability as a valued aspect of diversity and to embrace access to the University of Northern Colorado community as a matter of equity and inclusion. The office provides the University with resources, education, and direct services.

**Contact DRC:**

[www.unco.edu/disability-resource-center/](http://www.unco.edu/disability-resource-center/)  
Michener L-80  
Office Hours: 8am - 5pm, Monday through Friday  
Phone: 970-351-2289  
Email: [DRC@unco.edu](mailto:DRC@unco.edu)

**Housing & Residential Education:** [www.unco.edu/living-on-campus/housing/](http://www.unco.edu/living-on-campus/housing/)

**Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC):** The OIEC, in collaboration with University partners, builds an inclusive academic, cultural, and social campus community that supports equitable opportunities for all. OIEC reports to UNC's General Counsel and is responsible for implementing and/or enforcing several policies and procedures for students, staff, faculty, volunteers, and campus guests:

- Title IX Sexual Harassment
- Discrimination and Harassment
- Student-Faculty Disputes
- University Complaints

**Contact OIEC:**

[www.unco.edu/institutional-equity-compliance/](http://www.unco.edu/institutional-equity-compliance/)  
University Center 3060  
Phone: 970-351-4899  
Email: [titleix@unco.edu](mailto:titleix@unco.edu)

**Office of Student Life (OSL):** OSL provides programs and services that foster a sense of belonging, an inclusive campus, and opportunities for learning and growing. The OSL consists of 5 different areas that allow students to get involved:

- Center for Peer Education
- Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Office of Student Organizations
- Student Senate
- University Program Council

**Contact OSL:**

[www.unco.edu/student-life/](http://www.unco.edu/student-life/)

## Campus and Student Resources: Student Support and Resources

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**Student Health Center (SHC):** The SHC is a walk in clinic located in Cassidy Hall. All UNC students and employees are eligible to use the SHC and most insurance plans can be billed.

**Contact SHC:**

[www.unco.edu/student-health-center/Cassidy Hall](http://www.unco.edu/student-health-center/Cassidy Hall)

Phone: 970-351-2412

Email: [SHCfrontdesk@unco.edu](mailto:SHCfrontdesk@unco.edu)

**Student Legal Services:** Students have access to consultations through Student Legal Services. To setup an appointment, you can email [dos@unco.edu](mailto:dos@unco.edu).

**Student Outreach and Support (SOS):** The UNC SOS office fosters student development, engagement, and success by assisting students during difficult circumstances which may include medical, mental health, personal or family crisis, illness or injury.

**Contact SOS:**

[www.unco.edu/student-outreach-support/](http://www.unco.edu/student-outreach-support/)

Phone: 970-351-2001

Email: [dos@unco.edu](mailto:dos@unco.edu)

**Tutorial Services:** Tutorial Services provides free peer-led tutoring services and academic skills sessions to UNC students enrolled in undergraduate-level courses.

**Contact Tutorial Services:**

[www.unco.edu/tutoring/](http://www.unco.edu/tutoring/)

Michener Library, Room L149

Phone: 970-351-1904

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center provides one-on-one sessions for students at any level to improve specific projects and become better all-around writers.

**Contact the Writing Center:**

[www.unco.edu/writing-center/](http://www.unco.edu/writing-center/)

Ross Hall 1230

Phone: 970-351-2056

Email: [writingcenter@unco.edu](mailto:writingcenter@unco.edu)

# UNC School of Nursing Governance Structure

The governance structure is guided by the School of Nursing bylaws.



**NFSO:** Students are elected by their peers for representation at the Nursing Faculty-Student Organization meetings.

**ULT: Undergraduate Leadership Team:**

Chair: Undergraduate Assistant Director  
Clinical Lead Faculty  
RN-BSN Program Coordinator  
Simulation Coordinator  
UCO Chair

**UCO: Undergraduate Curriculum Organization:**

Undergraduate faculty members  
Simulation Coordinator  
Students

**GLT: Graduate Leadership Team**

Chair: Graduate Assistant Director  
DNP Program Coordinator  
FNP Program Coordinator  
AGACNP Program Coordinator  
PhD/NEC Program Coordinator  
GCO Chair

**GCO: Graduate Curriculum Organization:**

Graduate faculty members  
Students

**FAC: Faculty Affairs Committee:**

Undergraduate/Graduate faculty members

**SC: Simulation Center**

Lab Manager  
Simulation Coordinator  
Undergraduate/Graduate faculty members

**SLT: School Leadership Team**

Chair: Director  
Chairs of Committees  
Program Coordinators

## **UNC School of Nursing: Student Participation in Governance Structure**

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### **NFSO: Nursing Faculty-Student Organization**

This is a committee of the faculty as a whole, plus student representatives. This groups meets a minimum of 2 times per semester for communication of information and for decision making regarding Nursing program policies.

1. Students will full voice and vote in NFSO shall include the identified representatives of the undergraduate and graduate student body of the School of Nursing.
2. Each year in the fall, the undergraduate nursing programs shall be represented by one elected representative; who shall have full voice and vote in NFSO meetings, with the exception of declared executive sessions.

All student representatives receive the NFSO agenda and minutes. All students should contact their representatives about concerns. The student representatives are elected at the beginning of each semester by their peer group. All NFSO meetings are open for students to attend. Check with a faculty member or SON office staff for dates and times.

## UNC School of Nursing: Student Nurses Association

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### **Student Nurses Association (SNA)**

An important and critical activity of a professional person is participating in their professional organization(s). UNC School of Nursing has a Student Nurses Association (SNA) on campus.

UNC nursing majors have consistently provided leadership in the Colorado Student Nurses Association (CSNA) over past years. A faculty member assists the elected officers to carry out the purposes of the organization. You are encouraged to become a member of this organization.

## UNC School of Nursing: Zeta Omicron Chapter of Sigma

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### **Sigma, National Nursing Honor Society**

In spring of 1981, the UNC School of Nursing Honor Society successfully petitioned the national Sigma organization for a local charter. Chartering ceremonies occurred May 14, 1982.

Nursing students who meet the academic achievement and leadership qualifications of Sigma are invited to become active members. Membership is considered an honor and is a prestigious symbol of excellence in nursing.

The purpose of Sigma is to:

1. Recognize excellence in scholarship.
2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities.
3. Foster high professional standards.
4. Encourage creative work.
5. Support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses.



## ***The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education*** **Executive Summary**

Since 1986, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has published the *Essentials*, which provide the educational framework and expectations for the preparation of nurses at four-year colleges and universities. In April 2021, AACN's members voted to approve [\*The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education\*](#), which will transform how nurses are prepared in baccalaureate, master's, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. Built on a strong foundation of nursing as a discipline, the benefits of a liberal education, and the principles of competency-based education, the re-envisioned *Essentials* present a new model and framework for preparing registered nurses for contemporary practice.

*The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education* calls for a transition to competency-based education focusing on two levels of professional nursing education: entry-level and advanced-level nursing practice. This model provides the structure across education programs and provides a mechanism to adapt to future changes within nursing education. Competencies for professional nursing practice are made explicit. These Essentials introduce 10 domains and the expected competencies for each domain that represent professional nursing practice and reflect the diversity of practice settings. The competencies are applicable across four spheres of care (disease prevention/promotion of health and wellbeing, chronic disease care, regenerative or restorative care, and hospice/palliative/supportive care), across the lifespan, and with diverse patient populations.

While the domains and competencies are broad in scope and cross all levels and areas of nursing practice, the sub-competencies build from entry into advanced professional nursing practice. The sub-competencies are designed to be understandable, observable, and measurable by learner, faculty, and future employers. The intent is that any curricular design should provide the learner sufficient and diverse opportunities to achieve and demonstrate the competencies. Since this document has been developed with practice partners and with other nursing colleagues, the *Essentials serve to bridge the transition between education and practice*.

### **Domains for Nursing**

Domains are broad distinguishable areas of competence that, when considered in the aggregate, constitute a descriptive framework for the practice of nursing. The new Essentials delineates the domains essential to nursing practice, including how these are defined, what competencies should be expected for each domain at each level of nursing, and how those domains and competencies both distinguish nursing and relate to other health professions. The Domains include:

- **Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice** encompasses the integration, translation, and application of disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a foundation in liberal arts and natural and social sciences.
- **Domain 2: Person-Centered Care** focuses on the individual within multiple complicated contexts, including family and/or important others. Person-centered care is holistic, individualized, just, respectful, compassionate, coordinated, evidence-based, and developmentally appropriate.
- **Domain 3: Population Health** spans the healthcare delivery continuum from prevention to disease management of populations and describes collaborative activities with affected communities, public health, industry, academia, health care, local government entities, and others for the improvement of equitable population health outcomes.

- **Domain 4: Scholarship for Nursing Practice** involves the generation, synthesis, translation, application, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to improve health and transform health care.
- **Domain 5: Quality and Safety**, as core values of nursing practice, involves enhancing quality and minimizing risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.
- **Domain 6: Interprofessional Partnerships** involves intentional collaboration across professions and with care team members, patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.
- **Domain 7: Systems-Based Practice** prepares nurses to lead within complex systems of health care. Nurses must effectively coordinate resources to provide safe, quality, equitable care to diverse populations.
- **Domain 8: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies** are used to provide safe, high quality care, gather data, form information to drive decision making, and support professionals as they expand knowledge and wisdom for practice.
- **Domain 9: Professionalism** involves cultivating a sustainable professional nursing identity, perspective, accountability, and comportment that reflects nursing’s characteristics and values.
- **Domain 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development** includes activities and self-reflection that foster personal health, resilience, and well-being, lifelong learning, and support the acquisition of nursing expertise and assertion of leadership.

### Concepts for Nursing Practice

The Essentials also feature 8 concepts which are central to professional nursing practice and are integrated within and across the domains and competencies. A concept is an organizing idea or a mental abstraction that represents important areas of knowledge. Each Essentials concept serves as a core component of knowledge, facts, and skills across multiple situations and contexts within nursing practice. Each concept functions as a hub for transferable knowledge, thus enhancing learning when learners make cognitive links to other information through mental constructs. The integration of concepts within the competencies and sub-competencies is essential for the application throughout the educational experience and serve as a foundation to students’ learning. The featured concepts are:

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Clinical Judgment                | • Ethics                        |
| • Communication                    | • Evidence-Based Practice       |
| • Compassionate Care               | • Health Policy                 |
| • Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | • Social Determinants of Health |

These Essentials represent an opportunity for a future characterized by greater clarity as it relates to expectations of graduates and a more disciplined approach to nursing education. Competencies are used within the academic program as core expectations, thus setting a common standard. Additional elements within a degree plan will allow schools to differentiate degree paths using the same sub-competencies and to distinguish themselves in alignment with various institutional missions.

This model adapts to the current state of nursing education, and perhaps more importantly, provides a path for an evolving trajectory for nursing education. Over time, higher education, stakeholder demands, nursing regulatory standards, and economics are among the many forces that will drive the direction and pace of change for nursing education in the future.

Click [here](#) to access the entire *Essentials* document.

## BSN Program Outcomes (Essential Domains)

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1. Safely and competently demonstrate comprehensive person-centered therapeutic interventions guided by the nursing process and evidence-based standards of care to restore, maintain, and promote optimal health and/or quality of life in individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. (1, 2, 3)
2. Demonstrate intellectual inquiry and analysis by integrating healthcare technologies, knowledge, research, and other evidence from humanities, arts, general science, and nursing science in the design and provision of quality patient care. (1, 4, 8)
3. Employ effective communication strategies, techniques, and technologies to provide a person-centered, inter/intradisciplinary approach to the delivery of safe, quality, inclusive, care of diverse individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. (5, 6, 7)
4. Practice nursing with respect and caring for all persons through awareness and integration of social, cultural, and spiritual factors, patient preferences, and social justice. (7)
5. Assume the roles of leader, manager, and professional nurse through participation in measures to improve the quality of health care delivery outcomes within complex systems, promote the nursing discipline, and demonstrate accountability for lifelong personal, professional, and leadership development. (9, 10)

The curriculum design of the Nursing program and the University requirements for graduation are as follows:

**A. Required Prerequisite Courses**

Course No.	C R	Course Name		
*CHEM 281	3	Fundamentals of Biochemistry	Only applicants who have earned a grade of "C" or better ("C-" is not acceptable) in each of the prerequisite courses or course equivalents will be considered for admission. If an applicant is admitted to the Nursing program, then earns less than a grade of "C" in any of the prerequisite courses or course equivalents, their admission to the Nursing program will be rescinded.	
*CHEM 281L	1	Fundamentals of Biochemistry Lab		
*BIO 110	4	Biology: Atoms to Cells		
BIO 245	4	Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology		
BIO 246	3	Advanced Anatomy & Physiology		
BIO 251	4	Allied Health Microbiology		
NURS 326	3	Pathophysiology		
FND 250	3	Principles in Nutrition		
*PSY 230	3	Growth & Development		All nursing prerequisite classes must be completed before entering the nursing program.
*STAT 150	3	Statistics		
*ENG 123	3	College Research Paper		

\*These courses count for Liberal Arts Core.

