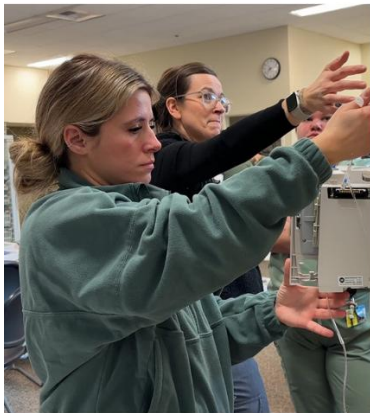




Nursing Student Handbook

2025-2026



We humbly acknowledge the many nurses who have come before us and to those who will follow after us, providing nursing care with humility, compassion, and love.

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Student Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint students with the program structure, the resources available and the program policies that will help guide students during their nursing education. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy at the time of printing; however, the Walla Walla Community College Nursing Program reserves the right to change any provision or requirement at any time. <https://www.wvcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/Student-Rights-and-Resources.pdf>

Diversity & Inclusion Statement

WWCC strives to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, not only because diversity fuels excellence and innovation, but because we want to pursue justice. Each of us is responsible for creating a safer, more inclusive environment. Furthermore, instructors strive to help create a learning environment that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). To help accomplish this:

- If you use a name and/or pronouns that differ from those that appear in your official records, please let your instructor know.
- If you feel that your learning is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please reach out or talk with your instructor or advisor. We want to be a resource for you.
- WWCC is dedicated to ensuring that all members of our community feel a sense of belonging and connection while they are participating in any institutional sanctioned event and while navigating all campus places and spaces. If you experience any issue rooted in bias or discrimination (whether intentional or unintentional) that makes you feel uncomfortable or creates an unwelcoming environment, we encourage you to contact your instructor. If you feel more support and/or resources are needed, we encourage you to contact Dr. Allen Sutton in the Office of Connection and Belonging at allen.sutton@wwcc.edu or 509-394-6421.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

WWCC is committed to ensuring that students with disabilities have equal access to participation in campus courses, programs, and activities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 as amended in 2008. If you anticipate or experience a physical or academic barrier based on your disability, please get in touch with the Office of Disability Support Services to discuss reasonable accommodations. You can find more information about the Office of Disability Support Services on the [DSS website](#), including instructions on applying for accommodations and contact information for your campus. If you've already been approved for accommodations through DSS, please reach out to DSS if you have any questions on how accommodations will be implemented in each course.

Contact Disability Support Services:

- Walla Walla Campus and Corrections: Kristen Duede, kristen.duede@wwcc.edu
- Clarkston Campus: Heather Markwalter, heather.markwalter@wwcc.edu

The Section 504 Coordinator is responsible for monitoring and implementing the district's compliance with state and federal laws prohibiting disability discrimination. Marco Baeza, Vice President of Human Resources/Title IX

Coordinator/Section 504 Compliance Officer, 500 Tausick Way, Walla Walla, WA 99362; marco.baeza@wwcc.edu , 509-527-1869, serves as Section 504 Compliance Officer.

Nursing Program Specific: Students are expected to advocate for their own accommodation needs directly to Disability Support Services (DSS). The nursing faculty and testing proctors are not DSS coordinators. If you feel that your disability accommodations are not being met, you will need to promptly follow the DSS procedure for reporting as described in their policies. If you do not follow the process for reporting your accommodations not being met, then unmet accommodations will not be considered as a reason for a program appeal at the end of the quarter. If you have questions on the DSS process, please reach out to your DSS Coordinator. For Walla Walla students, that is Kristen Duede, and for Clarkston students, that is Heather Markwalter. The DSS contact information is provided above, via a link in each quarter's syllabus, and in Canvas under the heading of Student Rights and Resources.

[Counseling Services](#)

[WWCC Counseling Services](#) offers free, confidential, short-term counseling services to enrolled students. We are here to help you navigate personal, social, educational, and mental health concerns that impact your academic success. WWCC Counseling Services has also partnered with BetterMynd to offer online counseling and unlimited wellbeing workshops to students. Please visit the WWCC Counseling Services webpage [here](#) for more information and to schedule an appointment. Please contact us with any questions.

The WWCC Counseling Services Team

Caley Moyer, LMHC - Walla Walla Campus - (509) 527-4320 or caley.moyer@wwcc.edu
Paris Davis, LICSW - Walla Walla Campus - (509) 524-4791 or paris.davis@wwcc.edu

If you are in distress or crisis and need urgent mental health care, please call (available 24 hours):

911 - call or text for emergency
988 - call or text for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a crisis counselor
Blue Mountain Health Cooperative in Walla Walla offers free, walk-in counseling services: 509-973-5788
Walla Walla Crisis Response: 509-524-2999
YWCA Crisis Line: Walla Walla 509-529-9922 / Clarkston 800-669-3176
Clarkston Crisis: 1-800-970-3785
Umatilla Region Crisis Line: 541-240-8030
Trevor Lifeline (LGBTQ): 866-488-7386
Trans Lifeline: 877-565-8860
National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

[Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Statement](#)

Walla Walla Community College District #20 (WWCC) is committed to providing equal opportunity for all educational and employment applicants as well as for its students and employed staff, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, including gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, age (over 40), the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, or status as a Vietnam and/or disabled veteran, National Guard member or reservist in accordance with the Civil

Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and any other applicable Federal and Washington State laws against discrimination. Marco Baeza, Vice President of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 Compliance Officer, 500 Tausick Way, Walla Walla, WA 99362; marco.baeza@wwcc.edu , 509-527-4382, has Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity, Title IX and Section 504 compliance responsibilities.

Reasonable Accommodations for Religion, Conscience and Pregnancy-Related Conditions

Students who will be absent from course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not affected. Such requests must be made to the instructor within the first two weeks of the quarter. For additional information, please see the college's policy on [Religious Accommodation](#).

Students who experience pregnancy and/or pregnancy-related conditions may seek reasonable accommodations. For additional information, please reach out to Marco Baeza, Vice President of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 Compliance Officer, 500 Tausick Way, Walla Walla, WA 99362; marco.baeza@wwcc.edu , 509-527-4382.

Warrior Tutoring Services:

Walla Walla Campus

In-person tutoring is offered in the Warrior Tutoring Services located in Building D, Room 280, on the Walla Walla campus. Their hours are **7:30 AM – 5:30 PM, Monday-Friday**, when school is in session. Tutors are available to help students with science, math, and writing classes, as well as other subjects. No appointment is necessary, just see the schedule board in the center for tutor hours and subject availability for the week.

Clarkston Campus

In-person tutoring is offered on the Clarkston campus in room 129 of the Main Building when school is in session. Tutors are available to help students with math, science, accounting, and nursing; see the schedule board in the center for regularly scheduled times. For inquiries about tutoring availability or to set-up an appointment, contact the Clarkston TLC Coordinator, Sally Madsen-Bouterse (sally.madsenbouterse@wwcc.edu). In addition to tutoring, each center offers free use of calculators, study guides, textbooks, microscope slides, anatomy models, computers with printer access, and more. The centers are equipped with computers, headsets, and webcams for online classes or general study.

Online Tutoring

Warrior Tutoring Services also [offers online tutoring](#). Go to this Canvas course and click "join this course" for more information. The course provides access to the tutor schedule with all tutors' subject expertise and availability, both in-person and online. For an online tutoring session, click the blue highlighted name of a tutor on the schedule, and then click the Zoom link on their profile page. More about tutoring and additional resources are also available in Canvas.

Send questions or tutor requests to warriortutoring@wwcc.edu .

eTutoring

eTutoring is a consortium of tutors across Washington state that are available to WWCC students and offer support in a variety of classes, including reviewing and providing feedback on written work. Tutoring is available 7 days a week from 5 am to 11 pm, Pacific time. Click the eTutoring link in the navigation pane of any Canvas course to gain access to tutors for specific courses and see their shared schedule of availability.

Warrior Resources Food Pantry Assistance:

The Warrior Resources Food Pantry is FREE and available to all registered students attending WWCC. The Food Pantry serves students with needs for food and other resources on a temporary basis and also offers connections to longer-term resources available on campus and through the community. The Food Pantry is located in Building J, room 320 on the Walla Walla campus. Please bring your student ID card to access these resources. For more information, reach out to the Student Resource Navigator at alexis.enriquez@wwcc.edu. For additional information regarding students' rights and responsibilities, please see the [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Notice of Jeanne Clery Act Required Annual Security Report

Walla Walla Community Colleges posts an [Annual Security Report](#) online. A printed copy of the Annual Security and Fire Report is available free of charge from the Safety and Security Department between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The report contains policies and procedures related to campus safety and security, three years of crime statistics and other additional safety information.

Tobacco Free Campus Policy

WWCC prohibits smoking, use of electronic cigarettes, and other tobacco use, as well as distribution or sale of tobacco, including any smoking device, or carrying of any lighted smoking instrument within the perimeter of college property. This includes all college premises, sidewalks, parking lots, landscaped areas, sports fields; college owned, rented or leased buildings on campus; and college owned, rented or leased vehicles. For more information: [Tobacco-Free Campus Policy](#).

While marijuana use is allowed in Washington State, it is still prohibited at WWCC. State marijuana law is not consistent with Federal law, and WWCC must conform with Federal law or risk losing Federal financial aid funding.

Support programs are available through the [Washington State Department of Health Quitline](#):
English Quitline: 1.800.QUIT.NOW | 1.800.784.8669
Spanish Quitline – 1.877.2NO.FUME | 1.877.266.3863

WWCC Nursing Program Technical Standards

The Nursing Program at WWCC prepares the graduate to function as a generalist nurse to meet the needs of a diverse population. To progress and graduate from the Nursing Program, nursing students must meet knowledge and skills competencies in the areas of Nursing Judgment, Patient Centered Care, Teamwork and Collaboration, Informatics and Technology, Quality Improvement, and Professionalism.

This statement of Technical Standards identifies the functional abilities that the faculty have determined to be necessary in the provision of safe, effective, professional nursing care. The Technical Standards are reflected in the [WWCC Nursing Student Learning Outcomes \(SLOs\)](#) and in the [WWCC Nursing Program Vision, Mission, Conceptual Framework](#) that are available for reference on the WWCC Website. If there are questions about any section of these Technical Standards, please contact the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, 509-527-4240 or jennifer.clayton@wwcc.edu.

Students with disabilities who have questions about or who may require reasonable accommodations in meeting the Nursing Program Technical Standards should contact [WWCC Disability Support Services](#). The nursing student must be able to meet the following Technical Standards independently, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Assessment and Observational Ability

Nursing students must be able to:

- Collect, use, and interpret information from physical assessments which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - detect changes in skin color or condition.
 - discriminate between abnormal and normal color of body fluids or exudates.
 - use diagnostic and assessment tools such as, but not limited to, blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, bladder scanner, automated vital signs monitor, and reflex hammer.
 - other modes of patient assessment in the context of laboratory studies, medication administration, radiologic studies, and other patient care activities
- Detect, interpret, and communicate sounds related to bodily functions which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - detect audible alarms with the frequency and volume ranges of the sounds generated by mechanical systems that monitor bodily functions.
- Detect a fire in a patient care area.
- Draw up the correct quantity of medication into a syringe.
- Read fine print such as medication and equipment labeling.
- Detect odors such as foul-smelling bodily fluids, spoiled foods, or smoke from burning materials.
- Detect changes in skin temperature and detect unsafe temperature levels in heat producing devices used in patient care.
- Detect anatomical abnormalities (changes in skin from air accumulation, masses, or fluid accumulations), palpate pulses and percuss/palpate other body areas.