**B. Liberal Arts Core - 31 semester credits**

Composition: ENG 122.....	3 hours
ENG 123.....	3 hours
Mathematics: STAT 150.....	3 hours
Arts & Humanities.....	6 hours
History.....	3 hours
Social & Behavioral Sciences: PSY 230.....	3 hours
Natural & Physical Sciences: CHEM 281(L) & BIO 110 & FND 250.....	7 hours
International Studies.....	1 class
Multicultural Studies.....	1 class

**Please Note:**

1. Although 3-6 hours of Liberal Arts Core could be taken in upper division after admission to the nursing program, it is highly recommended that students complete LAC prior to admission into the clinical nursing program. A total of 31 semester hours of LAC are required. This usually involves meeting category requirements plus one course from any content area. LAC requirements are set by University policy.
2. Liberal Arts Core requirements should be completed prior to the semester of graduation.

# BSN Traditional and 2nd Degree Plan of Study

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## Plan of Study:

### SEMESTER ONE (14 credits):

- NURS 310: Foundations of Nursing Practice I (3 credits)
- NURS 313: Health Assessment Theory and Laboratory (3 credits)
- NURS 323: Theory and Clinical Practice: Fundamental Nursing Concepts and Care (5 credits)
- NURS 327: Pharmacology (3 credits)

### SEMESTER TWO (15 credits):

- NURS 340: Foundations of Nursing Practice II (2 credits)
- NURS 374: Clinical Practice: Alterations in Adult Health (6 credits)
- NURS 377: Alterations in Adult Health Theory (7 credits)

### SEMESTER THREE (15 credits):

- NURS 380: Research & Evidence-Based Practice (3 credits)
- NURS 420: Clinical Practice: Childbearing Families (3 credits)
- NURS 421: Clinical Practice: Pediatric Nursing (3 credits)
- NURS 425: Childbearing Family Theory (3 credits)
- NURS 426: Pediatric Nursing Theory (3 credits)

### SEMESTER FOUR (14 credits):

- NURS 404: Clinical Practice of Public Health Nursing: Population-Based Practice (3 credits)
- NURS 405: Theory & Principles of Public Health Nursing: Population-Based Practice (3 credits)
- NURS 414: Clinical Practice: Psych/Mental Health Nursing (3 credits)
- NURS 415: Theory of Psych/Mental Health Nursing (3 credits)
- NURS 440: Current Issues in Healthcare (2 credits)

### SEMESTER FIVE (13 credits):

- NURS 444: Clinical Practice: Advanced Acute Care (3 credits)
- NURS 445: Advanced Nursing Concepts & Care (2 credits)
- NURS 446: Clinical Practice: Capstone (5 credits)
- NURS 480: Professionalism in Practice: Leadership & Management (3 credits)

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Student Selection to Clinical Nursing Courses**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 3/6/2026 NFSO

**Previous Review Dates:** 10/9/98; 11/27/07 DWL; 1/09 ULT, 11/09 ULT, 4/10 NFSO; 4/29/10; 4/29/16; 4/28/17; 10/20/17; 12/4/17 ULT; 11/26/18; 11/30/18; 12/6/19 NFSO; 4/30/21 NFSO 10/13/23 NFSO 10/18/2024 NFSO; 5/2/2025 NFSO

**Original Policy Date:** 5/7/1993

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The faculty of the School of Nursing is responsible for admitting students to the Nursing Program who have demonstrated academic ability. Nursing students who meet the below criteria and who will be able to complete the required prerequisite courses are eligible to apply for admission to clinical courses in the School of Nursing. There will be 2 application time points to enter into the 'BSN-nursing' major each year: entry after a minimum of 18 UNC credits have been earned (Bear Admission) and entry at the beginning of the clinical portion of the program (Open Admission). The number of students admitted to the clinical nursing program is determined by available resources and the demonstrated academic ability of the students applying.

**BEAR ADMISSION:**

Students may apply to the 'BSN-Nursing' major after completion of a minimum of 18 college credits earned at UNC. These students will be required to complete one additional year of prerequisite courses before entering the clinical portion of the 'BSN-Nursing' program. The following criteria will be used by the Undergraduate Leadership Team in the admission of students:

Screening Criteria:

1. Minimum of 18 earned UNC credits (excluding college credit earned in high school or advanced placement (AP) credit)
2. Currently enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado
3. Admitted to UNC as a first-time freshman. Applicants with prior college credit earned through support or co-registration of high school education are eligible for Bear Admission application. Applicants who have attended any other community colleges or universities not supported/co-registered with high school education are not eligible for Bear Admission.  
Courses taken at an institution other than UNC during sessions outside of fall and spring (ie, summer, interim) do not apply to this criteria.
4. Minimum GPA for the most recent 30 semester hours of credit completed will be determined annually by the Undergraduate Leadership Team. Credit is not given for vocational or remedial courses below college level.
5. A minimum grade of C- in each of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent. A minimum of 4, but not more than 6, of the following prerequisites must be complete at the time of application
  - BIO 110 Principles of Biology,
  - ENG 123 College Research Paper,
  - BIO 245 Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - CHEM 281 Fundamentals of Biochemistry,
  - CHEM 281L Fundamentals of Biochemistry Lab,
  - BIO 251 Allied Health Microbiology,
  - PSY 230 Human Growth and Development,
  - STAT 150 Introduction to Statistical Analysis

- BIO 246 Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - FND 250-Principles of Nutrition,
  - NURS 326 Pathophysiology.
6. If a student is admitted to Nursing program and earns less than a grade of C- in any of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent, their admission to the Nursing Program will be rescinded.
  7. Students must be in good academic standing at the time of application to the program. A student is ineligible for application if they are on academic probation. Students on UNC's Fresh Start program are eligible to apply, however, admission to the program is contingent on removal of university probation status by the time of clinical program start.
  8. If an applicant's primary language is not English, or if the applicant is an International student, they will need to demonstrate required English proficiency for the clinical nursing program (see English Proficiency Policy)

Admission Selection Criteria:

1. Grade Point Average for admission selection will be calculated as follows:
  - GPA will be calculated using the most recent 30 semester hours of coursework and GPA from all completed nursing prerequisite courses.
  - High School Advanced Placement scores are not considered in GPA calculation.
  - Grades from vocational/technical courses such as CNA, EMT will not be included.
  - Students who have repeated a prerequisite course will only have the most recent grade from the first two completed attempts used in GPA calculation. The course grade accepted through the UNC grade replacement policy will be used for GPA calculation for all repeated courses at UNC.
  - When two courses have been determined to be the equivalent/substitution for one of the pre-requisite courses, both of the courses will be used in the GPA calculation. Both courses must be completed to be used in the GPA calculation.
1. Additional criteria as required by the ULT if projected numbers of qualified applicants (based on the screening criteria above) exceed available seats in the program additional criteria, including but not limited to standardized recommendation surveys, CASPER test, and HESI A2 score, may be required .

Progression Requirements:

Before students can progress to the clinical portion of the nursing program, students admitted through Bear Admission must meet the following requirements to progress to the junior year of clinical courses:

1. Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale per term.
2. Maintain a minimum grade in all prerequisite courses of C-

**OPEN ADMISSION:**

Students may apply to the 'BSN-Nursing' major through open admission after completion of the required prerequisite courses and other degree requirements. These students enter directly into the clinical courses of the program if offered a spot in the clinical portion of the nursing program. Availability of spots through 'Open Admission' will be limited to those not secured by students through 'Bear Admission' as outlined above. The following criteria will be used by the Undergraduate Leadership Team in the admission of students through 'open admission':

Screening Criteria:

1. Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the most recent 45 semester hours of credit completed. Credit is not given for vocational or remedial courses below college level.
2. Only students who have a grade of C- or better in each of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent will be considered for admission. These courses are:

- a. BIO 110 Principles of Biology,
  - b. BIO 251 Allied Health Microbiology,
  - c. CHEM 281 Fundamentals of Biochemistry,
  - d. CHEM 281L- Fundamentals of Biochemistry Laboratory,
  - e. PSY 230 Human Growth and Development,
  - f. STAT 150 Introduction to Statistical Analysis,
  - g. ENG 123 College Research Paper,
  - h. BIO 245 Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - i. BIO 246 Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - j. FND 250 SC2-Principles of Nutrition,
  - k. NURS 326 Pathophysiology.
  - l. The following prerequisite courses - BIO 110, 245, 246, 251; CHEM 281, 281L and NURS 326 - will not be accepted if the course is delivered in a self-paced, self-directed, or an independent study format.
3. If a student is admitted to Nursing program and earns less than a grade of C in any of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent, their admission to the Nursing Program will be rescinded.
  4. Students accepted into the clinical nursing courses must successfully complete, with a grade of C- or better, all remaining required pre-requisite courses by the end of Spring Semester. No more than 4 of the 10 required pre-requisite courses may be in progress at the time of application.
  5. Students must be in good academic standing at the time of application to the program. A student is ineligible for application if they are on academic probation. Student's on UNC's Fresh Start program are eligible to apply, however, admission to the program is contingent on removal of university probation status by the time of clinical program start.
  6. If an applicant's primary language is not English, or if the applicant is an International student, they will need to demonstrate required English proficiency for the clinical nursing program (see English Proficiency Policy).

Admission Selection Criteria:

1. Grade Point Average for admission selection will be calculated as follows:
  - GPA will be calculated using the most recent 45 semester hours of coursework and GPA from all of the completed nursing prerequisite courses.
  - High School Advanced Placement scores are not considered in GPA calculation.
  - Grades from vocational/technical courses such as CNA, EMT will not be included.
  - Course repeats/grade replacement – Students who have repeated a prerequisite course will only have the most recent grade from the first two completed attempts used in GPA calculation. The course grade accepted through the UNC grade replacement policy will be used for GPA calculation for all repeated courses at UNC.
  - When two courses have been determined to be the equivalent/substitution for one of the pre-requisite courses, both of the courses will be used in the GPA calculation. Both courses must be completed to be used in the GPA calculation.
2. Two standardized professional recommendation surveys- one from an academic reference and one from an employer or other person who has had direct oversight of the applicant.

Standardized HESI A2 test score – anatomy and physiology, vocabulary, math, and reading comprehension tests required. HESI scores taken any time in the past will be accepted. HESI transcripts may only be submitted once every 12 months.

3. CASPER evaluation score.
4. Students who have taken courses at UNC will be given priority for admission through the open admission process. Priority points will be determined by ULT each year.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Applications for the Nursing Program will be available on the School of Nursing web site.
2. Students complete the application form, attach all requested materials, and return the application during the designated dates.
3. An ad hoc task force of the Undergraduate Leadership Team selects the students for acceptance or denial and establishes an alternate list of those students who will be accepted should space become available.
4. Students are notified by letter of their acceptance, denial, or status on the alternate list.
5. Students who have been accepted are required to return a provided Statement of Intent confirming that they accept or decline their admission to the Nursing program. As space becomes available, any students on the alternate list are notified of their acceptance as promptly as possible. One-year deferrals may be considered on a case-by-case basis, only upon formal request, full review, and approval by an ad hoc task force of the Undergraduate Leadership Team (ULT)
6. If an applicant does not meet one of the above admission requirements, they may request an exception to the policy. The requested exception must be received before application due date to the Assistant Director. The exception will then be reviewed by the Undergraduate Leadership Team. Exceptions requested after the application due date will not be reviewed for that application cycle.
7. Bear admitted traditional students with a grade of A or B in BIO 245 and BIO 246 and all liberal arts courses have been completed by start date may request a placement into the accelerated cohort.
8. Open admitted traditional students with a HESI A/P score of 75 or greater, overall HESI score of 80 or greater, a minimum prerequisite GPA of 3.0, and an A in NURS 326 (if completed at time of admission) and all liberal arts courses have been completed by start date may request a placement into the accelerated cohort.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Delayed Admission to SON Programs**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 3/6/2026 NFSO; edits MH 5/13/2026  
**Previous Review Dates:** 11/5/15 KH; 2/5/16 NFSO; Reviewed GLT 4/2022  
**Original Policy Date:** 5/4/94  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Students who have been accepted into a SON program (undergraduate or graduate) may choose to delay their admission to the program for a variety of reasons. For such circumstances, the following procedure will be followed:

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Applicants who have been admitted to a SON program (undergraduate and graduate) but wish to delay their program start date, may do so for a maximum of one year, regardless of the circumstance. The applicant must have completed all admission requirements for the originally designated program start date before requesting deferment.
2. Applicants must request deferment of admission, in writing, to the respective program coordinator within 1 month of their acceptance to their program.
3. Applicants delaying admission will not have to reapply to the UNC (UG Admissions or Graduate School) School of Nursing the following year but must provide, in writing to the program coordinator, their intention to begin the program no later than 4 weeks prior to the program start date, or as otherwise indicated.
  - a. Failure to submit a letter of intention 1 month prior to the program start date will lead to forfeiture of their admission. The applicant may reapply during the next application cycle.
  - b. Program coordinators and SON administrative staff will not be responsible for contacting students in order to prompt their letter of intent to begin the program.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**ROTC Student Selection to Clinical Nursing Courses**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 9/28/2025 NFSO

**Previous Review Dates:**

**Original Policy Date:**

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The faculty of the School of Nursing (SON) is responsible for admitting students to the BSN Nursing Program who have demonstrated academic ability. Faculty will collaborate with the ROTC unit personnel to select appropriate candidates for the BSN Nursing Program. ROTC students who meet the below criteria are eligible for admission to program and matriculation to clinical courses. The number of students admitted to the BSN Nursing Program is determined by available resources and the demonstrated academic ability of the students applying.

The following criteria will be used by the Undergraduate Leadership Team (ULT) in the admission of ROTIC students:

Screening Criteria:

1. ROTC Commanders will select students to offer admission to the nursing program based on available spaces (determined by the ULT and SON leadership).
2. Currently admitted to the University of Northern Colorado as an incoming freshman or transfer student.

Progression Requirements:

Before students can progress to the clinical portion of the nursing program, students admitted through the ROTC Admission process must meet the following requirements to progress to the junior year of clinical courses

1. A minimum grade of C- in each of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent. If a student is admitted to the nursing program and earns less than a grade of C- in any of the prerequisite courses or course equivalent, their admission to the nursing program will be rescinded.
  - BIO 110 Principles of Biology,
  - ENG 123 College Research Paper,
  - BIO 245 Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - CHEM 281 Fundamentals of Biochemistry,
  - CHEM 281L Fundamentals of Biochemistry Lab,
  - BIO 251 Allied Health Microbiology,
  - PSY 230 Human Growth and Development,
  - STAT 150 Introduction to Statistical Analysis,
  - BIO 246 Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology,
  - FND 250-Principles of Nutrition,
  - NURS 326 Pathophysiology.
2. Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale per term.
3. Students must be in good academic standing at the time of matriculation to the clinical courses in the program. A student is ineligible for matriculation to the clinical courses if they are on academic probation. Students on UNC's Fresh Start program would be eligible to continue to clinical courses, however, admission to the nursing program would be contingent on removal of university probation status by the time of clinical start.

4. If an applicant's primary language is not English, or if the applicant is an International student, they will need to demonstrate required English proficiency for the clinical nursing program (see English Proficiency Policy).

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Admission of Nursing Students requesting transfer from another BSN program**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/5/2025 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 5/07 LC; 1/09 ULT; 11/11/16 ULT; 12/2/16 NFSO 12/1/17 NFSO; 4/26/2024 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 5/1/07  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Teams

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The faculty of the School of Nursing are responsible for admitting students to the Upper Division of the Nursing program. When a student requests transfer into the UNC School of Nursing Undergraduate program from another BSN program, requests will be referred to the Assistant Director to bring before the Undergraduate Leadership Team (ULT).

**General Requirements:**

- Regional accreditation of the transferring institution (required for credit transfer to UNC)
- National accreditation (CNEA, ACEN, or CCNE) of nursing program transferring from
- Most recent fundamentals or medical surgical/adult health nursing course must have occurred within 2 years of transfer application
- All pre-requisite coursework must be met prior to transfer with a 'C-' or higher
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- A grade of 'C-' or higher in all nursing coursework
- Good academic standing from would previous BSN program - a student who has failed from the BSN nursing program they are requesting transfer from is ineligible for transfer to UNC's BSN program
- Minimum of 30 semester hours remaining to be taken at UNC (required to graduate with a baccalaureate degree from UNC)
- Meeting any other admission requirements at the time of transfer (i. e. CNA license).

**Procedure:**

1. If the student meets the above general transfer admission requirements, then they would eligible to submit an application package to the ULT. They send their application materials to the Assistant Director for Undergraduate Programs (chair if ULT). The application must include:
  - a. All transcripts and syllabi for nursing courses completed up until the time the request for transfer is made.
  - b. A letter of good standing from the Dean/Director/Program Coordinator of the program the student is transferring from.
  - c. A letter from the student outlining why and when they would like to transfer to UNC SON and how they would complete any outstanding admission requirements or LAC coursework.
2. The Assistant Director will collaborate with relevant faculty to determine course equivalency of all transfer courses.
3. The application and transfer course evaluation will be reviewed by the ULT and the decision for transfer will be provided to the applicant in writing, including a timeline of potential transfer.
4. Admission will be considered on a space available basis only, after consideration is given to any current UNC student already on the waiting list. Priority for openings will be given to students who are already part of the UNC School of Nursing program waiting to reenter for continued progression.
5. Transfer into the first semester of the program will not be permissible. A student who meets the criteria for transfer into the first semester will be asked to apply to the program along with all other prospective students.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Program Admission - English Proficiency**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/1/2026 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 3/7/2025 (edits MH 3/17/2026)  
**Original Policy Date:**  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Nursing students must be able to communicate clearly and effectively in English with patients and members of the healthcare team using standard, professional medical terminology. Communication may occur during highly stressful, crisis situations requiring a strong command of verbal and written language skills and timely interpretation of patient data. Clinical agency affiliation agreements require attestation of English proficiency of students entering clinical rotations. To meet these needs, SON undergraduate and graduate clinical programs require students to have a higher level of English proficiency than university admission to assure preparation for the rigor of programmatic coursework and to meet clinical agency requirements.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. If an applicant's transcripts come from outside the US, then the applicant will need to demonstrate English proficiency by meeting one of the following SON admission criteria
  - a. Michigan English Test – minimum overall score 64 with minimum of 64 on listening, reading, speaking and writing subscores.
  - b. Cambridge English – B2 First Test – minimum overall score 176 with minimum of 169 Use of English, 162 writing, 169 listening, and 176 speaking subscores.
  - c. TOEFL a minimum of 83 on the internet-based test (iBT) with a minimum score of 18 reading, 18 listening, 26 speaking, and 21 writing.
  - d. IELTS (International English Language Testing System)—Minimum of 6.5 total, no score lower than 6 and a minimum speaking subscore of 7.
  - e. GATEWAY English Test – overall score of 475, with all sections with a score of 430 or above.
  
2. If an applicant does not meet the required standard for program admission, the student will be provided information for UNC's Intensive English Program (IEP) (<https://www.unco.edu/global/services-programs/intensive-english-program/>).
  - a. If the student meets the other requirements for admission to the program, they may be offered conditional admission to the nursing program they have applied to while they complete the IEP or document proficiency through another process.
  - b. Depending on the timeline of the IEP, the applicant may have their admission deferred for 1 year to allow for completion and readiness for the nursing program.
  - c. The applicant will be required to complete through level 7 of the UNC IEP program in preparation for the nursing program they have conditional admission. Upon completion of the level 7 course, the applicant will need to demonstrate English proficiency through retesting and meeting the criteria listed in 1a-e before being fully admitted to the program.
  
3. If an applicant, whose transcripts come from outside the US, fails to provide documentation of English proficiency at the time of application/admission, they may be required to submit documentation of English proficiency at the start or during the program. Determination of the need to provide further documentation will occur on a case-by-case basis by the relevant program coordinator and appropriate university resources (i.e. Office of Global Engagement).

4. Non-international students (e.g. permanent residents) whose primary language is not English, may be required to submit documentation of English proficiency at the start or during the program. Determination of the need to provide further documentation will occur on a case-by-case basis by the relevant program coordinator and appropriate university resources (i.e. Office of Global Engagement).
5. SON English proficiency requirements will be communicated to departments across campus to provide to prospective students and families who inquire about the program and professional advising centers.
6. Prospective students shall be informed of the requirement during the application process through the SON and NursingCAS. This policy will also be published in SON program handbooks and on the UNC SON program pages.

UNC graduate level criteria (2026) - (<https://unco.smartcatalogiq.com/en/current/graduate-catalog/general-information/international-admission/demonstration-of-english-proficiency/>):

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Challenge Exams for Required Prerequisite Courses (Undergraduate Nursing)**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 2/9/18 ULT; 4/27/18 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 2/01 JM; 10/10 ULT; 9/11 ULT  
**Original Policy Date:** 10/24/97, 9/23/11 adopted by NFSO  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Students applying to the prelicensure and post licensure BSN programs may complete challenge exams to meet the requirement of selected prerequisite courses. Students may only take the challenge exams on a case-by-case basis after submission of a request to the undergraduate leadership team. Examples of considerations for accepting the challenge exam may include significant experience or previous coursework.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. National League for Nursing challenge exams and College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams are available for students to take to meet nursing prerequisite course requirements.
2. For pre-requisite courses, students may repeat challenges twice. If unsuccessful, the student must register and complete the course.
3. NLN or CLEP exams taken at other institutions can be accepted for transfer if taken within the last three years.

## Second-Bachelor's BSN Program Estimated Costs

(tuition rates are set each academic year during the summer and are approximate at the time of admission)

Tuition and Fees = \$35,998

(plan of study includes 2 summer sessions, which may not be covered by financial aid)

**71 credit hours**

Nursing students may incur the following additional, approximate expenses prior to starting and during the program:

Assessment Tech Institute (ATI)	Program course materials and licensure prep  <b>Failure to purchase and make payments on time for this resource will stop progression in the BSN program.</b>	\$2000 (split into 4 payments; 1st due May 15) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May payment (\$500-550)</li><li>• October payment (\$500-550)</li><li>• May payment (\$500-550)</li><li>• October payment (\$500-550)</li></ul>
Books, Technology		\$750+
Uniforms	Includes shoes and 2 sets of scrubs – must be the UNC School of Nursing approved brand and style only	\$150+
Stethoscope		\$50 - \$100
Immunization Tracking	<i>Paid directly to Complio</i>	\$35 annually
HIPAA/OSHA Training	<i>Paid directly to Complio</i>	\$30
Background Check	<i>Paid directly to AmericanDatabank at admission and as needed (for certain clinical sites)</i>	Background = \$59+ (cost varies)
Drug Screen	<i>Paid directly to AmericanDatabank at admission and as needed (for certain clinical sites or if drug use is suspected)</i>	Drug Screen = \$35
CPR for Healthcare Providers	<i>Must be American Heart Association BLS</i>	\$55 + biannually
Malpractice Insurance		\$35 - \$100 annually

### HEALTH CLEARANCE AND IMMUNIZATIONS

- Required items can be obtained through the UNC Student Health Center (SHC) or your own physician/clinic
- Required items will need to be submitted to the SHC and processed for a \$35 service charge
- Prices listed below are based on the SHC prices for the 2025-2026 Academic Year (and are subject to change).

UNC University Health Clinic	<i>REQUIRED – everyone must have their immunizations verified by the UNC University Health Clinic (\$35 verification fee required).</i>	\$35
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**The following health clearances are required. If these are up to date, they do not have to be re-purchased at admission.**

Physical Exam		\$89-\$200+
Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)	2-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	2 shots = \$100+ each Titer = \$60+
Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tdap required at least once</li> <li>• Td booster every 10 years</li> </ul>	Tdap = \$60+ Td booster = \$60+
Hepatitis B	3-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	3-shots = \$95+ each Titer = \$78+
Varicella/Chickenpox	2-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	<i>(Vaccine - not carried by SHC, if needed will need to obtain through provider)</i> Titer = \$120+
TB/PPD (annual) Initial clearance includes <b>two</b> separate TB/PPD tests within 12 months of each other, subsequent renewals requires only one test	TB/PPD <b>OR</b> QuantiFERON/T-Spot blood tests; <u>positive</u> tests require a chest x-ray	TB/PPD = \$30+ ( <i>x 2 if needed</i> ) QuantiFERON = \$85+ Chest x-ray ( <i>if needed</i> ) = \$39 - \$55
Flu & COVID-19 (annual)	1x/yr in Sept/Oct for flu vaccination/COVID requirement varies	<i>Not carried by SHC, if needed will need to obtain through provider</i>

**Other variable expenses during the program may include** *(but are not limited to):*

- UNC School of Nursing pin for graduation *(optional)*
- Travel *(to and from clinical sites and campus)*
- Senior Pictures *(optional)*

**Other Helpful Links:**

<https://www.unco.edu/nhs/nursing/resources/>

<https://www.unco.edu/costs/>

<https://extended.unco.edu/programs/nursing-bachelors-second-degree/>

# Traditional BSN Program Estimated Costs

(tuition rates are set each academic year during summer)

## Tuition and Fees = \$40,063

(tuition estimate is based on in-state, resident tuition and includes CO Opportunity Fund (for eligible students))

(plan of study varies by program start, and may include 1-2 summer sessions, which may not be covered by financial aid)

71 credits

**Nursing students may incur the following additional, approximate expenses prior to starting and during the program:**

Assessment Tech Institute	Program course materials and licensure prep	\$2000 + (paid with fees; no extra expense)
Books, Technology		\$750+
Uniforms	Includes shoes and 2 sets of scrubs – must be the UNC School of Nursing approved brand and style only	\$150+
Stethoscope		\$50 - \$100
Immunization Tracking	<i>Paid directly to Complio</i>	\$35 annually
HIPAA/OSHA Training	<i>Paid directly to Complio</i>	\$30
Background Check	<i>Paid directly to AmericanDatabank at admission and as needed (for certain clinical sites)</i>	Background = \$59+ (cost varies)
Drug Screen	<i>Paid directly to AmericanDatabank at admission and as needed (for certain clinical sites or if drug use is suspected)</i>	Drug Screen = \$35
CPR for Healthcare Providers	<i>Must be American Heart Association BLS</i>	\$55 + biannually
Malpractice Insurance		\$35 - \$100 annually

### HEALTH CLEARANCE AND IMMUNIZATIONS

- Required items can be obtained through the UNC Student Health Center (SHC) or your own physician/clinic
- Required items will need to be submitted to the SHC and processed for a \$35 service charge
- Prices listed below are based on the SHC prices for the 2025-2026 Academic Year (and are subject to change)

UNC University Health Clinic	<i>REQUIRED – everyone must have their immunizations verified by the UNC University Health Clinic (\$35 verification fee required).</i>	\$35
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**The following health clearances are required. If these are up to date, they do not have to be re-purchased at admission.**

Physical Exam		\$89-\$200+
Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)	2-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	2 shots = \$100+ each Titer = \$60+
Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tdap required at least once</li> <li>• Td booster every 10 years</li> </ul>	Tdap = \$60+ Td booster = \$60+
Hepatitis B	3-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	3-shots = \$95+ each Titer = \$78+
Varicella/Chickenpox	2-shot series <b>OR</b> Titer	<i>(Vaccine - not carried by SHC, if needed will need to obtain through provider)</i> Titer = \$120+
TB/PPD (annual) Initial clearance includes <b>two</b> separate TB/PPD tests within 12 months of each other, subsequent renewals requires only one test	TB/PPD <b>OR</b> QuantiFERON or T-Spot blood tests; <u>positive</u> tests require a chest x-ray	TB/PPD = \$30+ (x 2 if needed) QuantiFERON = \$85+ Chest x-ray (if needed) = \$39 - 55
Flu & COVID-19 (annual)	1x/yr in Sept/Oct for flu/COVID requirement varies	<i>COVID vaccine not carried by SHC, if needed will need to obtain through provider</i>

**Other variable expenses during the program may include (but are not limited to):**

- UNC School of Nursing pin for graduation (optional)

- Travel (*to and from clinical sites and campus*)
- Senior Pictures (*optional*)

*Other Helpful Links:*

<https://www.unco.edu/nhs/nursing/resources/>

<https://www.unco.edu/costs/>

<http://www.unco.edu/costs/differential-tuition.aspx>

## Graduation Information

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A bachelor's degree is an academic title granted to a student who has completed a specific course of study. Degree titles are authorized by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the program leading to the degree may be administered by the university, a college, a school, and sometimes a program board or coalition of faculty.