Communication Ability

Nursing students must be able to:

- Comprehend, communicate, and document information in the English language.
- Communicate accurately and effectively with:
 - patients, significant others and spouses, other family members
 - healthcare workers, and other professionals in healthcare settings
 - instructors, supervisors, classmates, and various health or educational team members in both clinical and classroom settings
- Elicit, receive, and accurately interpret information from others:
 - collect, document, and convey relevant information to others.
 - learn, understand, and use healthcare terminology.
 - comprehend and follow directions and instructions.

- accurately record patient medical information, write, and manage patients' plans of care, maintain reports
- Present information in a professional, logical, and organized manner
- Provide patient education and instructions to effectively care for patients or clients and their families.

Motor Abilities

Nursing students must be able to:

- Perform physical assessments and diagnostic/therapeutic maneuvers necessary and required in the curriculum and of a future Registered Nurse
- Perform patient care activities, including, but not limited to:
 - insertion of urinary catheters
 - insertion of nasogastric tubes
 - insertion of intravenous catheters
 - hanging of blood products/other intravenous infusions
 - transferring of patients in and out of bed
 - ambulation of patients
 - turning and positioning of patients
 - moving equipment to various heights
 - recording the volumes in body fluid collection devices hung above or below bed level.
 - disposing of needles in sharps containers
 - accurately placing and maintaining position of stethoscope for detecting sounds of bodily functions
 - manipulating small equipment and containers, such as syringes, needles, vials, ampules, and medication packages
- Respond to emergency patient care situations in a timely manner and provide emergency care, including cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.
- Possess the physical endurance necessary for extended periods of activity that are required for safe performance in clinical and classroom settings.
- Demonstrate the ability to comply with all safety standards in all clinical settings, including, but not limited to, infectious control precautions (universal, contact, airborne) and use of emergency equipment (crash cart, fire extinguisher, evacuation chairs).
- Capable of moving within and among clinical environments without compromising the safety of others

Cognitive, Conceptual, and Quantitative Abilities

Nursing students must have the capacity to:

- Develop and refine critical thinking, decision making and problem-solving skills that are crucial for safe and effective nursing practice using, but not limited to, the following processes:
 - capability to measure, quantify, calculate, question, analyze, conceptualize, reason, integrate, and synthesize information in order to make timely decisions reflecting sound clinical judgment, and to determine appropriate clinical decision making.
 - interpret the clinical indications of evidence-based research.
 - learn from other individuals.
 - comprehend, integrate, and apply new information.
 - make sound clinical decisions.

Behavioral and Social Attributes

Nursing students must be able to:

- Communicate effectively, respectfully, and with cultural humility, with all individuals whom they encounter.
- Demonstrate behaviors associated with compassion, respect, concern for others, integrity, ethical comportment, sound clinical judgment, and accountability for their responsibilities and actions.
- Accept the supervision of an instructor and/or preceptor.
- Accept constructive criticism or feedback.
- Modify behavior based on feedback.
- Adapt quickly to rapidly changing situations/environments, to uncertain circumstances and to withstand human trauma and its effects.
- Correctly judge when assistance is required and seek appropriate assistance in a timely manner, exercise good judgment
- Function cooperatively and efficiently with others

Professional, Legal, and Ethical Conduct

The WWCC Nursing Program has the Core Values of Respect, Excellence, Integrity, Accountability, Caring, and Stewardship. Student nurses are expected to exhibit professional behavior, personal accountability, compassion, integrity, concern for others, and care for all individuals in a respectful and effective manner regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other protected status. Individuals whose performance is impaired by abuse of alcohol or other substances are not suitable for progression in or graduation from the Nursing Program.

Student nurses must be able to:

- Function within the legal and ethical principles of the professional standards of practice
- Display behaviors that conform to the ethical role of a Registered Nurse in all interactions with patients, faculty, staff, students, and the public.
- Meet guidelines established by healthcare organizations where they will be engaged in clinical experiences.



Brief History of the WWCC Nursing Program

The Practical Nurse (PN) Program began in 1958 and was offered through Walla Walla School District 140. Ms. C. Thomas served as director/teacher that first year. Ms. Lucille Kelly (1961) succeeded Ms. Ella Mae Taylor, who served as the program director from 1959-1961. In 1969, under the leadership of Ms. Kelly, an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) was offered through Walla Walla Community College for the first time. The PN to ADN concept of progression was begun in 1971. The LEGS (Learning Experience Guides for Nursing Students) curriculum was adopted in the fall of 1973 and utilized through June of 1990.

The program was originally accredited by the National League for Nursing in 1974 (now known as the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) and has maintained this accreditation to the present time. In 2017, the program received an eight (8) year continuing accreditation approval from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON).

Throughout the ensuing years, directors Pat Minnich (1980-1983), Marybelle Savage (1983-1986), Hulda Dierk (1986-1994), Marilyn Galusha (1994-2012), Kathy Adamski (2012-2022), and Dr. Benjamin Schultze (2022-2024) provided continued leadership of the program. Jennifer Clayton is the current Dean of Nursing and Allied Health. Kathy Adamski is the current Assistant Dean of Nursing and Allied Health and is the program's Nurse Administrator.

Originally, the classes were conducted in the old army barracks near Walla Walla Airport. In 1967 classes were moved to the old Walla Walla High School building on Park Street. In 1974, Walla Walla Community College moved to its present location.

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program offered through the WWCC Clarkston Campus began as a PN Program in 1958 under the direction of the Clarkston School District. Classes were conducted in various community buildings and the Whittier Building located at 13th and Chestnut. The program became part of WWCC in 1971.

Prior to 1983, Clarkston students wishing to become registered nurses moved to Walla Walla or transferred to another school to complete the required academic and ADN nursing courses. In 1983, the Clarkston campus began to offer academic classes necessary for first-year students continuing on to the ADN. Second-year ADN nursing courses continued to be offered on the Walla Walla campus. During the 1987/1988 school year, the ADN program was added to the already existing PN program at the Clarkston campus.

In Fall, 2007, the nursing faculty and students at both Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses moved into new facilities. These Health Science facilities contain advanced technology for the purpose of creating a new learning environment with a focus on simulation. Increased space for growth in student numbers is a primary need as the national and state nursing shortage continues to grow.

Several thousand students have graduated from the Walla Walla Community College Nursing Program during the past 55 years with many progressing to advanced degrees. In response to a nationwide initiative that encourages nurses to further their education by obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, the WWCC Nursing Program added the Associate in Nursing Direct Transfer Agreement/Major Related Pathway (DTA/MRP) degree in Fall, 2015. This transfer degree allows the WWCC nursing graduate to transfer to a RN to BSN program in Washington State with only 1 year remaining for that degree and selected other colleges and universities.

[Nursing and Allied Health Organizational Chart](#)

The most recent Organizational Chart for Nursing and Allied Health for 2025-26 can be found on the WWCC Website at [WWCC Organizational Charts](#)

[American Nurses Association \(ANA\) Code of Ethics](#)

The WWCC Nursing Program abides by the following Code of Ethics: Copyright 2025, American Nurses Association. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved. [ANA Code of Ethics 2025](#)

1. The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. A nurse's primary commitment is to the recipient(s) of nursing care, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.
3. The nurse establishes a trusting relationship and advocates for the rights, health, and safety of recipient(s) of nursing care.
4. Nurses have the 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.
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.
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.
7. Nurse advance the profession through multiple approaches to knowledge development, professional standards, and the generation of policies for nursing, health, and social concerns.
8. Nurses build collaborative relationships and networks with nurses, other healthcare and non-healthcare disciplines, and the public to achieve greater ends.
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.
10. Nursing, through organizations and associations, participates in the global nursing and health community to promote human and environmental health, well-being, and flourishing.

PROGRAM OF LEARNING

Nursing Program Accreditation

The Associate Degree Nursing Program at Walla Walla Community College at the Walla Walla, WA and Clarkston, WA campuses in Walla Walla, WA and Clarkston, WA are accredited by the:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate Degree nursing program is continuing accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program on the [ACEN website](#).

Nursing Program Approval

The Nursing Program at Walla Walla Community College is approved by the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON). WABON regulates Nursing education programs, sets standards to develop, evaluate, and improve nursing education programs, and ensures education programs prepare candidates for licensing and certification.

View the confirmation of approval on the [WABON website](#).



Degrees Offered

Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP (Direct Transfer Agreement/Major Related Program) Degree

Graduates who complete the Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP degree are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) exam to become licensed as a Registered Nurse. Passing the NCLEX-RN exam and completion of this transfer degree provide the general education and nursing courses for direct transfer with only one additional year of study to complete the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at four-year institutions in Washington state. While the agreements with baccalaureate institutions assure the transfer of credit, admission to a particular university program is not assured. Each institution has separate admission criteria which can be based on grades and other considerations.

Practical Nursing “Opt-Out” Option

(Please note: Practical Nursing “Opt-Out” option is not an ACEN accredited Practical Nurse Program).

The Practical Nurse (PN) is able to recognize and meet the basic needs of the client while providing nursing care under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse or licensed physician in routine nursing situations. Students who complete the first four quarters of ADN courses and associated degree requirement courses (through fall quarter, second-year nursing) and an additional 2-credit Practical Nurse Professional and Vocational Relationships (PVR) course are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN). If they successfully pass this exam, they can be licensed as practical nurses (LPN) in the State of Washington.

While WWCC Nursing Program graduates have a very high pass rate on both the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN exams, completion of the nursing program does not guarantee that the graduate will pass these licensing exams.