[www.unco.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-undergraduate.aspx](http://www.unco.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-undergraduate.aspx)

**Applying for Undergraduate Graduation:** Graduation applications are handled by the Office of the Registrar. A graduation application fee will only be charged one time per degree and is applied to your student account. Specific "applying for graduation" information can be found: [www.unco.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-undergraduate-apply.aspx](http://www.unco.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-undergraduate-apply.aspx)

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Artificial Intelligence Student Use Policy**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/5/2025 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:**  
**Original Policy Date:** 12/5/2025  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Tem

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The UNCO School of Nursing affirms its responsibility to ensure that all students demonstrate the competencies, critical reasoning, and professional integrity necessary to provide safe, high-quality patient care. We have an obligation to prepare students to engage with AI across clinical, teaching, and research settings in an ethical manner. Student assessment in the age of AI must continue to uphold these standards of competency and accountability. We recognize that while AI tools may enhance learning and efficiency, they also challenge traditional measures of capability, integrity, and authenticity. Therefore, assessments must continue to reflect students' independent mastery of knowledge and skills essential for nursing licensure, clinical readiness, and professional practice.

For both clinical and non-clinical programs, AI presents unique opportunities and complexities. In clinical settings, students must adhere to privacy, safety, and anti-bias practices to promote health equity with AI use. Non-clinical programs rely on cultivating deep inquiry, scholarly reasoning, leadership, and sustained intellectual engagement. This policy will guide responsible AI use in coursework, research, and assessment, ensuring that our graduates remain competent, ethical, and forward-thinking leaders in nursing education and practice.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The SON Director will work with the program management specialists to include the SON AI Use Policy in all student program and clinical faculty handbooks. The program coordinators will review during the orientation to each program.
2. SON faculty will add the following statement to their course syllabi and the associated CANVAS course for all SON courses except DNP scholarly project and PhD Dissertation courses (NURS 727/798/797/799)–

*“Artificial intelligence (AI) tools may be used as indicated for each course assessment using the following scale. Note that the use of AI tools may impact the quality and accuracy of the assignment. It is the learner's responsibility to disclose and/or document any use of AI in their written proposal and final written product, if allowed. Failure to do so and/or the use of generative AI tools to create content are violations of academic integrity and subject to the SON Code of Conduct Policy.”*

The following AI Use – Assessment scale is to be used as a guide to communicate the expectations for AI use on each course assignment/assessment. Faculty may choose to add the scale to their syllabus but are not required to, and may adjust the suggested phrases to match the needs of their courses/assignments.

Artificial Intelligence Use - Assessment Scale – (adapted from Perkins, et al., 2024)

		Description
1	No AI	The assessment is completed entirely without AI assistance. This level ensures that students rely solely on their knowledge, understanding, and skills.  <i>AI must not be used at any point during the assessment.</i>
2	AI Assisted Idea Generation and structuring	AI can be used in the assessment for brainstorming, creating structures, and generating ideas for improving work.  <i>No AI content is allowed in the final submission</i>
3	AI- Assisted Editing	AI can be used to make improvements to the clarity or quality of student created work to improve the final output, but no new content can be created using AI.  <i>AI can be used, but your original work, with no AI content, must be provided in an appendix.</i>
4	AI Task Completion, Human Evaluation	AI is used to complete certain elements of the task, with students providing discussion or commentary on the AI-generated content. This level requires critical engagement with AI generated content and evaluating its output.  <i>You will use AI to complete specified tasks in your assessment. Any AI created content must be cited.</i>
5	Full AI	AI should be used as a 'co-pilot' in order to meet the requirements of the assessment, allowing for a collaborative approach with AI and enhancing creativity.  <i>You may use AI throughout your assessment to support your own work and do not have to specify with content is AI generated.</i>

3. SON faculty shall add a statement to each course assessment/assignment that indicates the allowed level of AI use on that course requirement. Faculty may choose to use the italicized statement corresponding to the level of AI use (as indicated on the table) or may change the italicized statement to meet the needs of the assignment in their course. Each statement will be found in the assignment description in the syllabus and may or may not refer back to the table (if used).
4. SON faculty teaching in the doctoral scholarly project and dissertation courses (NURS 727/798/797/799) will add the following statement to the syllabus instead of the statement outlines in #2 above –  
  
*Artificial intelligence (AI) tools may be used to help generate topics, ideas, and outlines and to revise the learner's original work in this course. Any other use of AI to generate content is prohibited. Note that the use of AI tools may impact the quality and accuracy of the assignment. It is the learner's responsibility to disclose and/or document any use of AI in their written proposal and final written product; failure to do so and/or the use of generative AI tools to create content are violations of academic integrity.*
5. SON faculty will add language reminding students to never enter personal, private, or HIPAA-protected data into generative AI platforms (public or private) as a statement under course/grading requirements.

6. SON faculty will add a statement for each course involving student research that all documents/outputs involving the use of AI, if allowed, must comply with IRB and data security requirements.
7. Students may choose to opt out of AI use for any assignment and be provided an alternate assignment to meet the course requirement.
8. Students must declare how they used AI tools such as for topic generation, brainstorming, outlining, editing, etc. for each course assignment for which it is allowed. Example declarations will be provided in the syllabus to guide the students, such as:  
  
“I attest that this project made use of AI in the following ways...”  
[List tools used, purpose, and how outputs were edited or validated.]
9. Students must cite and reference materials generated by AI using APA Style and Grammar Guidelines (2025) <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>
10. Students who use AI in an authorized manner for assessments, clinical logs, care plans, or other course work will be subject to [UNC Code of Conduct](#) and SON Code of Conduct Policy. Students may be asked to orally defend or explain their work if AI misuse is suspected.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**SON Clinical Programs - Attendance Policy**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/1/2026 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 8/2008 dwl; 5/3/13 ULT/NFSO; 1/25/19 ULT/NFSO; 12/1/2023 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 3/14/08  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Students enrolled in SON clinical programs (BSN, MSN, Post-Masters Certificate (ENP/FNP) and DNP) are required to attend all lecture, laboratory, and clinical hours as scheduled, to ensure their success and meet board of nursing and accreditation requirements. Regular attendance in nursing lecture/clinical courses is critical to support learning, professional development, and preparation for safe nursing practice. Additionally, assignments and discussions scheduled during in-class sessions may meet one or more competencies necessary to receive a passing course grade and meet national standards.

If a student has an illness or has sustained an injury that could be aggravated by clinical, classroom, or laboratory experiences, or could place others at risk, the student has an obligation to refrain from attending class to care for self or seek treatment. If the student is unable to meet performance standards for their course, they are to contact the faculty member and the program coordinator as outlined in the *Performance Standards* policy. Depending on the situation, documentation may be necessary to ensure safe resumption of attendance in any course.

Attendance expectations include being ready to begin before the scheduled start of the day and after any scheduled breaks. A 30-minute lunch break is pre-scheduled in all clinical/laboratory hours and not included in the hours calculated for the course. Students are expected to remain in the classroom, laboratory, or on the clinical unit until the scheduled end of each day. Arrival to class/clinical late or leaving before the end of class/clinical may constitute an unexcused absence unless prior arrangement was made with the faculty member.

Excused absences are granted for any unexpected situation out of the student's control or personal life events which necessitate the student's attendance outside of scheduled coursework. Examples of excused absences include illness, injury, treatments, surgeries or other medical-related appointments that the student is unable to reschedule. Students are encouraged to communicate with the course faculty member prior to any anticipated absences.

Unexcused absences are defined as any absence due to a scheduled activity unrelated to the nursing program (i.e. vacations, job orientations, weddings) not granted permission by the clinical lead faculty or program coordinator prior to arrangements being made or missing a class period without communicating with the faculty member prior to the absence.

**PROCEDURE:**

In the event that a student must miss a scheduled lecture/lab/clinical class period, or a partial class period, they are to:

1. notify the faculty member regarding the absence as soon as possible prior to the absence.
2. complete make up materials for the missed content
  - a. Trad/Second Degree BSN program clinical course hours - missed /clinical hours must be made up either through a repeat clinical day, completion of virtual simulation or other case-based materials (1:1 ratio of sim:clinical hours missed), or through completion of on-campus high fidelity simulation hours (2:1 ratio of sim:clinical hours missed). The type of clinical hour make up is determined by the clinical lead faculty member.

- b. BSN capstone (NURS 446) and RN-BSN/MSN/DNP program clinical course hours --missed clinical hours will be rescheduled and completed.
  - c. On campus laboratory courses – the skills/procedures covered during the missed course time must be completed by the student. The timing of review/practice session is at the discretion of the lead faculty member and dependent on course resources. There may be instances where there is no available time to make up the missed laboratory, which may result in the student earning an unsatisfactory grade on the missed content or an incomplete grade for the course.
  - d. On campus/online synchronous lectures – all students are expected to attend each lecture course per the course schedule provided at the beginning of the semester in the syllabus. Course attendance expectations will be clearly delineated in each course syllabus and points will be deducted for any missed day. Learning objectives completed during the in-class session will need to be completed through make up materials, per the discretion of the faculty member. There may be instances where there is no opportunity to make up this time and the student may receive an unsatisfactory grade on the missed content or an incomplete grade for the course.
  - e. Online/asynchronous courses – course attendance/participation expectations will be delineated in the syllabus at the start of the semester, which may include participation points, per the discretion of the faculty member.
- 3. If a student misses lecture/laboratory/clinical due to a medical reason unrelated to a short-term illness (i.e. cold, flu), a medical clearance may be needed before return to their coursework. The student is to email the SON Director for directions on next steps, which may necessitate documentation/clearance to return to the course.
  - 4. Any absence, unexcused or excused, may result in a notice of unsatisfactory performance or an unsatisfactory grade for the course.
  - 5. If the absence includes missing more than one scheduled class or is longer than 1 week (5 business days), the student will also notify the program coordinator, who will work with the student to determine the best course of action depending on the situation; this may include advising the student to take a leave of absence (see LOA policies), join a different cohort of students, or work with the faculty members to make up the missing days, among other options. Depending on the situation, the absence may warrant program dismissal if no alternative is identified.
    - a. If a student chooses to miss a course(s) requirements after the program coordinator has not approved the requested leave, the student may be dismissed from the program per the SON Code of Conduct policy and may request reinstatement through the appropriate procedure.

**POLICY TITLE:****Audio and Video Recording Policy during Classrooms and Simulation Experiences****Last Revision/Review Date:** NFSO 4/28/23**Previous Review Dates:****Original Policy Date:****Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy**DESCRIPTION:**

The UNC School of Nursing is committed to excellence in teaching and learning through use of technology to meet course and program objectives, which may include recording of instructional activities to meet the objectives of the course.

**PROCEDURE:**

## 1. Classroom

- a. Faculty members may create audio or audio/video recordings of classroom lectures for instructional purposes to meet the objectives of a course.
- b. Faculty members must alert students that they will be recorded, the use and distribution of the recording, and how the recording will be stored before the recording is initiated.
- c. All attempts should be made to protect student's privacy if the recording is conducted online and students can be viewed in their personal settings.
- d. Students must be allowed an opportunity to ask questions or to opt out of a recording if requested.
- e. Classroom related recordings may be saved by the instructor for future courses, if appropriate. All recordings must be distributed through the university's learning management system and kept on a university password-protected drive. All recordings not to be used as future course materials or accreditation exemplars should be destroyed at the end of the semester.

## 2. Simulation and Skills Laboratory

- a. Faculty members may create audio or audio/video recordings of skills and simulated learning experiences for instructional purposes to meet objectives of a laboratory, clinical, or didactic course.
- b. Before a simulated learning experience is recorded, the students must be provided information on the event and sign the consent form attached to this policy. Information to share with students include:
  - i. When the recording will occur
  - ii. What the recordings will be used for
  - iii. How the recordings will be stored/distributed
  - iv. When the recordings will be deleted
- c. All students will have an opportunity to ask questions before signing the consent form.
- d. Signed consent forms will be collected by the course instructor, lead clinical faculty, or program coordinator at the beginning of the semester for the course including recordings through the Typhon platform.
- e. Students who request not to be recorded will be provided alternative opportunities to meet course objectives.



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN COLORADO

School of Nursing

## Student Consent to Audio and Video Recording during Simulated Teaching-Learning Activities

Teaching-learning activities for your classroom, laboratory, and clinical courses in the University of Northern Colorado's ("UNC") School of Nursing may require participation in simulated patient care experiences. Simulated patient care experiences enhance educational outcomes by providing the opportunity to observe and participate in navigating real life patient scenarios in a non-clinical setting. Simulated experiences are designed to challenge a student's response and judgment to patient care scenarios in a more realistic environment.

School of Nursing faculty and staff may video and audio record all or portions of simulated patient care experiences in which you are either a participant or an observer. The recordings optimize the educational value of the teaching-learning activity. Recordings of simulated patient care experiences will be treated as education records under 34 C.F.R. Section 99.3, which is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

By signing this document, you consent to being video and audio recorded during simulated patient care experiences. The recordings will only be used for teaching-learning activities and student assessment purposes.

I authorize the UNC School of Nursing faculty and staff to video and audio record my participation in teaching-learning activities including simulated patient care experiences for educational and evaluation purposes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Bear Number (last 4 digits) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY TITLE:**

**SON Grading Policy**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 2/18/2022 NFSO

**Previous Review Dates:**

**Original Policy Date:**

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The SON will employ the following grading policy and procedure to ensure consistency in course grading, standardize grading schema across programs, and assure students are meeting professional standards and program outcomes.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The School of Nursing grading policy for all programs will not use +/- as per the university grading policy outlined in the respective catalog.
2. Each course syllabus will outline the grading policy under the section titled "Method of Evaluation".
3. The method of evaluation statement will also include information on requirements for passing the course. For the undergraduate programs, the statement will read: "*A grade of "C" or higher ("S" for clinical courses) is required to pass this course*". For graduate programs the statement will read: "*A "B" or higher ("S" for clinical courses) is required to pass this course*".
4. A statement will be included for all SON course syllabi regarding completion of course assignments/requirements. The statement will read "*Students must complete all course assignments/requirements as outlined in the syllabus*".
5. The grading policy will be communicated to students at program orientation, in the student handbooks, and each course syllabus.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Student Concerns**

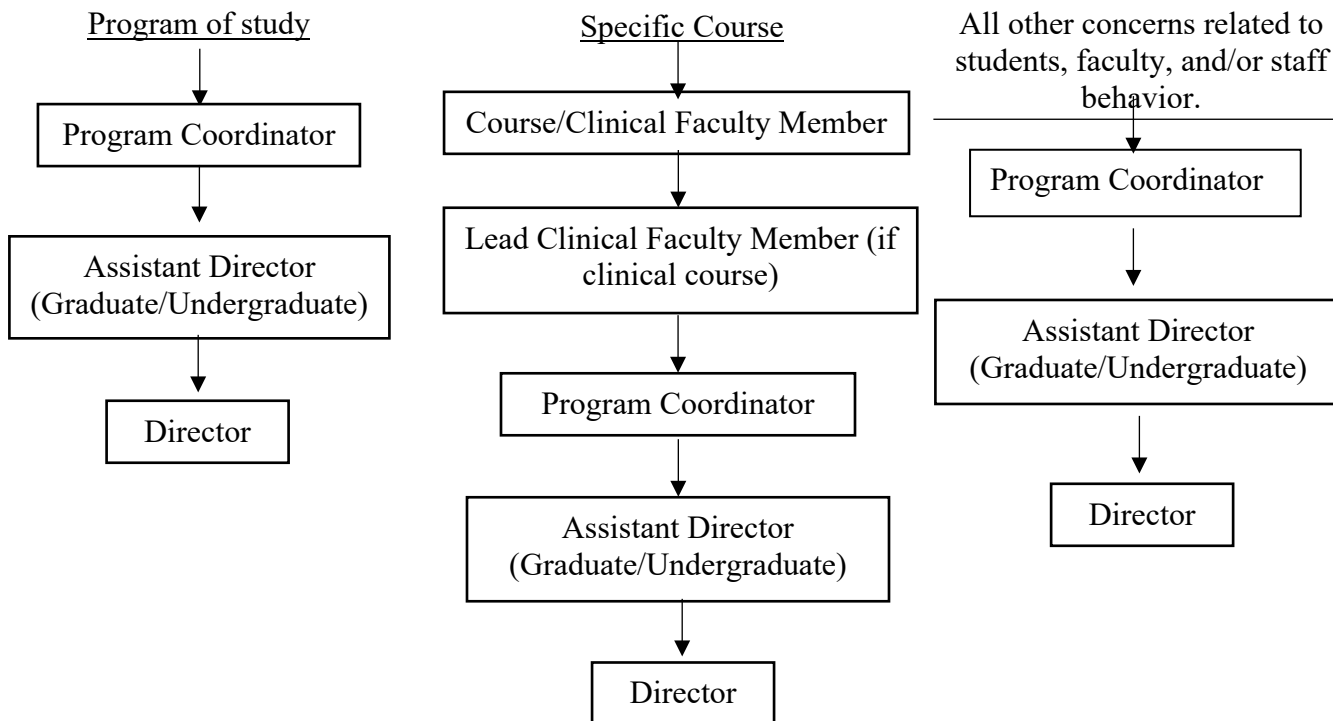
**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/6/2025 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 4/00 SB; 5/08 DWL; 12/16 FH; 11/19 FH; 12/3/21 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 4/1/00  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

**DESCRIPTION:**

The SON encourages students to voice their concerns about their nursing educational program and/or academic procedures.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Depending on the nature of the concern, a student is encouraged to reach out to the specific faculty member identified in the chart below to report the concern and receive guidance about how to address the issue (including steps to initiate a formal complaint or grievance).
2. If the concern is directed toward the faculty member identified as their point of contact, the student is then directed to the next person in the chart, and so on.



3. The student with concerns regarding an academic decision or other formal grievance are directed to appropriate Assistant Director to provide the student information on the SON Academic Appeals Policy, or UNC Board Policy Manual, and assist the student with next steps

**POLICY TITLE:**

## **Students' Dishonest Acts**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 4/2/21 NFSO

**Previous Review Dates:** 5/91 SCB w/ University Counsel; 10/31/93 VK; 4/98 LC; 11/27/01 DP; 12/09 ULT/GLT/NFSO, 11/30/18 GLT/NFSO; 12/2020 GLT/NFSO; 1/2021 ULT

**Original Policy Date:** 2/21/86

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Dishonesty violates the professional code of ethics. Students are expected to conduct themselves according to Standards of Professional Behavior and Practice. Examples of dishonesty include but are not limited to the following:

1. Taking an exam or writing a paper for another student.
2. Copying a few sentences for a paper without appropriate referencing to credit the source; See University definitions of Plagiarism.
3. Copying or sharing information from answer sheets and/or care plans without doing the work independently.
4. Sharing information regarding a course exam with anyone (even classmates). The exams should not be printed, copy/pasted, screen captured, etc.
5. Leading one to believe you have completed a required assignment or activity when indeed you have not
6. Fabricating data.
7. Stealing school, agency, or client property.

Students will be held accountable for their dishonesty.

**PROCEDURE:**

Student Responsibilities:

1. Students shall recognize or value that academic honesty is highly correlated with professional nursing ethics. Students are responsible and accountable for their behavior.
2. Students will comply with testing administration procedures and other course expectations.
3. Students will physically focus directly on their own work during examinations.

Faculty Responsibilities:

1. Faculty will provide student handbooks that direct students to university policies.
2. Faculty will use measures to minimize the opportunity for cheating/dishonest acts. Such measures may include seating arrangements during testing, assuring all test booklets are accounted for and proctoring an examination actively.
3. Faculty will include the Academic Integrity statement in all course syllabi.

Reporting of Dishonest Acts:

1. Students should report their observations or knowledge of dishonest acts to the faculty involved. Such reports are confidential.
2. Faculty who suspects, observe, or have knowledge of a student's dishonest acts shall follow guidelines below, depending on the circumstances:
  - a. Refrain from accusing the student of cheating in front of other students.
  - b. Meet with the student at the earliest opportunity to discuss facts available to the faculty regarding the dishonest act. Ask for the student's perceptions of the incident.

- c. If the faculty believes a dishonest act has definitely occurred, the faculty shall notify the respective Assistant Director or Program Coordinator and the student in writing. The student shall also be informed regarding School of Nursing Grievance Procedures by the faculty involved.
- d. A faculty member who is concerned that a student may have committed academic misconduct must submit a report to the Dean of Students describing the alleged academic misconduct.

Sanctions:

1. The course instructor may assign a grade of zero for the assignment or exam and/or may result in failure of the course.
2. The student may receive from the Assistant Director a letter regarding their disciplinary probation in the School of Nursing.
3. In the event of a second incident of dishonesty of any kind, the student may be terminated from the nursing program.
4. In the event of proof of destruction or stealing of property, the faculty may notify campus police and appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Due Process Procedures:

1. Student will meet directly with faculty involved with the behavior at issue to discuss recommended outcomes and /or sanctions.
2. Upon report of an incident of dishonesty:

**Undergraduate student:** The Program Coordinator will be made aware of the exact issues/charges being made. The Program Coordinator may recommend sanctions or that the student's program of study be terminated.

**Graduate Student:** The Graduate Leadership Team (GLT) may recommend sanctions or that the student's program of study be terminated.

3. If termination is recommended, this decision is subject to a formal hearing before the University Hearing Office/Panel. See the UNC Student Handbook.

**POLICY TITLE:**

## **Suspected Drug or Alcohol Use**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 4/26/2024 NFSO; 5/13/2025 HR/MH edits w/Univ Counsel

**Previous Review Dates:** 5/91 w/ Univ Counsel; 10/93 VK; 4/98 LC; 11/01 DP; 12/6/13 ULT; 1/31/14 ULT; 3/7/14 ULT w/ Univ Counsel; 3/28/14 NFSO; 4/18/2022 NFSO

**Original Policy Date:** 1/17/86

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The School of Nursing (SON) faculty have the right and responsibility to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare from impaired SON students who use drugs or alcohol in clinical settings. SON students are prohibited from using drugs or alcohol or other mind-altering substances that affect their performance during a clinical rotation and must abide by the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) and the clinical agency's policies.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. If a student's behavior suggests that they may be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or other mind-altering substance, the clinical faculty member must remove the student from patient care.
2. The student is required to immediately take a drug and alcohol screen.
3. The clinical agency's policy for testing will apply if it is able to test the student. Otherwise, the student will be referred to UNC's Student Health Center (SHC) for testing.
4. The student is responsible for the testing expense.
5. The clinical faculty member will arrange appropriate transportation for the student from the clinical site to the testing site, if needed. The student is responsible for any travel expense.
6. If drug and alcohol screen is positive, or if the student refuses to be tested, the student will be referred to the SON Director and may be dismissed from their program. Further, if the student violated UNC or the clinical agency's policies or regulations, the student will be referred to the SON Director and may be dismissed from their program.
7. It is the student's responsibility to inform the course lead faculty member if they are taking prescription medications that could significantly affect cognition, behavior, or motor function, or may impair the ability to practice as a professional nurse safely and competently. The student will be referred to the performance standards policy for any needed accommodations for the use of prescription medications.
8. If a student holds a professional license and violates this policy, the SON may be required to report the violation to the Colorado State Board of Nursing or other regulatory body for further action.

4/7/2022 – Deb Miller communicated via email that it is appropriate to have students tested at the Student Health Center if they are not able to be tested on-site

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Academic Appeals-School of Nursing**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 10/18/19 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 9/92, 2/20/98 JR; 12/01; 2/07; 12/6/10 NFSO; 11/12 GLT; 10/21/15 GLT / 2-2016 NFSO; 10/18/19  
ULT/NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 11/12/2014  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team - Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of the procedures outlined below is to provide the student with guidance for appealing an academic decision that they consider arbitrary, capricious, or contrary to university policy, which are the reasons acceptable to the University for appealing. Before utilizing these procedures, or between any of the appeals steps outlined below, the student is encouraged to seek advice from their academic advisor. It is further recommended that attempts at mediation between student and instructor be pursued.

Procedures for implementation of this policy are based on UNC Board Policy, specifically Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure (Policies 2-1-201 - 2-1-204). The student must follow the Steps for Appeal as set forth in 2-1-204 of UNC Board Policy.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The student is encouraged to set up an informal conference with the instructor involved for the purpose of trying to resolve a grievance before the initiation of the formal academic appeals process.
2. If no resolution is reached in Step 1, the student may then move forward with a formal appeal. The student is recommended to meet with the Assistant Director of their respective program to discuss the situation and be advised on the formal appeal process set forth in University Board Policy (Policies 2-1-201 - 2-1-204).
3. The formal appeal must be initiated in writing to the faculty member within 21 working days after the end of the semester or session in which the action occurred.
4. If the problem remains unresolved, the student may request a conference and submit a written appeal to the SON Director within 7 working days from the response from the faculty member. The Director will confer with the faculty member whose action is being appealed. The formal appeal process, as set forth in Board Policy, will then be followed for the remaining steps of the process.