Nursing Program Outcomes (updated August 27, 2025)

1. Seventy percent (70%) or more of students will earn an associate level degree in nursing within two years (six quarters) of enrollment in the first nursing course.
WWCC 2-year completion rate for cohort entering Fall, 2023:
 - All graduates: 83/108 (77%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 54/67 (81%)
 - Clarkston Campus: 29/41 (71%)
2. The program's most recent annual pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) will be at least 80% for all first-time test-takers during the same 12-month period (January 1st -December 31st).
WWCC NCLEX-RN Pass Rate for January 1-December 31st, 2024:
 - All graduates: 91/100 (91%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 51/56 (91%)
 - Clarkston campus: 40/44 (91%)
3. Ninety percent (90%) of the nursing graduates who responded to the Nursing Graduate Survey will report being employed in nursing 6-12 months after graduation.
WWCC Graduate Employment in Nursing: June 2024, graduates
Survey response rate 40/100 (40%), WW 25/56 (44%), CLK 15/44 (34%)
 - All graduates: 40/40 (100%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 25/25 (100%)
 - Clarkston Campus: 15/15 (100%)
4. Forty percent (40%) of the nursing graduates who responded to the Nursing Graduate Survey will report being admitted to or having completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at 6-12 months after graduation.
WWCC Graduates in BSN Education: June 2024, graduates
Survey response rate 40/100 (40%), WW 25/56 (44%), CLK 15/44 (34%)
 - All graduates: 20/40 (50%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 14/25 (56%)
 - Clarkston Campus: 6/15 (40%)
5. Ninety percent (90%) of the nursing graduates who responded to the Nursing Graduate Survey will rate their overall nursing program satisfaction at ≥ 3 on a 1–4-point scale. (4 = Highly satisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied, 1 = Highly dissatisfied)
WWCC Graduate Program Satisfaction: June 2024, graduates
Survey response rate 40/100 (40%), WW 25/56 (44%), CLK 15/44 (34%)
 - All graduates: 37/38 (97%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 23/24 (96%)
 - Clarkston Campus: 14/14 (100%)
6. Eighty percent (80%) of the employers of nursing program graduates who responded to the Employer Survey will rate the Overall Job Preparation of graduates ≥ 3 on a 1–4-point scale. (4 = Excellent, 3 = Good, 2 = Fair, 1 = Poor)
WWCC Employer Rating Overall Job Preparation: June 2024, graduates, 14 responses:
 - All graduates: 12/14 (86%)
 - Walla Walla campus: 7/8 (88%)
 - Clarkston Campus: 4/5 (80%)

For disaggregated data and updates, please see "Program Outcomes" on the Nursing Homepage.

Vision, Mission, Philosophy, and Values of the WWCC Nursing Program

Nursing Program Vision

The Nursing Education program will ennoble the lives of our students and the profession of nursing in the communities we serve.

Nursing Program Mission

It is the mission of the Nursing Education program to:

1. Transform the lives of nursing students to fulfill the increasingly complex role of entry-level professional nurses in the provision of safe, compassionate, culturally sensitive, evidence-based, ethically grounded, and client-centered care;
2. Promote the well-being of a diverse patient population in the evolving healthcare environments of the communities we serve;
3. Facilitate academic progression of our students to the baccalaureate level and beyond to meet the healthcare needs of our communities, state, and nation.

This mission is accomplished in our nursing students, patient populations, and nursing profession by:

1. Providing a supportive, engaging, and progressive learning environment which fosters:
 - a. professional integrity, leadership, a spirit of inquiry and scholarship, collaborative practice, and a commitment to community service
 - b. development into the culture and profession of nursing through adoption of its values, standards, and codes of conduct, and by positive role-modeling of professional behaviors;
2. Preparing well-qualified graduates to meet the needs of a diverse patient population;
3. Collaborating with our community and educational partners.

Nursing Program Core Values

Respect: We believe in the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings and strive to demonstrate mutual respect, courtesy, and consideration in all our interpersonal dealings. We embrace diversity and strive to conduct our program with equity for all. We value collaboration among colleagues and community partners, recognizing the unique contributions of each member.

Excellence: We believe that excellence in nursing means never accepting mediocrity but always striving to do one's best in all nursing roles and deliver the highest level of quality care, first as students and then as nursing professionals. The ultimate responsibility for the development of this superior distinction is owned by the student; however, faculty inspire and cultivate the student's desire to excel by modeling intellectual rigor, a spirit of inquiry, and a commitment to the profession of nursing. The potential for exceptional performance is achieved in a friendly learning environment where diverse learning opportunities, creativity, and innovation – founded on evidenced-based teaching practices – encourage student engagement.

Integrity: We believe that integrity is the wholeness of an individual's character, manifested as consistency between thoughts, beliefs, words and actions. It reflects the universal standards of

honesty, fairness, accountability, moral courage, and professional ethics. As nurses and nurse educators, we choose to do the right thing because it is right, even when it is challenging.

Accountability: We believe that we have a duty and an obligation to:

1. maintain and advance professional competence
2. adhere to state nurse practice acts, regulations, standards of practice and ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements
3. assure quality nursing educational experiences
4. prepare nursing students to be safe and effective nurses
5. foster a sense of responsibility and accountability for the student's own learning and nursing practice
6. acknowledge when you do not know the answer or have made a mistake

In light of these duties and obligations, as nurses and nurse educators we are answerable to others for our judgments, actions, and results.

Caring: We believe that caring is a genuine concern for the health and well-being of another; it embodies a spirit of compassion which moves us to respond to the concerns and needs of those in the communities we serve. It compels us to promote, protect, and advocate for the rights and well-being of others. As caring nurses and nurse educators, we have the privilege of entering into another's life and making a difference.

Stewardship: We value and advocate for the careful and responsible management of fiscal, physical, and learning resources that:

1. promote student success,
2. maintain the well-being of faculty,
3. nurture the development of new nurse educators,
4. accomplish program outcomes,
5. maintain program accreditation,
6. promote the standards of the profession of nursing

We demonstrate stewardship of self by creating a balance between self and professional fulfillment.

Professionalism: We believe that professionalism is a combination of traits, skills, behavior and good judgment. Professionalism includes respect, competence, confidence, accountability, integrity, and etiquette. Students are expected to always maintain and uphold a strong work ethic and decorum whether in class, lab, or a clinical agency. Professionalism embraces the face that we demonstrate to the world while working and in school. It is the face that is present when we are stressed. Nurses by nature work in highly dynamic and stressful environments. Learning how to maintain professional composure is necessary while in school.

Nursing Program Philosophy

The program of Nursing Education at Walla Walla Community College embraces the vision, mission, core themes and institutional values of Walla Walla Community College and has aligned its vision, mission, core values and philosophy statement to be consistent with that of the College.

Humans are spiritual, mental, emotional, physical and social beings. Human beings, possessing free will and capable of growth, have the right to actively participate in the processes that affect their health and well-being.

Environment: The environment is an intricate network of internal and external factors that impact the health of individuals, families and communities. Internal and external factors include, but are not limited to the following:

1. An individual's cognitive development, beliefs, relationships and worldview
2. A society's unique and diverse cultural, ethnic, experiential and socioeconomic background
3. Social, political, and economic systems which impact available resources
4. Healthcare providers' experience and level of knowledge and skill

Health: Health is a dynamic state, ranging from optimal well-being to disease and death. At all points on this continuum, human beings utilize internal and external resources to attain the best possible health, create meaningful experiences, and meet life goals.

Nursing: Nursing is a dynamic profession that provides an essential service to society through its dual components of caring and science. Caring, the heart of the "humane calling" of nursing, embraces spirituality, healing, empathy, human diversity, mutual respect, and compassion. It incorporates communication that demonstrates respect, deep listening, authenticity, and trust. This, in turn, promotes health and healing and builds relationships between nurses and patients. From the caring perspective, nursing may be viewed as a delicate balance of promoting patients' independence and providing assistance during times of dependence.

As a scientific practice discipline, nursing requires the systematic application of knowledge from nursing and related disciplines, a synthesis of critical thinking skills and evidence-based practice, and technological expertise to design, deliver, coordinate, and manage the care for complex individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations in a multicultural and global society. The nursing process, which forms the foundation for clinical decision making, includes the components of assessment, diagnosis, outcomes identification, planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Nurses are witnesses to life's most profound events, especially when people are at their most vulnerable. As such, nurses serve as patient advocates. Through attentiveness to the dignity, value, and culture of their patients (individuals, families, communities, and larger societies), nurses provide direct and indirect patient-centered care throughout the lifespan in a variety of healthcare settings. Patient-centered care occurs within a framework of collaboration between patients and other healthcare professionals to promote optimal health, wellness and agreed-upon outcomes. The nurse fulfills functions of nursing, such as health promotion, health teaching, and health counseling, and uses appropriate resources to plan, manage and provide evidence-based nursing care that is safe, effective, and economically responsible.

Nurses are accountable for their own professional practice, functioning both autonomously and interdependently as a member of the healthcare team. They possess the knowledge and authority to safely delegate nursing tasks to designated team members, assuming accountability for all delegated care. Nurses must be prepared to provide leadership within their practice settings and for the profession as a whole. Nurses promote the image of nursing by modeling the values, standards, and attitudes of the nursing profession.

Nursing Education

The purpose of the Nursing Education program is to prepare graduates with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for licensure and to function as safe, effective, entry-level nurses. In addition, to respond to the increasing demands of a rapidly changing profession in a technological age, the program provides a pathway for nurses to achieve higher levels of education and training through seamless academic progression.

The faculty design and implement a curriculum and instructional processes which:

1. utilize current technologies
2. reflect educational theory and current, evidence-based teaching practices
3. focus on developing the critical thinking skills and the technical competencies that are essential to entry into professional nursing practice
4. are based on established professional standards and guidelines that reflect contemporary nursing practice
5. are guided by accrediting bodies and national/state governing bodies
6. are regularly evaluated through learning and program outcomes, and revised based on research evidence, the needs of a multicultural society, advances in technology, and the changing healthcare system

The nursing faculty have identified two theories of learning that guide their delivery of the nursing curriculum: Elaboration Theory (Reigluth) and Metacognition Theory (Flavell). Use of Elaboration Theory is observed in the Program's curriculum where simple/chronic/stable care issues are presented first, then the curriculum progresses to nursing care that is complex/acute/unstable in nature. Metacognition Theory is utilized by faculty as they teach students to "think about their thinking." This self-reflection forms the basis for critical thinking and sound nursing clinical judgments

Learning

Learning is a dynamic, interactive process that is accomplished best in a student-centered environment which nurtures intellectual curiosity and scholarly inquiry. The faculty, who serve as role models for professional character and caring/competent nursing practice, recognize that the educational process is a shared experience based on caring, respect, communication, and collaboration. As such, the faculty provides educational opportunities for knowledge acquisition (cognitive, affective and psychomotor), and professional role development while students are encouraged to become increasingly self-directed learners. Throughout the educational process, the student is taught to utilize the sciences, nursing arts, and legal and ethical principles in the provision of holistic care. Excellence in nursing, fostered throughout the program, requires the ability to reason through complex clinical problems, and apply previous knowledge, competencies, and experience to clinical practice.

Learning Environment

Faculty views each student as a unique person with special talents, abilities, needs, and aspirations. Cultural diversity, varying life experiences, and changing socioeconomic factors impact each student's learning experience. Faculty endeavor to provide a student-friendly learning environment that enables students to realize their fullest potential.

Education

Education is a life-long process that affords the learner the opportunity to develop personally, socially, and intellectually. The professional nurse engages in self-reflection and self-evaluation of nursing practice on a regular basis, identifying areas of strength as well as areas in which

professional growth would be beneficial. Ongoing professional development is necessary to maintain excellent nursing care, promote the nurse's growth, and continue the advancement of the nursing profession.

Nursing Program Conceptual Framework

Concepts

Nursing practice is an art and science based upon the six foundational concepts of:

1. Nursing Judgment
2. Patient Centered Care
3. Teamwork and Collaboration
4. Informatics and Technology
5. Quality Improvement
6. Professionalism

The concept of safety is overarching and integrated throughout the six foundational concept areas of nursing practice. In addition, concepts and learning activities progress across the curriculum from simple to complex, chronic to acute, and stable to unstable.