**POLICY TITLE:****Newborns/Children in SON Classes**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/6/2024 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 11/13 ULT  
**Original Policy Date:** 12/6/2013 ULT  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

In an effort to provide an environment that is conducive to learning and safety for students, newborns/children will not be allowed to attend classroom, laboratory, simulation or clinical experiences with their parents. However, some parents may need to bring newborns/children to campus for feedings and lactating parents and may need access to a lactation station or lactation support while on campus.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Newborns/children are not allowed to attend course activities with their parents who are students in the School of Nursing. This will be communicated to students at program orientation.
2. Students and Faculty are encouraged to access UNC's most current information on lactation stations on the Center for Women's and Gender Equity website <https://www.unco.edu/center-womens-and-gender-equity/?page=1&limit=3&tags=Center%20for%20Women%27s%20and%20Gender%20Equity,cwge>
  - a. If students need to bring their children for lactation or feedings, they must arrange for the child's care while attending class.
  - b. Information regarding lactation/feeding resources will be available to all students through the SON front office and will be distributed to students through the SON CANVAS shell.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Student Accommodations**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/1/2026 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 4/19/19 ULT/NFSO; Edits MH/DRC 8.18.25  
**Original Policy Date:** 4/19/19 ULT/NFSO  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

At the University of Northern Colorado, we recognize disability as a vital aspect of diversity and are committed to fostering inclusive, accessible learning environments. The faculty and staff of the School of Nursing value diverse lived experiences of our students, including those with disabilities, and are committed to creating inclusive learning environments that reflect our profession's ethics and university's values of equity, access, and belonging. The School of Nursing partners with the DRC to implement approved accommodations.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students who require disability-related accommodations for testing, teaching and learning environments, clinical placements, and more, should connect with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to engage in an individualized, interactive process. This ensures both consistency and alignment with institutional policy, federal law, and the university's equity goals.
2. SON faculty and staff should refer any student seeking disability-related accommodations directly to the DRC to ensure a fair, legally compliant, and supportive process for all learners.
3. If testing accommodations are requested and approved, the School of Nursing will collaborate with the DRC and the student to determine the most appropriate and feasible timing for test administration, while maintaining the integrity of the exam. Students are generally expected to test on or near the originally scheduled date, but flexibility may be needed depending on accommodation requirements and logistics. Testing may need to be scheduled the day before or after the scheduled exam time to assure the student does not miss any lecture/skills time in class, per the discretion of the faculty member.
4. SON faculty should not independently implement or modify accommodations without consulting the DRC. Faculty are expected to partner with the DRC in implementing approved accommodations to ensure consistency, legal compliance, and educational equity.
5. If a student incurs an injury or requires a short-term accommodation, they should follow the SON Performance Standards policy and reach out to the SON Director/DRC for further instructions.
6. Students and faculty are encouraged to reach out to the UNC Disability Resource Center for any questions regarding process, eligibility, or support. <https://www.unco.edu/disability-resource-center/>  
Contact information- [DRC@unco.edu](mailto:DRC@unco.edu) 970-351-2289.

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**POLICY TITLE:**

## **Service Animal Policy**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/2/2025 NFSO; DRC edits 4/2025

**Previous Review Dates:**

**Original Policy Date:**

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Academic Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The university supports the rights of individuals with disabilities to access university programs, activities, and services on campus, including the accompaniment by a service animal outlined by the UNC Disability Resource Center: <https://www.unco.edu/disability-resource-center/accommodations/housing/emotional-support-animals.aspx> and Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance [https://www.unco.edu/institutional-equity-compliance/pdf/OIEC\\_Service\\_Animal\\_SOP.pdf](https://www.unco.edu/institutional-equity-compliance/pdf/OIEC_Service_Animal_SOP.pdf) Service animals are allowed to accompany individuals with disabilities in all areas where the public is normally allowed to access, which includes classroom spaces. The below definitions and procedures are adapted from the above documents.

Similarly, service animals are welcome in the School of Nursing classrooms and other shared spaces. However, SON laboratory and simulation rooms have confined spaces and hazardous equipment that may be associated with risk to the animal or other individuals in the space. Additionally, clinical facilities may have specific policies regarding service animals depending on the patient population and other considerations. To assure safety for students, faculty, the service animal, and other guests in the laboratory spaces, and to assure compliance with clinical agency policies, the following procedure is to be followed. Emotional support animals and pets are not allowed in any School of Nursing spaces.

**DEFINITIONS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Service animal:** Pursuant to the ADA and CRS, a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability.

**Service animal-in-training:** An animal that is being trained as a service animal, whether by an individual with a disability or by a trainer of service animals.

**Task:** Work that the service animal has been trained to perform that is directly related to the person's disability. Emotional support animal: Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support.

**Emotional support animals (ESA):** are not service animals under the ADA and are not entitled to public accommodation.

**Handler:** A person who is an individual with a qualifying disability who requires the service animal to perform a task, or a person who is training a service animal-in-training to perform a task.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, if there is a question as to whether an animal is a service animal, two questions may be asked by faculty or staff of a student who brings a service animal to class:

- Is the animal a service animal required because of a disability?
- What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students or faculty who use a service animal and anticipate needing access to SON lab, simulation, or clinical spaces are encouraged to coordinate with the DRC and SON Director in advance to support a smooth experience and discuss any necessary logistics or risk mitigation.
2. The DRC and SON Director, in consultation with course faculty and program coordinator, will work with the student to determine how the service animal may impact the logistics of the course and

develop specific procedures, for both on-campus and community-based course requirements (i.e. clinicals, service learning). This may include a walkthrough of laboratory spaces and any simulated experience, considering the space and impact on the learning of other students engaged in the experience.

3. If a clinical agency is unable to accommodate a service animal, the SON Director/Program Coordinator will make every reasonable effort to identify an alternative experience. If no such experience is available despite all good-faith efforts, the student will be supported by the DRC and SON in exploring a plan for program completion that maintains academic integrity while ensuring compliance with disability access laws.
4. Any questions that arise during the course should be directed to the SON Director/DRC to determine if any changes in the procedures are needed, including questions that arise during a clinical rotation or other community-based experience.
5. If another person is adversely impacted by the presence of the service animal, the impacted person should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) to determine available options.
6. Any service animal who does not adhere to expected behavioral standards will be removed from the learning space. The following are examples that justify the removal of a service animal:
  - a. The animal is not housebroken
  - b. The animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to manage it
  - c. The animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others, such as another person or animal has been bitten (call UNC PD)
7. If there is concern that someone is misrepresenting an animal as a service animal, faculty/staff are asked to report the concern to the OIEC and let the SON Director know of the concern.
8. Students who believe they have been denied equal access may contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) for support or file a grievance under the university's ADA policy.

UNC Departmental contact information:

Police Department- 970-351- 2245

Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance-- 970-351-4899 or [titleix@unco.edu](mailto:titleix@unco.edu)

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Progression Requirements for Undergraduate Nursing Student**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 3/7/2025 NFSO

**Previous Review Dates:** 10/2000 DP; 4/2002 SB; 12/2008 ULT; 4/2010 ULT/NFSO; 1/25/19 ULT/NFSO; 12/3/21 ULT/NFSO; 2/18/22 NFSO

**Original Policy Date:** 5/1/98

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Progression requirements for all undergraduate students. Readmission to the program will be determined by the Undergraduate Leadership Team.

**ACADEMIC DISMISSAL PROCEDURE:**

1. Students must earn a minimum grade of “C”/”S” in all required nursing courses for progression in the Nursing program.
2. Students must successfully complete all required semester nursing courses before progression into the next semester of the clinical, pre-licensure program. Course progression may vary depending on the program of study for non-clinical undergraduate programs.
3. A student receiving less than “C” or “S” in a nursing course will fail the course and will be dismissed from the program and may be required to withdraw from other enrolled courses.
4. The student may request readmission to the program to repeat the course failed. Students may request re-admission to the Nursing program one time only. If a student is readmitted and the same or a subsequent course is failed, the student is not eligible for a second readmission.
5. The ULT will consider the request and decide whether to readmit the student; students will only be readmitted if there is space available. Readmission is not guaranteed to any student who has been dismissed from the program. Either the student or ULT may request additional information be considered, depending on the circumstance.

**Non-academic Leave of Absence Procedure:**

1. Students may need or opt to step out of the progression of nursing courses due to an unexpected event (i.e.. substantial physical injury, pregnancy, personal health changes). Upon step-out, a student must contact program advisor and/or coordinator with a written notification of expected program leave of absence. The program advisor and/or coordinator will provide guidance on the step-out process and their effected plan of study.
2. To request readmission, the student will be encouraged to meet with the program coordinator/advisor for guidance on the process.
3. The ULT will consider the request and decide whether to readmit the student. Students will only be readmitted if there is space available. Either the student or ULT may request additional information be considered, depending on the circumstance.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Student Code of Conduct**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/1/2026 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 9/16/114/20/18 ULT; 4/27/18 NFSO; 3/7/2025 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 10/11  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Nurses are charged with ensuring the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and wellbeing of individuals and their communities. As such, UNC nursing students are expected to maintain the highest standard of personal and professional conduct, in alignment of nursing professional organizations (ANA, 2025), and to embrace the values, moral norms, and ideals of the profession. To assist in communication of the expected conduct of a professional nurse, students will be required to read and sign the School of Nursing's Student Code of Conduct at the beginning of their program and review at the beginning of each semester.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The School of Nursing Student Code of Conduct will be included in each program's student handbook and updated annually. A link to the handbook will be provided in all syllabi and on the SON website.
2. Additional information related to student professional conduct will also be linked in the student handbook, including UNC's Code of Conduct, the Board of Trustee's Policy manual section on student conduct (Part 5), and the American Nurses Association's Code of Ethics to provide additional information and highlight the importance of this topic.
3. Each student will review the Student Code of Conduct and other materials in the student handbook as a part of the program's orientation. After an opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification the students will be required to sign the Code of Conduct acknowledging their understanding, which will be kept in the student's file.
4. Any breach of code of conduct will be communicated to the respective program coordinator by the person witnessing or learning of the infraction.
5. The program coordinator will determine, in consultation with appropriate faculty/SON leadership, the appropriate action, which may include, but is not limited to, verbal/written warning, development of an action/remediation plan, or program termination, depending on the severity of the infraction. Documentation of an action taken will be kept in the student file.

**UNC's Student Conduct Policy**

Students are also expected to be familiar with the University's expectations as outlined in UNC's Student Code of Conduct located at: <https://www.unco.edu/dean-of-students/pdf/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

**University of Northern Colorado  
School of Nursing**

**Student Code of Conduct**

UNC's School of Nursing faculty members have a social and professional responsibility to ensure the development and consistent performance of ethical, personal, and professional conduct of the highest standard of all students in the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. The student is expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ethical, personal and professional accountability congruent with the School of Nursing's values, program objectives, and the American Nurses Association's (2025) *Code of Ethics for Nurses*. Faculty members are responsible for communicating expectations of student's conduct throughout the program. Additionally, faculty members are responsible for providing feedback and designing corrective action plans when necessary to assist students in developing expected ethical, personal and professional nursing behaviors as part of their ongoing education as a professional nurse. The development and demonstration of appropriate ethical, personal, and professional conduct is the responsibility of the student and is determined as essential for the student's transition into professional practice.

**ANA CODE OF ETHICS FOR NURSES (2025)**

Provision 1:

*The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.*

Provision 2:

*The nurses' primary commitment is to the recipient(s) of nursing care, whether an individual, family, group, or community, or population*

Provision 3:

*The nurse establishes a trusting relationship and advocates for the rights, health and safety of recipients of nursing care.*

Provision 4:

*Nurses have authority over nursing practice and are responsible and accountable for their practice; consistent with their obligations to promote health, prevent illness, and provide optimal care.*

Provision 5:

*The nurse has moral duties to self as a person of inherent dignity and worth, including an expectation of a safe place to work that fosters flourishing, authenticity of self at work, and self-respect through integrity and professional competence.*

Provision 6:

*Nurses, through individual and collective effort, establish, maintain, and improve the ethical environment of the work setting that affects nursing care and the well-being of nurses.*

Provision 7:

*Nurses advance the profession through multiple approaches to knowledge development, professional standards, and the generation of policies for nursing, health, and social concerns.*

Provision 8:

*Nurses build collaborative relationships and networks with nurses, other healthcare and non-healthcare disciplines, and the public to achieve greater ends.*

Provision 9:

*Nurses and their professional organizations, work to enact and resource practices, policies, and legislation to promote social justice, eliminate health inequities, and facilitate human flourishing .*

Provision 10: Nursing, through organizations and associations, participates in the global nursing and health community to promote human and environmental health, well-being, and flourishing.

Reference: American Nurses Association (2025). *Code of Ethics for Nurses*. Silver Springs, MD:ANA.

**University of Northern Colorado**  
**School of Nursing**

**Student Code of Conduct**

I understand that during my educational experience in the University of Northern Colorado, School of Nursing I am expected to demonstrate ethical, personal, and professional conduct in congruence with ANA Code of Ethics (2025), UNC Dean of Students', Student Code of Conduct, the School of Nursing's values statement, program outcomes and course objectives.

I agree I am responsible to:

- review and adhere to the University's and the School of Nursing's Code of Conduct and specific clinical agency policies.
- review and adhere to national standards of conduct for a student and professional nurse.
- demonstrate behaviors consistent with the above policies and standards in all settings when in the student role, including all clinical, classroom/laboratory, and public settings.
- refrain from violation of federal, state, or local ordinances including, but not limited to, those covering alcohol, narcotics, illicit drugs, gambling, sex offenses or arson.
- refrain from disorderly, lewd, and indecent or obscene language or conduct
- refrain from all public displays of affection with significant others, colleagues, or others on campus or at the clinical site
- refrain from use of technology to view or send obscene or threatening material to students, faculty, staff, or patients.
- refrain from forgery, alteration, misuse, destruction, or mutilation of college documents, records, identifications, or other educational materials of the school or other students.
- refrain from copying (e.g. taking pictures/screenshots, recording audio/visual materials) any portion of any type of examination, including hands on demonstrations, paper/pencil, computer-based examinations/assessments, or distributing (verbal or otherwise) any information related to a SON course examinations or other assessments.
- use generative AI for all course related work as outlined in the course syllabus and *SON Testing Policy*.
- follow professional standards for incorporation of published and unpublished sources in all course related work and recognize that incorporation of materials from other sources or paraphrasing of such material without acknowledgment is considered plagiarism.
- attest that all work is of my own words and creation, except where clearly indicated and acknowledged using professional standards of citation and referencing.
- attest performance on all examinations and other coursework reflects my knowledge without use of unauthorized materials.
- attend all lecture/laboratory/clinical courses as outlined in course syllabi and *SON Clinical Programs Attendance Policy*.
- dress in accordance with specific program's dress code policy in all settings; refrain from wearing student uniform in public settings if not performing course requirements.
- uphold utmost integrity in personal, professional, and academic situations by refraining from and reporting any form of dishonesty or breach in the above standards and policies using appropriate communication channels.
- demonstrate respect for differences in race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, social class, national origin, and disability.
- communicate in a professional and respectful manner promoting collegiality, civility, collaboration, and a positive learning/clinical environment at all times, and in all situations.

**I understand and acknowledge that, in the event I breach any provisions of University and School of Nursing Policies or national professional standards, I will be subject to disciplinary action which may include dismissal from the nursing program.**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Testing**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/1/2024 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 4/2/21 NFSO; 4/27/19 NFSO; 1/09 dwl  
**Original Policy Date:** 9/26/08  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The School of Nursing requires all students to purchase the ATI package on admission to the nursing program. Students will use ATI for NCLEX preparation throughout the nursing education program and are required to take all assigned practice and proctored exams.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students shall purchase the ATI package before program start as the platform for NCLEX preparation throughout the nursing education program.
2. Orientation to the product will be provided by the program coordinator, or designated other faculty member, at the beginning of the program. Access to all ATI materials will be completed during orientation.
3. Faculty unfamiliar with ATI must schedule orientation with an ATI representative to train on the platform.
4. Students will be required to complete all practice, targeted, and proctored exams as scheduled.
5. Faculty will list all scheduled ATI activities in the course syllabus.
6. Students are encouraged to attain the ATI benchmark for proficiency level 2 on all proctored exams and will be encouraged to complete any associated remediation if the benchmark is not obtained.
7. Statements above will be placed in appropriate course syllabi to communicate this policy to students.

Addendum- ATI testing schedule

## ATI Testing Schedule by Semester

- Students are required to take ALL proctored exams. It is recommended that students achieve the designated SON benchmark on all proctored exams.
- Students not achieving the benchmark score are encouraged to complete the remedial activities provided by ATI.
- Benchmark: 90% of students will achieve Level II benchmark on ATI proctored exams
- Benchmark: 90% of students will achieve a 95% Probability of Passing NCLEX score on the ATI RN Comprehensive Predictor

Semester 1	
<b>N 310</b>	Self-Assessment Inventory
Semester 2	
<b>N 375 / N 376</b>	Multiple med surg focused practice exams required RN Fundamentals Practice A & B <b>*RN Fundamentals Proctored</b> RN Adult Med Surg Practice A & B <b>*RN Adult Med Surg Proctored</b>
Semester 3	
<b>N 425</b>	RN Maternal Newborn Practice A & B <b>*RN Maternal Newborn Proctored</b>
<b>N 426</b>	RN Nursing Care of Children Practice A & B <b>* RN Nursing Care of Children Proctored</b>
Semester 4	
<b>N 405</b>	RN Community Health Practice A & B <b>*RN Community Health Proctored</b>
<b>N 415</b>	RN Mental Health Practice A & B <b>*RN Mental Health Proctored</b>
Semester 5	
<b>N445</b>	RN Pharmacology Practice A & B <b>*RN Pharmacology Proctored</b>
<b>N 480</b>	RN Leadership Practice A & B <b>*RN Leadership Proctored</b> RN Nutrition Practice A & B <b>*RN Nutrition Proctored</b>
<b>N 446</b>	RN Comprehensive Predictor Practice A & B <b>*RN Comprehensive Predictor A – before preceptorship</b> <b>*RN Comprehensive Predictor B – after preceptorship</b>

**POLICY TITLE:**

**SON - Testing Policy**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/1/2026 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 12/1/2023 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 12/1/2023 NFSO  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Exam integrity and providing a safe and equitable environment for testing in all courses are highly important as part of student success and optimal patient outcomes.

**PROCEDURE:**

- Students must be present on exam/test/quiz days for in-person courses or follow any required proctoring instructions for online courses.
- Students may be given the opportunity to make up exams, which may include an alternative examination, per the discretion of the faculty member.
- Any student who may miss an exam/test/quiz must notify the instructor before the start of the exam, if possible. Failure to do so may result in a grade of 0 for the exam.
- No additional time for testing will be permitted if a student arrives late.
- No personal belongings will be allowed on the desk during the exam/test/quiz except for items necessary for taking the exam/test/quiz.
  - Cell phones and all other electronic personal devices, including wearable technology (i.e. smartwatches, glasses) must be stowed in bag or coat. All bags, coats, and any other items not needed for testing will be placed at the front of the room or away from the students' reach.
  - Students will be notified if a calculator is allowed. Only simple calculators without storage capacity will be allowed. No graphing calculators will be allowed.
  - Students will be provided with scratch paper if it is allowed. Students must print their name on the provided piece of scratch paper and every student will submit the scratch paper before leaving the room.
- Students may not render any audio/visual recording or take any pictures/screenshots for any portion or type of exam (i.e. return demonstration, computer based, paper/pencil).
- Course instructors will proctor the exam/test/quiz and this may include moving around the room.
- Students are encouraged to leave the building or go to the student lounge after exiting the testing room and refrain from congregating in the hallways.

- Any testing accommodation must come through the Disability Resource Center.

### **Exam Integrity**

- Students may not disclose or discuss information about the items or answers seen on exam/test/quiz. This includes posting or discussing questions on the internet and social media websites.
- Students may not copy or reconstruct exam items during or following the exam for any reason.
- Students may not seek help from any other party in answering items (in person, by phone, text, email, or AI) during the exam/test/quiz (including breaks).
- Students may not remove exam/test/quiz items and/or responses (in any format) or notes about the exam/test/quiz from the testing room.
- Students will comply with any investigation related to exam integrity that needs to be conducted. Students may not take the exam/test/quiz for another student. If a student witnesses any of the above behavior, or any irregular behavior that is in violation of the exam/test/quiz rules, the student should report it to the test/exam proctor, course instructor, or the Dean of Students. **Violation of this policy will not be tolerated. See Student Dishonest Acts and SON Student Code of Conduct Policies.**

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Medication Dosage Calculation Examination**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 5/2/2025 NFSO; MH edits 7/9/25  
**Previous Review Dates:** 8/08 dwl; 4/18/14 ULT; 3/25/16 ULT/NFSO; 10.29.2021/NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 4/4/08  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** Undergraduate Leadership Team

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Each semester of the undergraduate nursing program, students will be required to take an examination in their clinical coursework requiring the application of knowledge regarding medication dosage calculations essential for safe medication administration. This examination must be passed with a score of 100 percent in all semesters. Students who do not meet this requirement will fail the clinical course requiring the examination.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students shall be informed of this requirement at least one week before the first examination is given.
2. Practice exams will be provided for students at least one week before the first examination is given in all semesters. The practice tests are optional for semesters 2 through 5 prior to the exam; but, will be required if remediation is needed for success on subsequent exams.
3. Students will use SON provided calculators for the exam.
4. In preparation for the exam each semester a standardized conversion document will be provided with the practice exams and at the start of the in-person exam (Appendix A).
5. The exams will be given in person, on paper.
6. Grading of the exams will include the following:
  - a. Math, labeling and trailing or leading zeros errors will be considered incorrect answers.
  - b. Errors related to rounding will be considered incorrect answers.
    - i. Correct answers will be rounded to the hundredth place, except those with capsules or drops which should be rounded to the nearest whole number or with a scored tablet
  - c. 1st dosage calculation exam of semester—all students will take without feedback from the proctor.
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> dosage calculation exams of semester---proctor will look at exam and, if errors of any kind are detected, will allow the student a one-time instruction that they have an error (“You have an error on one question”, “You have more than one error on the exam”) and allow them to review the exam for these errors. Proctors are instructed not to inform the student which question(s) they have wrong. Students have the opportunity to correct any answers they find as incorrect. Once the exam is then resubmitted after this one-time review, the grade is final.
7. Any student who has not successfully completed the dosage calculation requirement prior to the start of clinicals will not be able to administer medications until the requirement is fulfilled.
8. The following procedure will be followed for determining passing of the drug dosage requirement each semester:
  - a. Students scoring less than 100% on the first examination will be given the opportunity to take a second examination, after successfully completing remediation problems, if needed.
  - b. Students scoring less than 100% on the second examination will be given the opportunity to take a third examination, after successfully completing remediation problems, if needed.
  - c. Students scoring less than 100% on the third exam will fail the clinical course.
    - i. In semesters 3 and 4, when one examination is given for both clinical courses, students not meeting this requirement will fail the clinical course they are currently enrolled in.
    - ii. Students will not receive a failing course grade for rounding or labeling errors on the 3<sup>rd</sup> exam.

Appendix A

Conversion Table Provided to Students in NURS 327 and Used for All Exams

<b>Household</b>	<b>Apothecary</b>	<b>Metric</b>
1 teaspoon (t) (tsp)		5 milliliters (mL)
3 tsp = 1 Tbsp		
1 tablespoon (T) (Tbsp)		15 mL
2 Tbsp	1 ounce (oz)	30 mL
	8 oz	240 mL
	16 oz	480 mL
	32 oz	960 mL

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Participant Guidelines in Simulation**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 11/2020 (NFSO)  
**Previous Review Dates:** 2/2018 (SC); 4/2018 (SC)  
**Original Policy Date:** 4/01/2016  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Committee

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Participants in laboratory experiences adhere to established Simulation Center guidelines and rules for the Skills Lab.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Participants should wash their hands prior to interaction with manikin and equipment.
2. Participants will wear gloves, when appropriate, while performing care to manikin or equipment.
3. Do not chew gum anywhere in the Skills Lab or Simulation Center (SC).
4. Return all supplies and equipment to their original location after use.
5. Do not remove any equipment from the manikins or the SC.
6. No eating or drinking in immediate areas of manikins or practice equipment.
7. If you find equipment in need of repair, report it to a faculty or staff member immediately.
8. Make sure all IV pumps are plugged into an outlet before leaving for the day.
9. All sharps should be placed in red biohazard containers in accordance with university policy.
10. If a red biohazard container is full, notify Lab Coordinator or faculty member.
11. Log off all computers, ensure they are plugged in, and returned to their original location.
12. Students are not allowed in the back hallway between skill labs, unless otherwise instructed. If you need supplies or equipment, please ask a faculty or staff member.
13. Clean up the lab before you leave according to station directions.
14. Wear your UNC School of Nursing uniform and name tag to all labs.
15. Bring your stethoscope to all laboratory activities.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Practicing Invasive Procedures**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 11/2020 NFSO; 11/14/2025 SC review/edits

**Previous Review Dates:** 9/2017 (NFSO); 1/2018 (SC); 3/2018 (SC)

**Original Policy Date:** 4/1/2016

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Committee

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Performing invasive procedures such as IV insertion on a person who does not need the procedure for therapeutic purposes creates unnecessary legal liability, risk of injury and blood/body fluid exposure. For this reason, students must not practice the invasive portion of skills such as IV insertion, IM injections, etc., on each other, on clinical instructors, preceptors, or anyone else under any circumstance.

**PROCEDURE:**

No invasive procedures are performed on humans anywhere in the University of Northern Colorado Simulation Center (SC).