Student Learning Outcomes

Within each of the six foundational concepts, there are defined Student Learning Outcomes.

Upon completion of the first year of the Nursing Program, the student is expected to meet End-Level I Student Learning Outcomes. The student has moved from requiring instructor direction in all areas to having gained some independence in performance within the six foundational concept areas of nursing practice.

At the end of the second year of the Nursing Program, the student is expected to meet End-Program (Graduate) Student Learning Outcomes. The student has progressed to near-independent performance within the six foundational concept areas of nursing practice.

Competencies

A student's ability to meet the Level-specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) is evaluated using measurable Competencies. These competencies describe the characteristics of the Student Learning Outcomes in student-focused, measurable terms. In nursing theory courses, these measurable competencies primarily fall within the Cognitive learning domain (Knowledge). By contrast, competencies in practicum courses often fall within the Psychomotor learning domain (Skills). As the student masters the measurable competencies in the Knowledge and Skills domains appropriate to their level of nursing, they are simultaneously developing a deep-seated mindset consistent with professional nursing practice in the Affective learning domain (Attitudes). These competencies are often referred to as the "Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes or KSAs" that define the Student Learning Outcomes in the WWCC Nursing Program.



Nursing Student Learning Outcomes

Concept	End-Level I Nursing Student Learning Outcomes	End-Level II/End-Program (Graduate) Nursing Student Learning Outcomes
Nursing Judgment	Identify ways in which research/nursing science, current standards of practice, clinical experience, and patient preferences are used to make nursing judgments.	<i>Integrate</i> research/nursing science, current standards of practice, clinical expertise, and patient preferences to <i>formulate sound</i> nursing judgments.
Patient Centered Care	Plan and provide safe, holistic nursing care that is individualized to address patients' diverse preferences, values and needs.	Plan and provide safe, holistic nursing care that is individualized to address patients' diverse preferences, values and needs, <i>and respects their capacity as a full partner with shared decision making.</i>
Teamwork and Collaboration	Effectively use interpersonal communication and management principles when working with health care team members to promote optimal health outcomes and minimize risk of harm.	Effectively use interpersonal communication and management/ <i>leadership</i> principles when <i>collaborating</i> with health care team members to promote optimal health outcomes and minimize risk of harm.
Informatics and Technology	Use technology to obtain and communicate information, enhance patient safety, and support decision-making within professional, ethical, and legal standards.	Use technology to <i>manage</i> and communicate information, enhance patient safety, and support decision-making within professional, ethical, and legal standards.
Quality Improvement	Identify ways to improve the quality, value, and safety of patient care by using data.	<i>Continuously improve</i> the quality, value, and safety of patient care and <i>health care systems</i> by using data and <i>improvement methods to implement and evaluate changes.</i>
Professionalism	Demonstrate professional behaviors that are consistent with moral/ethical and legal principles, that adhere to regulatory guidelines and standard-based care, and which promote the profession of nursing.	

Nursing Curriculum for the Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP Degree

Program Requirements for Admission

Students may prepare for admission to Nursing Core Courses by meeting the minimum program requirements as outlined in the most recent Nursing Admission Guide posted online on the Nursing Program homepage: [WWCC Nursing Admission Guide](#). GPA requirements: 2.0 for all college-level classes.

Nursing Degree Requirements Prior to Beginning the Nursing Program (50 credits)

Applicants who have not provided proof of completing the following Nursing Degree Requirements before the start of Fall quarter will not be allowed to begin Nursing Core Courses. Minimum GPA requirement: 2.0 for all college-level classes.

1. BIOL& 160, General Biology w/lab (5 credits)
2. BIOL& 241, Human A & P I (5 credits)
3. BIOL& 242, Human A & P II (5 credits)
4. BIOL& 260, Microbiology (5 credits)
5. CHEM& 121, Introduction to Chemistry (5 credits) or other accepted Chemistry class
6. ENGL& 101, English Composition I (5 credits)
7. MATH& 146, Intro to Statistics (must have MATH prefix) (5 credits)
8. NUTR& 101, Nutrition (5 credits)
9. PSYC& 100, General Psychology (5 credits)
10. PSYC& 200, Lifespan Psychology (5 credits)
11. Show evidence of Nursing Assistant Certification or proof of passing the state exam for Nursing Assistants. Documentation of meeting the Nursing Assistant requirement is due to the Nursing office no later than September 1.

Additional Nursing Degree Requirements Prior to Beginning Year-Two Nursing (15 credits)

1. ENGL& 102, English Composition II or other Communication class from the distribution list (5 credits)
2. HUMANITIES from the Humanities distribution list (10 credits)
 - a. Humanities must be selected from at least two disciplines from the WWCC Master List of Transfer Courses, no more than 10 credits allowed from any one discipline, no more than 5 credits in foreign language at the 100 level, no more than 5 credits in performance/skills courses are allowed.

Nursing Core Classes (70 credits)

Year-One Nursing (32 credits)

Quarter One	Credits
NURS 100, Fundamentals of Nursing	4
NURS 110, Fundamentals Practicum	4
NURS/PHIL 140, Ethics and Policy in Healthcare I	1
NURS/PSYC 150, Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare I-II	<u>2</u>
Total Credits	11

Quarter Two:	Credits
NURS 101, Beginning Nursing Concepts I	5
NURS 111, Practicum I	4
NURS/PSYC 151, Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare III	<u>1</u>
Total Credits	10

Quarter Three:	Credits
NURS 102, Beginning Nursing Concepts II	6
NURS 112, Practicum II	4
NURS/PHIL 142, Ethics and Policy in Healthcare II	<u>1</u>
Total Credits	11

Year-Two Nursing (38 credits)

Quarter One:	Credits
NURS 200, Advanced Nursing Concepts I	5
NURS 210, Practicum III	6
NURS/PHIL 240, Ethics and Policy in Healthcare III	1
NURS/PSYC 250, Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare IV	<u>1</u>
Total Credits	13

Quarter Two:	Credits
NURS 201, Advanced Nursing Concepts II	5
NURS 211, Practicum IV	6
NURS/PHIL 241, Ethics and Policy in Healthcare IV	1
NURS/PSYC 251, Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare V	<u>1</u>
Total Credits	13

Quarter Three:	Credits
NURS 202, Advanced Nursing Concepts III	7
NURS 212, Practicum V	4
NURS/PHIL 242, Ethics and Policy in Healthcare V	<u>1</u>
Total Credits	12

Practical Nursing “Opt-Out” Option

(Please note: Practical Nursing “Opt-Out” option is not an ACEN accredited Practical Nurse Program).

Students who complete the first four quarters of ADN courses and associated degree requirement courses (through fall quarter, second-year nursing) and an additional 2-credit Practical Nurse Professional and Vocational Relationships (PVR) course are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN). If successful, they can be licensed as practical nurses (LPN).

NURS 195 Practical Nurse Professional and Vocational Responsibilities Course (2-credits)

This online course prepares the nursing student who has successfully completed through the fourth quarter of the WWCC Nursing Program (Fall quarter, second-year nursing) to be eligible to apply to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in Washington State. It addresses the laws and regulations that govern LPN nursing practice in Washington State and the standards for professional behavior of the LPN.

LPN to ADN Advanced Placement Program Option

Applicants with a current Washington State LPN license or a license from a state participating in the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) will be considered on a case-by-case basis for LPN Advanced Entry into Winter quarter (first year, second quarter of the program). Admitted LPNs will only receive credit for the Fundamentals theory and practicum courses (8 credits total), but will be required to take Ethics and Policy in Healthcare I (1 credit) and Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare (2 credits), which are two of the required classes for Fall quarter. These classes will be offered online and will be taken during Winter quarter, concurrently with other Nursing coursework. Evaluation of LPN applicants will be based on all application materials, including transcripts, work experience as a LPN, length of time the student has been out of school, and a preadmission meeting with the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health or her designee. LPNs who have been out of nursing school for more than five years are not eligible for Advanced Entry, but are welcome to apply as a first-time student. See WWCC Nursing Admission Guide for additional information.

Common Terms Used in the Nursing Program

Some of the terms and abbreviations in the nursing program will be unfamiliar to new students. The following are helpful comments and definitions (alphabetical order).

Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI): Assessment Technologies Institute LLC (ATI) provides supplementary online nursing education resources including assessment. A portion of the quarterly nursing student fees are used to purchase online access to learning resources and standardized computer testing administered through ATI. Students are supplied with ATI Review Modules (textbooks) and with online access to Skills Modules and other tutorials. A course syllabus provides specific information and instructions regarding ATI proctored assessments.

Assignments/Activities: All written assignments should include the student’s name, and the name of the instructor to whom the assignment is to be submitted. Assignments must be submitted to the correct instructor as directed on each campus. The student should plan for pre-class, in-class, and/or post-class activities that are associated with points. If a student misses an in-class activity, there may not be an alternative method to earn these missed points. Most

pre-class, in-class and post-class assignments are not listed in the syllabus and the student should check the Canvas online classroom for these assignments.

Canvas Web-Enhanced Classes: WWCC nursing courses have an online learning management site where class handouts, assignments, announcements, e-mails, and grades are posted. Students should check the Canvas website daily for updates.

Audience Response Polling: Many instructors use an Audience Response Polling system to ask questions of students during lectures. The platform for Audience Response Polling will be ECHO 360/ Point Solutions for which students will obtain registration information. Students should bring their laptop, tablet, or smart phone to every theory class to participate in Audience Response Polling.

ExamSoft: Most tests are administered via ExamSoft and the Exemplify platform. Students must bring their designated ExamSoft laptop computer for all exams. Students may not take online exams on tablets or a smart phone.

Independent Learning Modules: These written, self-directed, learning activities may be used to provide information and assist the student in their learning of new nursing skills.

Individual Conference Session (ICS): An ICS meeting is scheduled with the student's clinical instructor at the end of each quarter or clinical rotation. At this meeting, the clinical instructor and student review the assigned practicum grade. Instructions on how to schedule this ICS appointment are provided by the clinical instructor.

Nursing Theory Classes: These include NURS 100, 101, 102; PHIL/NURS 140, 142; PSYC/NURS 150, 151 (first-year) and NURS 200, 201, 202; PHIL/NURS 240/241/242; PSYC/NURS 250/251 (second-year). These are lecture classes to build your knowledge base in nursing.

Nursing Practicum Classes: These include NURS 110, 111, 112 (first-year) and NURS 210, 211, 212 (second-year). "Practicum" denotes hands-on experience in a real or simulated environment (practical work). "Clinical" experiences in a facility or agency are a part of the larger practicum courses. Clinical experiences are scheduled in various healthcare agencies (long-term care, hospitals and community agencies). The student may schedule an appointment during the quarter to meet with their clinical instructor for feedback and assistance in learning. If the clinical instructor is unavailable to meet with them for guidance, the student should contact their advisor or level lead instructor. Nursing Skills Lab activities, simulation, workshops, and independent learning modules are also a part of the larger practicum course.

Panopto™: Students can find recordings for theory content and some workshops under the Panopto Recording™ header in their Canvas course shells, technology permitting.

Simulation: Simulations are techniques used to replace or amplify real experiences with guided experiences evoking or replicating substantial aspects of the real world in a fully interactive manner. The techniques utilized are in various formats such as manikins, scenarios, case studies, virtual simulations, and debriefing to promote, improve, and validate a nursing student's progression from novice to expert. Simulation experiences are a part of the practicum courses.

Nursing Skills Lab: The Nursing Skills Lab is where the student will learn and practice nursing skills in preparation for client care at clinical. Nursing Skills Labs and scheduled Nursing Skills Practice hours and activities are a part of the practicum courses.

WWCC Accounts & Passwords:

- Everyone is required to activate both NetID and ctcLink accounts. Click on the link to the [WWCC website](#).
- **NetID Number:** provides access to the following services:
 - Wi-Fi access on campus
 - Student Email
 - Microsoft Office 365 Applications
 - Log into Campus Workstations
 - Library Services
- **ctcLink:** ctcLink is part of a statewide project that standardizes student information and related systems at all Washington community and technical colleges. ctcLink, in essence, is your student portal account. This account will grant access to the following services:
 - Canvas
 - Register for Classes
 - Academic Progress
 - Academic Records
 - Financial Aid
 - Pay for Classes and more at ctcLink Student Homepage

There are [Resources for Students](#) for basics on how to activate their ctcLink Account. When you have activated your account be sure to write down your new ctcLink ID number. The student should memorize their ctcLink ID number.

Workshops: Workshops are another format to facilitate the learning of theory and skills necessary for the practicum experience. They may be held in the Nursing Skills Practice Lab or in the classroom. Workshop hours and activities are a part of Practicum.

Email: Each student is issued a WWCC student email address (example: eddie.warrior@student.wvcc.edu). Students may link their Canvas account to their student email or their email identified in ctcLink. Faculty will primarily communicate with students by using the Canvas system. Nursing administrative staff will primarily communicate with students by using the email you identified in ctcLink. Students are advised to check both emails on a daily basis to avoid missing important communication.

ZOOM Video Conferencing: Zoom is a video conferencing platform. Instructors will use Zoom to create video recordings and/or connect Clarkston and Walla Walla campuses. **Since WWCC Nursing Education is not an online program, students may not join lectures via Zoom.** Technology permitting, faculty will record theory lectures for student access to the lecture content after the live presentation.

NURSING STUDENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

(in alphabetical order)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Cautions When Using Large Language Models (LLMs) and other AI applications:

Information generated by LLMs and other AI applications may be incomplete, irrelevant, infeasible, or inaccurate. These tools can present information confidently—even when it is fabricated ("hallucinations") or misleading. Additionally, AI-generated content may reflect biases inherent in their training data. Therefore, students are expected to critically evaluate and verify any content obtained from AI tools.

Information Ethics and Use of Course Materials:

Students must uphold the ethical use of information and maintain the privacy and security of data:

- Do **not** share or upload confidential, private, or sensitive information—including data protected under HIPAA—to any AI platform or third-party site.
- Do **not** upload copyrighted materials or content belonging to others, including instructor-created materials such as lecture slides, notes, assessments, and handouts. These materials are the intellectual property of the instructor and are protected under copyright law. (Zimmerman, 2022; UC Berkeley Library, updated 20-24).
- AI should **not** be used to complete quizzes, exams, or other assessments (unless otherwise authorized to do so by the instructor).
- Students are expected to submit their own original work for course assignments/activities. Any AI-generated content, ideas, or assistance must be clearly cited and referenced. Submitting AI-generated work as your own constitutes plagiarism, and is considered a breach of academic integrity. APA formatting is recommended for citing and referencing AI.

Responsible Use of AI as a Learning Tool:

AI can be a valuable learning tool but should never replace active engagement with course material. Effective use includes asking questions in different ways (rephrasing or refining prompts), thoughtful revision of outputs, and validating outputs with credible or evidence-based sources. Students using AI tools (e.g., for brainstorming, summarizing, editing, practice, etc.) must always do so with a critical mindset and commitment to academic integrity.

Consequences of AI Misuse:

AI misuse includes, but is not limited to,

- Using AI-generated content without proper citation;
- Submitting unoriginal work, even if the AI-generated content is cited;
- Uploading or sharing confidential or copyrighted materials, including instructor-created content.
- Using AI to complete quizzes, exams, or other assessments.

AI misuse constitutes a violation of academic integrity and will result in disciplinary action outlined in this syllabus and in accordance with WWCC policies and procedures.

Consequences for Violations of Academic Integrity

Any student found cheating will undergo disciplinary action (i.e. score of zero for the assignment or test, asked to leave the testing environment), up to and including dismissal from the Nursing Program. Consequences for violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are delineated in WWCC's [Academic Integrity Procedure](#).

Procedures for Alleged Violations of Academic Integrity

If a nursing instructor suspects that a student has engaged in prohibited conduct violating academic integrity policies, the instructor shall meet with the student to discuss the allegation(s) within five (5) business days of the date the instructor first becomes aware of the alleged misconduct. Since Nursing Education is a Team-Teaching program, this meeting may or may not include the full Level faculty. The instructor shall also provide the student with written notice of the meeting and the allegations at least three (3) business days before the meeting. For more information regarding WWCC's procedures for alleged violations of academic integrity, please see the [Academic Integrity Procedure](#).

Appearance and Dress Code for Practicum

Appearance and Hygiene

How a student looks, smells and behaves communicates messages to clients, families, coworkers, and prospective employers about the value the student places on nursing practice and the student's career in nursing. Clients and their families frequently judge the quality of care provided based on the student's appearance. Prospective employers note the student's appearance while they are in practicum agencies and may use this data in employment decisions.

The following expectations must be followed in the practicum setting:

1. Hair must be clean and professional in appearance. Hair color should not fall outside those shades which can be found naturally (i.e., pink, green, purple, etc. are not acceptable.) Hair that droops around the eyes, face, shoulders or into the work field is not acceptable.
2. Facial hair is to be neatly trimmed in appropriate length for proper N95 mask fitting and while clinical is in session.
3. Fingernails are to be kept clean and cut below the ends of the fingertips. Artificial nails, overlays, or use of nail polish are NOT allowed.
4. Freshly laundered uniforms are to be worn daily. Uniform must be properly fitted to ensure modesty.
5. Shoes and laces need to be kept clean and neat. Open toe shoes are not allowed.
6. Only one plain finger band and one small stud earring in each earlobe may be worn in the practicum setting. Other jewelry is to be left at home. No other visible body piercing (including tongue) is allowed in the practicum setting.

7. Tattoos considered inconsistent with the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses will require covering. The requirement to cover a tattoo at a clinical agency lies at the discretion of any facility. If asked to cover a tattoo, a student must comply with this request. Failure to comply with the request will result in sanctions including up to removal from the program.
8. While in uniform, the student should avoid odors that might be offensive to clients. The student is to abstain from the use of all scented personal products and all tobacco products while in uniform or professional attire. Foods with strong odors, such as garlic and onions, and any other strongly scented colognes/perfumes/ lotions should be avoided.
9. Students may not chew gum in the clinical setting.
10. Additional clinical policies may be enforced.

Dress Code

The student is expected to adhere to the following Nursing Program dress code or to the dress code of the specific community agency to which the student is assigned.

1. The official WWCC photo identification must be worn on the approved uniform top, lab jacket or warm-up jacket, and must be visible at all times. For student safety, all lanyards must be quick-release or break-away design.
2. White T-shirts or white turtlenecks may be worn under the uniform top.
3. White closed toe shoes, socks, and laces must be worn with the uniform. Open-heel shoes must have a heel strap. No open toed shoes at any time.
4. Regulation uniforms with or without lab jackets must be worn any time a student is in a practicum agency, practicum activities such as skills testing or simulation, or on official student business. Alternate attire may be worn in some specialty areas.
5. Head coverings should only be worn for religious observances. The head covering should be a solid color without adornment in either white or olive green to match the uniform.
6. Professional attire must be worn under a lab jacket (tailored-style clothes) if the clinical agency requires.
7. Non-uniform professional attire will be required for some community-based practicum experiences.
8. The WWCC Nursing Uniform should not be worn during non-school related activities.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance

Attendance at all scheduled classes, practicum and Nursing Skills Lab activities is expected. Absences should be limited to illness or family emergencies. Students are expected to notify the Nursing Office if they will be absent or tardy; patterns of attendance will be monitored. A pattern of repeated absences and/or tardy arrivals will be addressed by level faculty and may result in counseling and/or the issuance of a Student Success Plan or Special Concern.

Excused Absence/Tardy

For an absence or tardy to be considered “excused,” students must notify the appropriate nursing office administrative staff (Becky Manderscheid in Walla Walla, 509-527-4240; Debi

Schoonover in Clarkston, 509-758-1706) prior to the beginning of any theory or practicum class activity from which they will be absent/tardy. The nursing department representative may be notified at any time, day or night, via voice mail. Notifying individual instructors will not initiate an excused absence/tardy.

Unexcused Absence/Tardy

Failure to notify the nursing department (and assigned clinical unit if applicable) prior to a scheduled theory or practicum class will be considered an unexcused absence/tardy.

Criminal Background Check

The following requirement must be met prior to the first day of the fall quarter:

Washington State law (R.C.W. 43.43.830 through 43.43.840) mandates that criminal background checks be conducted on all students entering clinical agencies. This law also stipulates that any student nurse with a criminal history of “crimes against persons” is not allowed to work in a nursing home. Because clinical experience in both acute care facilities and nursing homes is an integral part to the nursing curriculum, students with a criminal history of “crimes against persons” will not be able to progress in the Nursing Program. Some agencies require copies of student background checks to be on file at the clinical site and/or require their own separate background check; copies will be sent to agencies upon request.

Criminal background checks must be completed through Americhек and Washington State Patrol prior to entrance into the first and/or second year of the Nursing Program, and at any non-traditional entry point. Long-term Care and other community agencies may also require a separate background check. The student will be responsible for all applicable fees associated with the acquisition of the criminal background check.

PLEASE NOTE: Students are expected to self-report, at any time throughout the program, any and all incidences that may affect clinical placement.

If a Criminal Background Check Report states that the student has been found guilty of a crime, has a deferred sentence, or is pending prosecution, the student will meet with the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health or their designee for counseling. Information regarding the crime will be obtained and compared to both the DSHS Disqualifying Crimes listed in WAC 388-113-0020 and the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON) Decision Making Criteria for License Application guidelines (2024). The student will be advised as to whether the crime will prevent them from being able to participate in clinical and/or continuing in the Nursing Program. Questions about whether the student would be eligible to be licensed as an LPN or RN in the State of Washington will be reviewed with Nursing Education, Licensing and Research staff at the WABON.

Nurse Licensure

Students will be provided with the following nursing licensure information:

It is important for students to be aware of these questions. The graduate will be required to answer YES or NO to the following questions on the application to the WABON. Similar questions will be asked on the Idaho application and will have to be notarized.