**POLICY TITLE:**

## **Simulation Confidentiality**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 10/18/2024 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 4/2018 (NFSO) 10/2020 (NFSO)  
**Original Policy Date:** 2/1/2018  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Center

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The Simulation Center Faculty, Staff and Students shall adhere to the University of Northern Colorado School of Nursing policy regarding simulation confidentiality when engaged in learning activities in the Simulation Center. University of Northern Colorado policy regarding Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is followed. Student confidential information is defined as anything that a student, or those individuals with whom they interact, would expect to remain private. This includes information relating to the performance of other individuals, the details of the simulation scenarios and educational activities conducted. This applies whether seen in real time, on video, or otherwise communicated to the learner, and any related discussions.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students will engage in simulation-based training as part of their clinical learning experience and will participate in the simulation as a professional and treat it as a real patient care encounter.
2. The content of the simulations is to be kept confidential to maintain the integrity of the learning experience for all students and fellow learners.
3. During participation and throughout enrollment in the program, the student will maintain and keep confidential all scenario-specific and student-performance related information per the School of Nursing Code of Conduct.
4. Faculty and staff will maintain and keep confidential all scenario-specific and student performance related information.
5. Student performance information can only be shared on a need to know basis with the course lead, simulation coordinator, and/or undergraduate program coordinator.
6. Student will report any violations of confidentiality to the Simulation Facilitator or Clinical Faculty.
7. While simulation is in progress, video will not be streamed, recorded, or saved without prior knowledge of the scenario participants.
8. Any person not participating in the simulation event will not be allowed access to the simulation center while a scenario is in progress. This includes all tours and UNC employees from other departments.
9. This policy extends confidentiality protection to all participants in simulation including students, faculty, staff, and standardized patients.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Simulation Etiquette - Students**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/5/2025 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 4/2018 NFSO; 10/2020 NFSO; 10/18/2024 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 2/1/2018  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Center

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Simulated clinical learning experiences necessitate engagement of students in events which range from simple to highly complex and stressful as a part of their clinical coursework. As such, a high level of professionalism, comportment, and etiquette of all faculty, staff, and students is important to assure a positive, safe learning environment. Violation of this policy may result in unsatisfactory clinical performance and referral to the lead course faculty member.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The simulation coordinator and/or clinical lead faculty member will provide an orientation to the simulation laboratory and specific simulated clinical experiences at the beginning of each clinical course. The orientation will prompt/remind students to:
  - a. maintain confidentiality of the experience (i.e. not sharing the scenario with other students or the performance of colleagues with others).
  - b. participate in the simulation as a nursing professional.
  - c. engage in the experience as if it were a real patient care encounter.
  - d. perform all procedures unless otherwise instructed.
  - e. assess vital signs (not retrieve from the monitor), unless otherwise instructed.
  - f. use SBAR, or other established reporting guidelines, when communicating with a provider or team member during the scenario.
  - g. provide support and encouragement for all student peers.
  - h. keep conversation to a minimum and maintain a quiet environment in the control room and shared spaces during the simulated event.
  - i. to follow any established scripts and faculty guidance in simulated clinical events.
2. Students are expected to complete assigned pre-simulation activities in order to participate in simulation.
3. All simulation participants are expected to contribute during debriefing.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Protection of Physical Safety of Participants Involved in Simulation Center Activities**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 10/2020 NFSO; 11/14/2025SC Review/Edits; MH edits 2/5/2026

**Previous Review Dates:** 4/2018 (NFSO)

**Original Policy Date:** 3/1/2018

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Committee

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**DESCRIPTION:**

For students, faculty and staff to have an optimal learning environment, it is critical that physical safety is consistently supported and maintained.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. To help ensure physical safety of participants, a simulation orientation is provided in the form of a video developed by the UNC simulation team. In addition to the video, the participant is provided with an orientation to the simulation room as part of the briefing.
2. Only faculty and announced participants of the simulated event are allowed in the simulation room during the learning experience. This includes access to the control room during the simulation. This minimizes congestion and crowding of simulation areas.
3. Consult with Lab Manager or Simulation Coordinator for assistance in moving any equipment in the laboratories or simulation suite.
4. All simulation areas contain a sharps container, and sharps are disposed of per the *Sharps Disposal Policy*.
5. All areas of heavy foot traffic are to be kept clear of clutter to prevent falling.
6. Alert the Lab Manager of any broken or non-operable equipment.
7. All cleaning supplies should be used in accordance with Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) instructions for that product. The Simulation Center MSDS sheets can be obtained from the supply hallway.
8. All cleaning supplies must be kept in the original container including the label from the manufacturer.
9. Use of latex products in the Simulation Center is to be avoided whenever possible. Some purchased equipment and supplies do contain latex and will be labeled. Anyone who has a latex allergy should notify the course lead faculty member prior to starting the lab course.
10. All injuries must be reported to the course lead faculty member, who will assist in the completion of *Workers' Compensation forms*. If indicated, Workers' compensation protocols are followed per university and SON policy.

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Protection of Psychological Safety of Participants Involved in Simulation**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 3/1/2024 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 12/4/2020 NFSO  
**Original Policy Date:** 4/2018 NFSO  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School of Nursing Simulation Committee

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**DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this Simulation Center policy is to address concerns that may arise should a participant experience undo stress, anxiety, or emotional distress while engaged in simulation activities within the University of Northern Colorado Simulation Center.

For students, faculty, and staff to have an optimal learning environment, it is critical that psychological safety is consistently supported and maintained for all participants including students, faculty, and standardized participants.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. To help ensure psychological safety of participants, a simulation orientation is provided in the form of a video developed by the UNC simulation team. In addition to the video, the participant is provided with an orientation to the simulation room as part of the briefing. Finally, faculty training includes content on maintaining psychological safety in simulation.
2. All high-fidelity scenarios should include pre briefing activities that are intended to establish a safe learning environment by situating learners into a common mental model and preparing them for educational content. Additionally, pre-briefing activities should convey important ground rules for the simulation-based experience.
3. Only faculty and authorized participants of the simulated event are allowed in the simulation room during the scenario. This includes access to the control room during the simulation. Unauthorized persons should not be present in the control room during simulation unless student participants have been made aware of the presence of additional observers. All participants are informed if they are being recorded or streamed on the day of the event.
4. Scenarios should follow the algorithm for the scenario, which is based on the objectives for the event. Additional distractors should not be added unless they are written into the scenario and meet a specific objective.
5. It is important to maintain consistency in the scenario between groups, including the role of faculty, use of cues and support, scenario set up and design, and time allotted for scenario and debriefing.
6. All students are made aware that simulated clinical events are to be kept confidential. This operating principle is reiterated with each event.
7. In the event that a participant in simulation is experiencing undo stress or anxiety a member of the UNC faculty or staff should offer support and assistance to the participant. If additional support is needed, the faculty/staff must assist the person in reaching appropriate campus resources. If this happens during a simulated clinical event, the simulation facilitator will notify the course coordinator who will address the problem and ensure that the participant is escorted to the Universities' Department for Counseling Services. Following the incident, the Assistant Director should be notified.
8. Information regarding counseling services at UNC is provided to the students and is in the SC.
9. If intervention is required for a participant experiencing acute stress or anxiety related to simulation, the course coordinator will assist with completion of workers' compensation forms. If indicated, workers' compensation protocols are followed per university policy.

**POLICY TITLE:****SON FERPA - Policy****Last Revision/Review Date:** 12/5/2025 NFSO**Previous Review Dates:****Original Policy Date:** 12/5/2025**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team**DESCRIPTION:****PROCEDURE:**

1. The SON Director, or designee, will review and update the student FERPA release documents with University Counsel and/or the Office of the Registrar at the end of each academic year.
  - a. The updated documents will be provided to the program management specialists
    - i. for incorporation into program student handbooks as they are prepared for incoming cohorts of students for the next academic year.
    - ii. for upload into a 3<sup>rd</sup> party platform for signature (i.e. Typhon)
2. Program coordinators will review the FERPA policy and the following education release documents with students during program orientation:
  - a. *Authorization to Release Completed Scholastic Assignments* form – student authorization to use completed assignments for accreditation review, inclusion as exemplars for future courses, curriculum committee review, and for agency feedback;
  - b. *Authorization to Release Educational Records* – student authorization of a release of summary of performance and transcript data (including GPA) for employment reference letters or surveys, graduate school applications, and scholarship, internships or other types of applications.
3. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions about the policy and release documents before signing.
4. Students will be asked to sign the release forms either on paper or through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party platform (i.e. Typhon). The program management specialists will upload the forms to the student's file.
5. The program management specialists will track student signatures and identify students who have opted to not allow general release of their educational records.
6. Full and part time faculty will check with the student, or the program management specialist, to assure they have signed the release form for the specific circumstances noted above (2.a and 2.b).
7. For any requested release of a student's education record not listed above, or for students who have not signed the general release forms, an *Individual Student – FERPA release – Nursing* form must be completed and signed by the student before the record may be released.
8. The SON Director, or designee, will alert students when directory information may be provided to non-UNC entities and provide an opportunity for students to opt-out of the release.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

School of Nursing

## **Authorization to Release Educational Records (FERPA)**

Pursuant to provisions of the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, (Public Law 93-380), I hereby authorize the University of Northern Colorado, School of Nursing to release the following information concerning my educational records:

- General Summary of Performance
- Academic Transcript including Grade Point Average

THIS INFORMATION MAY BE RELEASED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSE(S):

1. Reference for prospective employers
2. Reference for Graduate School (or other program)
3. Scholarships, Internships/Externships, or other types of financial assistance programs

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Signature of student

Date

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Printed name of student

*Revised 8/14/25 MHenry/UNC Legal Counsel*



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN COLORADO

School of Nursing

## Authorization of Use of Name, Image, Likeness and/or Voice Recordings

In consideration of my enrollment in the University of Northern Colorado School of Nursing, I hereby authorize the Board of Trustees of the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) permission to use my name (or any fictional name), photographs, video and/or audio recordings of me, negatives, prints, motion pictures, video and/or audio recordings, or any other reproduction, in any media that contain my image, likeness or voice (including but not limited to video and/or audio recordings of simulation experiences in academic course work) for educational and/or promotional purposes in any UNC written, video and/or audio materials of any type or manner including but not limited to books, magazines, flyers, manuals, handbooks, catalogues, in hard copy, any electronic or digital format and/or on the World Wide Web, or in any other manner, and for any other lawful purpose, in UNC's sole discretion. I grant this permission effective on the date written below and in perpetuity. I understand that I cannot, at any time, revoke the permission that I have given to UNC by signing this AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF NAME, IMAGE, LIKENESS AND/OR VOICE RECORDINGS.

I declare that I have read and understand the contents of this AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF NAME, IMAGE, LIKENESS AND/OR VOICE RECORDINGS, and I am signing it as my free and voluntary act, binding myself and my heirs, successors and assigns.

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Signature of student

Date

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Printed name of student

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Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

*(Parent or legal guardian must sign if participant is under 18 years of age and the signature of parent or legal guardian binds the Student, Parent and/or Legal Guardian to the Authorization of Use of Name, Image, Likeness and/or Voice Recordings)*

8/13/25 MHenry/AReyesUNC Legal Counsel



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN COLORADO

School of Nursing

## Authorization for Release of Completed Scholastic Assignments

I hereby give permission for my completed scholastic assignments to be used as examples by the University of Northern Colorado School of Nursing for the following purposes:

- For accreditation review
- For inclusion in future courses as a sample
- For curriculum committee review
- For agency feedback

I understand that my permission for such use by the School of Nursing is irrevocable.

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Signature of student

Date

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Printed name of student

*Rev 8/13/25 MHenry, approved UNC Legal Counsel AREyes*

**POLICY TITLE:**

**Writing References for Nursing Students**

**Last Revision/Review Date:** 11/30/21 NFSO  
**Previous Review Dates:** 10/11/93 VK; 4/98 LC; 11/27/01 DP; 5/08 DWL 12/1/16 FH  
**Original Policy Date:** 9/20/91  
**Sponsoring Committee(s):** School Leadership Team – Administrative Policy

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Providing references for current students and graduates is an important faculty role to support students throughout their coursework and professional career. Legal standards require procedure to obtain permission to write or submit references for students.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Students are advised on FERPA at orientation to their program of study and are provided an overview of the release of information form by the program coordinator. Students are provided an opportunity to ask questions before signing the release of information form.
2. The form is stored electronically in a tracking database (i.e., Typhon) or in the student's electronic folder.
3. Students must have a Release of Information form signed in their folder before sending any references.
4. Students must obtain faculty consent to provide a reference.
5. Faculty may place a copy of the reference in the student's electronic file; note student file folders are destroyed seven years after graduation.

# MyUNC

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MyUNC is your dashboard for managing key parts of your college experience at UNC.

Through MyUNC, you can:

- Apply for and manage financial aid
- Register for classes
- View your transcripts
- Access textbook information
- Explore your academic progress in Degree Works
- And much more!

To log in, simply use your UNC email address and password. It's your one-stop shop for staying on track and informed throughout your time at UNC.

<https://tinyurl.com/yc8fwpc>

## Academic Advising

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### **What you can expect from your Academic Advisor:**

Pre-clinical students are advised by a nursing advisor in the NHS Advising Center. They are available by email, phone, or one-on-one appointments. As a pre-clinical student, a PIN is required to register for classes. Once in the clinical program, your advisor is the Program Coordinator. Once in the clinical program, you no longer need a PIN for registration.

Your academic advisor is a critical contact person within the School of Nursing. The advisor is available to help you with problems you may encounter, or has information to give for a referral to other sources of help for student problems and/or situations which you may encounter while attending UNC.

You must see your advisor if you anticipate the need to drop a course or change your designated nursing track.

**University of Northern Colorado  
School of Nursing  
Undergraduate Nursing Major Student Handbook Agreement  
2026-2027**

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the policies and guideline outlined in this School of Nursing Undergraduate Nursing Major Student Handbook. I have asked questions to clarify anything I don't understand.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_