1. Do you have a medical condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?
2. Do you currently use chemical substance(s) in any way which impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? (Currently means within the past two years. Chemical substances include alcohol, drugs, or medications, whether taken legally or illegally).
3. Have you ever been diagnosed with, or treated for, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism or frotteurism?
4. Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances?
5. Have you ever been convicted, entered a plea of guilty, no contest, or a similar plea, or had prosecution or a sentence deferred or suspended as an adult or juvenile, in Washington or another state or jurisdiction?
6. Have you ever been found in any civil, administrative, or criminal proceedings to have:
 - a. Possessed, used, prescribed for use, or distributed controlled substances or legend drugs in any way other than for legitimate or therapeutic purposes?
 - b. Diverted controlled substances or legend drugs?
 - c. Violated any drug law?
 - d. Prescribed controlled substances for yourself?
7. Have you ever been found in any proceeding to have violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a health care profession?
8. Have you ever had any license, certificate, registration, or other privilege to practice a health care profession denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted by a state, federal, or foreign authority?
9. Have you ever surrendered a credential like those listed in number 8, in connection with or to avoid action by a state, federal, or foreign authority?
10. Have you ever been named in any civil suit or suffered any civil judgment for incompetence, negligence, or malpractice in connection with the practice of a health care profession?
11. Have you ever been disqualified from working with vulnerable persons by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)?

Grading

The Grading Scale

The grading scale for the Nursing Program is reflected in the following table:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	94-100%	4.0
A-	90-93%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	84-86%	3.0
B-	80-83%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3
C	75-76%	2.0
C-	70-74%	1.7
D+	67-69%	1.3
D	63-66%	1.0
F	0-62%	0

The point distribution for each nursing course is found in the course syllabus that is distributed at the beginning of each quarter.

Students must achieve a cumulative average of 75% on theory tests before any points for course assignments or participation will be considered in the calculation of the final grade. If a student earns a score below 75% on tests, that grade will be recorded as the course grade. All students must achieve a minimum final grade of 75% in both Theory and Practicum courses to progress. Points for grade administration purposes in theory and practicum are calculated to the one-hundredth place. **Grades, however, are not rounded up for the final letter grade.** For example, if a student's calculated grade is 93.95%, the earned letter grade is an A-, not an A.

Note: As evidence of professional accountability, students should demonstrate awareness that grades are earned by the student and not given by the instructor.

Tests

Tardy for Tests

Late entry to a test disrupts other students. Students are expected to take tests at the designated time, whether in the classroom, or if scheduled in the Testing Center on campus. Doors may be locked at the beginning of the test. Students who are late will need to reschedule

to take the test at a later date/time. The student must contact the Nursing Department before or during the testing time to be considered tardy.

Test Rescheduling for Tardiness and Absences

Any test missed due to tardiness or an excused absence must be taken within two (2) working days from the date of tardy or excused absence. For example, a student has a tardy or an excused absence on Monday when an exam is given. The student has an excused absence on Tuesday also. The student attends clinical on Wednesday and must take the exam either on Wednesday (day 1) or Thursday (day 2). Exceptions may be made as required for program scheduling. A workday is defined as any day the school is officially open. The rescheduled test time will be provided to the student and it is the student's responsibility to make the necessary arrangements to attend at the designated time. Details regarding test rescheduling will be outlined in the course syllabus. Failure to attend a rescheduled test will be considered a test absence **If a test is not completed within the specified time frame, the student will receive a score of zero (0) for the test. A test missed due to an unexcused absence will also receive a score of zero (0). However, the student is strongly encouraged to still take the test for learning purposes and to demonstrate mastery of the content.**

Point Deduction for Chronic Absenteeism on Test Day:

Upon the third excused absence or tardy, whichever comes first, for a scheduled test in a quarter (and for any subsequent absence or tardy from a scheduled test), a 5% deduction (of the possible test score) will be applied to the student's earned test score. Absences and tardies will be counted as a single category. Additionally, absences and tardies apply to all theory and practicum nursing courses collectively. This means that an absence from skills testing will also count toward the total test absences. Any absence or tardy from a retake or rescheduled test will also be included.

Evaluation of Medication Competency

Students will be evaluated each quarter of the Nursing Program to determine medication administration proficiency using assessments that measure knowledge of pharmacology, medication administration techniques, and safe dosage calculation. **Every quarter**, students will take a summative Medication Competency Test.

Under the broad heading of **Medication Competency Test**, there are **two (2)** specific tests:

1. Safe and Effective Medication Administration Test
2. Dosage Calculation Test.

Students who do not earn a minimum benchmark test score (see below) must complete a mandatory structured remediation and take a retake test.

Students who do not complete the structured remediation as outlined in the quarter's practicum syllabus and take the needed retake test(s) will earn an Incomplete ("I") grade and must go on an "I" grade contract. "I" grade contracts not completed within **three (3) days** into the next quarter will result in the conversion of the "I" grade from the previous quarter to a maximum of a C- grade in the practicum course and the student will **not progress** in the nursing program. The sequence of testing and remediation for the **Medication Competency Test** is summarized below:

- **Summative Medication Competency Test** as scheduled on a quarter's calendar:

- All students will take both portions of the Medication Competency Test, 1) the **Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test** and 2) the **Dosage Calculation Test**.
- Students who score less than **75%** on the **Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test** must complete the structured remediation before taking a **retake** of the test (see below).
- Students who score less than **90%** on the **Dosage Calculation Test** must complete the structured remediation before taking a **retake** of the test (see below).

- **Summative Medication Competency Retake Test # 1** as scheduled on a quarter's calendar:
 - Students who do not score a minimum of 75% on the first Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test **must** take this retake test after remediation is completed.
 - Students who do not score a minimum of 90% on the first Dosage Calculation Test **must** take this retake test after remediation is completed.
 - Students may need to take one or both tests. The highest score between the initial and retake tests will be counted toward the student's final grade calculation.
 - Optional: Any student who meets the minimum test scores may also take either test for an opportunity to increase their test score, however, remediation is not required. Students who wish to take an optional retake test must notify the Lead Instructor as specified in the quarter's syllabus.
 - Students who do not meet the minimum expected score of 90% on the retake **Dosage Calculation Test** **must** complete **another** structured remediation before taking a 2nd Dosage Calculation Retake Test (see below).

- **Summative Medication Competency Retake Test # 2** as scheduled on a quarter's calendar:
 - There is **no** 2nd retake for the Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test.
 - Students who do not score a minimum of **90%** on the 2nd Dosage Calculation Test **must** take this 2nd retake test after remediation is completed.
 - To ensure patient safety, students who do not achieve a **90%** on the 2nd Dosage Calculation Retake Test **are not eligible to attend clinicals in the following quarter until they have demonstrated minimum proficiency (90%) in dosage calculation**. Each clinical absence means that the student cannot demonstrate competency and may affect their ability to achieve a passing clinical grade and progress in the nursing program. Finding an alternative time for missed clinicals is exceptionally challenging in this fast-paced program and is therefore seldom rescheduled.
 - Optional: Any student who meets the minimum test score for the Dosage Calculation test may also take the 2nd Dosage Calculation Retake test for an opportunity to increase their test score; however, remediation is not required. Students who wish to take an optional Dosage Calculation Retake test must notify the Lead Instructor as specified in the quarter's syllabus.

- **Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test Score and clinical grade calculation:**
 - There are **formative activities/quizzes** to assess competency in Safe & Effective Medication Administration within a quarter.
 - Formative tests guide and enhance learning. (Quizzes are an example of a formative activity.)
 - The formative activities/quizzes will count as 5% of a quarter's clinical grade
 - There are **20** questions on a quarter's **summative** Safe & Effective Medication Administration Test.
 - Summative tests evaluate and measure student learning
 - The Summative Safe & Effective Medication Administration test will count as 5% of a quarter's clinical grade.

- **Dosage Calculation Test Score and clinical grade calculation:**
 - There are formative activities/quizzes to assess competency in dosage calculation within a quarter.
 - The formative activities/quizzes will count as 10% of a quarter's clinical grade.
 - There are **20** questions on a quarter's **summative** Dosage Calculation Test within a quarter.
 - The Dosage Calculation Test will count as 10% of a quarter's clinical grade.

End-of-Quarter Skills Performance Testing

Each quarter, students will randomly select **or** be assigned a specific skill at a scheduled skills testing session. Each student will have **10 minutes** to review their procedure form before testing begins. **Students are advised to bring their own procedure forms.** Students will be allowed a maximum of three attempts (initial test and two retake tests) to demonstrate a **passing performance** for the skill on End-of-Quarter Skills Performance Testing. There must be a minimum of one day (24 hours) between the 2nd and 3rd skills testing attempts to allow for a structured skill **remediation**. The final retake attempt should be completed by the last day of the quarter, as long as there is at least 24 hours between attempts #2 and #3 for remediation. **Points earned for skills testing will account for about 10% of the practicum grade in the first three quarters of the nursing program. For quarters four through six, please see the second-year syllabi regarding how many points are counted toward the practicum grade.**

To ensure patient safety, students who do not achieve a **passing performance** (minimum proficiency) in skills testing at the end of a quarter **are not eligible to attend clinicals in the following quarter until they have demonstrated minimum proficiency in the skill originally tested.** Each clinical absence means that the student cannot demonstrate competency and may affect their ability to achieve a passing clinical grade and progress in the nursing program. Finding an alternative time for missed clinicals is exceptionally challenging in this fast-paced program and is therefore seldom rescheduled.

Standardized Tests

Standardized testing for nursing, in the form of Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) tests, will be given throughout the program. Students have the option to remediate (complete ATI's focused review) and take a **retake** test at a pre-scheduled time. If a student chooses to retake

an ATI proctored test, the higher of the two tests will count toward the final grade. A testing fee is assessed each quarter that includes 2 attempts at each ATI test. See the list of Tuition and Fees in the Nursing Program Admission Guide for the fee amount per quarter.

ATI scores are reliable indicators of student potential for passing the NCLEX-RN and may be used to advise individual students. The results of these tests are one evaluation tool for the program of learning but are not a sole determinant for progression/graduation.

The Testing Environment

At WWCC, we strive to implement the very best practices in test proctoring to provide the most conducive testing environment for students. The testing environment will be monitored closely and maintained carefully by the faculty or test proctor. When a test is being administered, **standards of a testing environment** will be enforced to ensure honesty and courtesy to others. Students are expected to abide by the standards as described in the nursing course syllabus each quarter. Note: The testing environment is not distraction free, while proctors do their best to reduce noise and distractions it is not a distraction or noise free environment.

Activities & Assignments

For Theory Classes

Pre-class, in-class, or post-class activities/ assignments associated with points are assigned for theory classes. **Pre-class or post-class** activities/assignments are due on the date specified in Canvas. Please see the quarter syllabus for specifics regarding missed activity points.

For Practicum Classes

No points will be earned for missed **Nursing Skills Lab** activities.

To maximize the value of **clinical paperwork** as a reflective learning tool and to effectively assess Student Learning Outcome (SLO) competencies, timely submission is essential. Clinical paperwork, should be completed soon after each clinical experience and submitted by the due date/time specified in the practicum syllabus. Timely feedback is crucial for student learning and preparation for the next clinical experience. Submitting clinical paperwork after the due date/time limits the instructor's ability to provide meaningful feedback before the next scheduled clinical date. Thus, late submissions will incur a **one-point deduction** for every (partial) day past the due date/time. However, paperwork submitted after the next clinical date will not be accepted for evaluation, as it no longer serves its intended purpose. If you anticipate difficulty meeting the submission due date/time, please contact your clinical instructor **and** advisor to promptly discuss any support you may need to ensure timely submission.

Incomplete ("I") Grade

The grade of "I" may be assigned upon the request of the student and with the concurrence of the instructor. It is available only to a student who is doing passing work and has completed at least two-thirds of the coursework when a circumstance arises that prevents normal completion. Neither lateness in completing work nor the desire to do extra work to raise a poor grade is considered an extenuating circumstance. A student must contact their instructor and negotiate a formal agreement with the instructor specifying:

- The work completed by the last day the student was actively involved in the course
- The work remaining to complete the course
- The work required to complete the course must be finished in the subsequent quarter

- The grade to be issued if the work has not been completed by the end of the subsequent quarter

A student with an incomplete grade in a prerequisite course may enroll in a subsequent course. However, the student must successfully complete the required work for the prerequisite course and replace the incomplete with a grade that meets the prerequisite requirement during the first three days of the subsequent quarter. If the student does not complete the prerequisite course in the first three days of the subsequent quarter, the student will be administratively dropped from the class.

If a student does not make up the incomplete grade, the grade will lapse to the indicated grade on the contract.

Incomplete grades not made up within this time frame will be converted to the grade earned, but no higher than a "C-" and the student will not be allowed to progress in the Nursing Program and/or graduate.

Withdrawal ("W") Grade

Students finding it necessary to withdraw from a class or the College must complete an official withdrawal form and submit it to the Office of Admissions and Records. Withdrawals can be processed at the Office of Admissions and Records throughout any drop period. Students should refer to the Important Dates document to find the last day to drop (<https://www.wwcc.edu/calendar/>). **Failure to withdraw officially from classes may result in failing grades being assigned, forfeiture of any tuition and fee refund, and overpayment of veterans benefits, financial aid, etc.** Students will be responsible for refunding any overpayments received. The schedule for drop deadlines for 100% refund and 40% refund appear in the Important Dates document online at www.wwcc.edu/calendar.

Withdrawing from nursing courses at any time because a student is failing may impact their ability to return to the Nursing Program.

The last day to withdraw for academic year 2025-26 are as following:

- Fall Quarter: November 20, 2025
- Winter Quarter: March 6, 2026
- Spring Quarter: June 1, 2026

Grievances and Appeals Process

Nursing Education follows the WWCC [Instructional Grievance Policy](#) and [Instructional Grievance Procedure](#); however, the timeline has been shortened to meet the end-of-quarter grade submission deadline. A student appealing a faculty decision (including, but not limited to, the administration of a grade or Special Concern) must communicate this grievance (appeal) in writing to the Level Lead or designee no later than 5 instructional days from the time of a faculty decision before 5 p.m., or no later than 5 p.m. on the last day of the quarter in which the faculty decision was made, whichever comes first. If the grievance is with the Level Lead, the student must make the appeal to the Level Lead in the opposite year. The appeal must be filed with the appropriate form found in the Appendix of this handbook.

Grievances/Appeals should be related to a variance in program policy/procedure leading to the student's inability to meet minimum standards. Failure to meet course/program expectations and/or achieve the required points is not considered a valid reason for appeal.

All efforts will be made to allow the student to have the opportunity to present their grievance/appeal prior to the end of the quarter. However, it is possible that an appeal at the end of the quarter will go directly to the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health. The student may choose to be accompanied by a support person, but the support person does not participate in the grievance/appeal meeting.

The grievance process should be addressed in the following order or steps:

1. Students submit their appeal in writing to the Nursing Level Lead or designee no later than 24 hours after the last scheduled class of the quarter by 5 p.m. The Level Lead decision to a student appeal may be one of three responses: 1) yes, grant the appeal, 2) no, deny the appeal, or 3) refer the appeal to a Five-member Committee of nursing faculty. The Level Lead may or may not be a part of the Committee. Faculty from each campus should be represented within the Committee. Written responses to appeal decisions will be provided to the student within five (5) business days after holding the meeting.
2. If the issue is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, the student may file a **formal grievance** with the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health as outlined in the [WWCC Instructional Grievance Administrative Procedure 6040](#). The student must do so in writing within five (5) instructional days of receipt of the Level Lead or Five-member Committee decision. An instructional day ends at 5 p.m. The student's written grievance to the Dean must contain the specific complaint(s) and the desired resolution.

Alternate Plans: Inclement Weather and School Closures

Communication between faculty and students during emergencies and inclement weather is essential. Current students are automatically subscribed to WWCC Alerts via the ctcLink database for emergencies. Additionally, as soon as school closures are official, nursing faculty will notify students by posting closure announcements via Canvas and/or school email. Students are expected to frequently check the WWCC website and Canvas if school closure,

delay, early release, or emergency plans may be announced. If a college campus closes due to an emergency or inclement weather, the clinical rotations for that campus will be cancelled.

Invasive Procedures

General Information

During the Nursing Program, the student will be participating in Nursing Skills Lab activities in which learning by students requires the use of human subjects as part of the training procedures. As part of the learning activities, the student may be asked to perform specific skills or be asked to be the subject of specific skill practice by other students.

Learning activities that use human subjects shall be conducted under the supervision of the instructor who has been assigned to teach the course.

Before involvement as a human subject, a student must give informed consent. If under the age of 18, informed consent must be obtained from the parent or the legal guardian unless the participant is determined to be an emancipated minor. Invasive Procedure Consent form and Student Agreement for Use of Practice and Invasive Kits are located in the Appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook.

Benefits

The experiences listed below have been selected because they are skills essential to the learning process and the faculty believes that realistic practice is essential for optimum learning. Participation will enhance the learning process and the acquisition of technical skills. An alternative experience may not provide as realistic an opportunity to practice and therefore may result in less effective learning. Specific benefits are listed below.

Risks/Discomforts

Participation may create some anxiety for the student. Some of the procedures may create minor physical or psychological discomfort. Specific risks/discomforts are listed below.

Student Rights

The student has the right to withhold consent for participation and to withdraw consent after it has been given. If the student withholds consent, he/she will be required to participate in an alternative learning experience. If the student does not participate in either the planned or the alternative activity, he/she will not be able to successfully complete the course. The student may ask questions and expect explanations of any point that is unclear.

LEARNING ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC BENEFITS	SPECIFIC RISKS/DISCOMFORTS
EYE DROPS	Appreciation for what it feels like to give and/or receive eye drops	Minimal discomfort, temporary cloudy vision, allergic reaction, infection
FINGER STICK TO CHECK GLUCOSE	Appreciation for what it feels like to give and/or receive a finger stick	Minimal exposure/discomfort, bruising, infection
SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS	Appreciation for what it feels like to give and/or receive an injection	Discomfort related to use of a needle, bruising, minimal exposure to blood, infection
INTRADERMAL INJECTIONS	Appreciation for what it feels like to give and/or receive an injection	Discomfort related to use of a needle, bruising, minimal exposure to blood, infection
INTRAMUSCULAR (IM) INJECTIONS	Appreciation for what it feels like to give and/or receive an injection	Discomfort related to use of a needle, bruising, minimal exposure to blood, infection
INTRAVENOUS (IV) STARTS		Discomfort related to use of a needle, bruising, exposure to blood, infection

Procedure for Use and Disposal of Needles and Sharp Instruments

1. There will be no “sharps” (needles, IV catheters) outside of the Nursing Skills Lab. Students who take sharps outside of the Lab should expect disciplinary action.
2. There will be no “sharps” included in student lab practice kits that can be taken outside of the Nursing Skills Lab.
3. Sterile needles for use on human subjects must be obtained from the Nursing Skills Lab Educator or their designee and used only under the direct supervision of the Lab or other nursing faculty.
4. Non-sterile or outdated needles for use on manikins or injection practice pads will be labeled and kept separate from sterile needles for use on human subjects.
5. Needles used on human subjects will be discarded immediately after use in a sharp's container. Non-sterile needles used only on manikins or injection practice pads may be used for that practice session and then discarded in the sharp container.

Just Culture, Contracts for Success, and Special Concerns

Just Culture Philosophy

“Just Culture” philosophy provides a framework for the Nursing Program to consistently apply expectations for accountability and behavioral choices, while treating individuals respectfully and fairly.

The philosophy of “Just Culture”:

1. Places focus on evaluating the behavior, not the outcome
2. Requires leadership commitment and modeling
3. Distinguishes between normal error, unintentional risk-taking behavior and intentional risk-taking behaviors
4. Fosters a learning environment that encourages reporting of all mistakes, errors, adverse events, and system weaknesses (including self-reports)
5. Lends itself to the continuous improvement of work processes and systems to ensure the highest level of patient and staff safety
6. Encourages the use of non-disciplinary actions whenever appropriate (including coaching, counseling, training and education)
7. Holds individuals accountable for their own performance in accordance with their responsibilities but does not expect individuals to assume accountability for system flaws over which they had no control
8. “Just Culture” encourages discussion and reporting of errors and near misses without fear of retribution. It is a culture that focuses on the behavioral choices of the individual, not merely the fact that an error occurred or that a bad outcome resulted from an error

It is inevitable that individuals, including nursing students, make mistakes in today’s complex and interdependent healthcare environment. Most errors take place within complex systems; however, when errors occur, the immediate solution is to blame an individual for the error. Blaming individuals creates a culture of fear, discourages open reporting and discussion of errors, and does little to prevent future errors or improve the safety of the health care system.

When errors in student judgment or unsatisfactory student performance occur, the nursing faculty will determine whether the actions of the student warrant consoling, coaching, counseling, remediation, or disciplinary action.

Student Success Plan (Supportive)

Students may be presented with a Student Success Plan if they are observed to be encountering challenges in meeting minimum expected performance levels within a quarter. Identified concerns may encompass unsatisfactory performance or unprofessional behaviors. A Student Success Plan details strategies and expectations aimed at helping to resolve competency deficiencies within a specified timeframe.

Special Concerns (Disciplinary)

A student’s practicum grade or progression in the program may be affected by serious problems or repeated incidences related to unethical/unprofessional behavior and/or unsafe practice. Each “Special Concern” will be documented, discussed, signed, and dated by the student and instructor. When a Special Concern is being contemplated, the student will be notified of the issue and will be given the opportunity to provide information regarding the circumstance before the decision is made.

A student may receive more than one “Special Concern.” A grade reduction should be expected for each “Special Concern.” The amount of grade reduction will be determined on an individual basis by the level faculty.

Incidents that involve one or more of the following will be referred to level faculty and will result in a “Special Concern.” This may result in the student receiving a failing grade (F) for the course

and/or the student may be referred to the full faculty for consideration of dismissal from the program. See below:

1. Unsafe practice - behavior or errors in practice that could endanger the life and health of clients, self or others.
2. Unethical/unprofessional behavior - performance that violates the ANA Code of Ethics or the [WWCC Student Code of Conduct](#) . This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Sharing electronic healthcare record (EHR) login – sharing login information, including usernames and/or passwords, with another student or staff member.
 - b. HIPAA/Personal Health Information (PHI) – Printing, copying, reproducing, and/or sharing PHI in any manner (including on social media sites) and/or removing PHI from the agency. Printing of the Patient Profile/task list (may be known as “Kardexes”) may be allowed, according to individual facilities, while providing patient care. Patient Profile must be kept out of view of patients, families, and visitors at all times. Patient Care Schedules must be shredded upon completion of the clinical day, prior to leaving the facility.
 - c. Conduct that obstructs or disrupts educational processes or otherwise has a negative impact on the learning environment (see also “Ethical Violation” in the WWCC Student Code of Conduct).
 - d. Ethical Violation: The breach of any generally recognized and published code of ethics or standards of professional practice that governs the conduct of a particular profession for which the student is taking a course or is pursuing as an educational goal or major.
 - e. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty
3. Poor judgment - decisions that have the potential for interfering with client progress toward wellness. This includes inappropriate communication that could impact the psychosocial well-being of the client.
4. Faulty thinking - evidence of thinking patterns that have resulted or are likely to result in harm to the client and/or unsafe nursing practice.
5. Consistent inability to meet expected performance criteria - evidence of a documented performance pattern that does not achieve standards for safe/satisfactory nursing practice.
6. Irresponsibility - failure to accept accountability for actions that interfere with the delivery of healthcare.
7. Moral turpitude - conduct contrary to justice, honesty, modesty or good morals (Marsh vs. State Bar of California 210 Cal. 303, 291 P. 583, 584).
8. Falsification/alteration of client care documents - changing or falsifying patient information in the electronic healthcare record (EHR), (including copying previously entered data) or falsifying Nursing Program clinical written assignments, in such a way as to alter recorded information or documenting known false information.

Occupational Exposure and Latex Allergy

Nurses must balance occupational risks with providing quality care to all clients/patients. As front-line providers of care, nurses have an increased risk of exposure to potentially infected

blood and body fluids with blood-borne pathogens such as human immune deficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), Ebola, and other blood-borne pathogens.

The WWCC Nursing Program follows the Center for Disease Control recommendations that all healthcare workers should strictly adhere to the use of Protective Barriers and Universal Precautions as the most effective means of preventing exposure and transmission of potentially infectious secretions.

WWCC nursing students may provide care to patients with COVID-19 diagnosis, per clinical agency policy. However, they should not provide care for patients with other infections that require Airborne Precautions.

Protective Barriers

Protective barriers reduce the risk of exposure of the health-care worker's skin or mucous membranes to potentially infective materials. For universal precautions, protective barriers reduce the risk of exposure to blood, body fluids containing visible blood, and other fluids to which universal precautions apply. Examples of protective barriers include gloves, gowns, masks, and protective eyewear. Gloves should reduce the incidence of contamination of hands, but they cannot prevent penetrating injuries due to needles or other sharp instruments. Masks and protective eyewear or face shields should reduce the incidence of contamination of mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, and eyes. A fitted N95 respirator masks or a Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) would be required during Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs) or if a student is allowed to participate in the care of COVID-19 positive patients. Students will be informed of any additional Personal Protective Equipment and physical distancing requirements to be able to participate in on-campus or clinical activities.

Universal Precautions

Universal precautions are intended to supplement rather than replace recommendations for routine infection control, such as handwashing and using gloves to prevent gross microbial contamination of hands. Because specifying the types of barriers needed for every possible clinical situation is impractical, some judgment must be exercised.

The risk of nosocomial transmission of HIV, HBV, HCV, Ebola and other blood-borne pathogens can be minimized if healthcare workers use the following general guidelines:

1. Take care to prevent injuries when using needles and other sharp instruments.
 - a. Immediately activate the needle safety shield or place needles/sharps in a puncture-resistant disposal container.
 - b. Do not recap needles by hand.
 - c. Do not remove used needles from disposable syringes by hand.
2. Use protective barriers to prevent exposure to blood, body fluids containing visible blood, and other fluids to which universal precautions apply.
 - a. The type of protective barrier(s) should be appropriate for the procedure being performed and the type of exposure anticipated.
3. Immediately and thoroughly wash hands and other skin surfaces that are contaminated with blood, body fluids containing visible blood, or other body fluids to which universal precautions apply.
 - a. Use gloves for phlebotomy, IV insertion, or finger/heel sticks.
 - b. Change gloves between patients.
4. Practice hand hygiene between patients

- a. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water
- b. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers may be used if hands are not visibly dirty or greasy.

Any student who has any temporary or permanent condition that may put them or their clients/patients at risk, has the responsibility to notify their practicum instructor. Students with exudative lesions or weeping dermatitis should refrain from all direct client care until the condition resolves.

Management of Occupational Exposure

1. Provide immediate care to the exposed site:
 - a. Wash wounds and skin with soap and water.
 - b. Flush mucous membranes with water.
2. Initiate report:
 - a. Immediately report the incident to the practicum instructor.
 - b. Complete any clinical agency-specific unusual "incident report".
 - c. Complete the "Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident Report" and "Needle Stick and Sharp Object Injury and Body Fluid Exposure Report" found in the appendices.
 - d. Submit all forms to practicum instructor for appropriate distribution and follow-up
3. Activation of follow-up treatment:
 - c. The level of risk will be assessed according to agency policy.
 - d. Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) will be initiated based on risk potential and CDC guidelines at the student's expense.

Latex Allergy/Sensitivity

Chemical and/or latex sensitivity is a concern for anyone entering a healthcare profession since latex products are commonly used in these environments. Latex allergy is a reaction to certain proteins in latex rubber. Mild reactions to latex involve skin redness, rash, hives, or itching. More severe reactions may involve respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, sneezing, itchy eyes, scratchy throat, and asthma. Rarely, shock may occur; however, a life-threatening reaction is seldom the first sign of latex allergy (Source: [Latex Allergy Prevention Guide](#)) While the nursing program uses many non-latex products, it cannot provide a latex-free environment to students in either the Nursing Skills Practice Lab or in clinical placement sites off campus. Those with sensitivities can wear alternative vinyl or nitrile gloves, however they can still be exposed to latex residue of others working in the area or to latex present in equipment, models, supplies, or manikins. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the hazards within the environment where they plan to study or work and to take appropriate precautions.

Students may inform the nursing program of their allergy/sensitivity when they enter the nursing program using the Latex Allergy Alert and Voluntary Disclosure form in Nursing Student Handbook appendices. The student who contacts the Disability Coordinator on their campus may be granted specific accommodations for this. Irrespective of whether the student chooses to disclose their allergy/sensitivity to Disability Services, the nursing program will issue latex free supply kits upon student request. A list of products that may contain "hidden" latex will be posted for student review in the Nursing Skills Practice Lab. Students with latex allergy/sensitivity are encouraged to wear a Medic Alert bracelet.

Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism

All students must sign that they understand and accept the [Expectations with Regards to Plagiarism](#) form in the Appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook. By signing this document, students acknowledge that they have been made aware of the expectations and consequences of plagiarism while in the Nursing Program. The following resource gives students additional information as to what constitutes plagiarism: [WSU Plagiarism Information Tutorial](#)

Expectations and Consequences of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's work, including the work of other students, as one's own. People's ideas may be contained in written text, visual text, multi-media products, including websites, music, and written text.

1. A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge indebtedness whenever:
 - a. directly quoting another person's actual words, whether oral or written
 - b. using another person's ideas, opinions, or theories
 - c. paraphrasing the words, ideas, opinions, or theories of others, whether oral or written
 - d. borrowing facts, statistics or illustrative material
 - e. offering materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment.
2. Any student who aids or abets the accomplishment of such activity as defined in subsection one (1) above, as well as the student who engaged in the activity, shall face sanctions (disciplinary action) for violations of the WWCC [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Academic Dishonesty (aka "Cheating")

All students will be held accountable to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#). Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic conduct and integrity.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited to the following:

1. Giving and/or receiving unauthorized information from another student during any type of test or examination. Please note: Telling a classmate what is on a test that they have not taken is considered cheating.
2. Obtaining or providing unauthorized questions relating to a test or examination prior to or after the time of the test or examination.
3. Using or having in your possession any unauthorized sources of reference during any test, examination, or assignment. This includes notes written on paper, use of cell phone, or any Smartwatch (e.g. Apple watch) or activity tracker that receives electronic information or texts.
4. Fabricating ('making up') information is cheating. Copying work from another student is cheating. Copying or utilizing patient information from any previous clinical rotation and applying it to current clinical paperwork is cheating. Copying work from a previous assignment to meet the expectations of a current assignment is also considered cheating. Presenting information (quoting, paraphrasing, copying, etc.) obtained from a source (author, editor, journal, book, online, electronic media, etc.) without giving credit to that source, through proper citation, is plagiarism and unethical. All reference resources must

be cited. Any issues of suspected plagiarism, cheating or unethical conduct will be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration of disciplinary action including but not limited to Special Concern with course grade drop.

5. Copying work from a previous assignment to meet the expectations of a current assignment.
6. Engaging in intentional or unintentional **plagiarism**: Plagiarism is the act of using the literary composition of another's writing, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as the product of one's own mind.
7. Artificial Intelligence (AI): Refer to AI Policy.

Practicum and Nursing Skills Lab Expectations and Evaluation Procedures

Clinical/Nursing Skills Lab Expectations

It is the expectation of the Nursing Program that students will be assigned to and participate in all areas of the practicum experience. Clinical times vary and will include day, nights, evening and weekend hours. Travel is required and is the responsibility of the individual student. Instructors may make clinical assignment adjustments for a student currently enrolled in nursing support courses.

The faculty will arrange clinical assignments; students will not independently contact clinical agencies. Students who contact the clinical agency without faculty permission will not be allowed to rotate at that clinical agency. Clinical hours are planned to allow two (2) hours of experience for each hour of credit (exception: NURS 212, Focused Practicum). The hours scheduled for clinical each week may vary. Clinical expectations will be given at the beginning of the quarter/rotation. At such time the clinical instructor will supply information such as (a) what to wear, (b) where and when to meet, (c) what students must do to prepare for practicum, (d) specific practicum placement, and (e) practicum expectations. Orientation in each new clinical setting will be arranged. Clinical agencies may prohibit students from attending clinical if certain requirements (including vaccination) are not met.

Attendance (Absent/Tardy) Requirements for Clinical

In the event that a student is going to arrive late or is unable to attend clinical, the student must notify the appropriate nursing office administrative staff (Becky Manderscheid in Walla Walla, 509-527-4240; Debi Schoonover in Clarkston, 509-758-1706) prior to the beginning of the assigned clinical shift or other practicum activity. The nursing department representative may be notified at any time, day or night, via voice mail. Individual Clinical Instructor Expectations may also request the student to notify the clinical instructor and/or the clinical agency if appropriate. Notification of an individual instructor will not initiate an "excused absence". Rarely can a make-up experience be scheduled for a missed clinical or other practicum activity.

A student should not attend a clinical while ill or impaired. Instructors WILL ask a student who seems "ill" or unable to provide safe nursing care to leave the clinical agency. To ensure student and patient safety, students who have been under a provider's care for an injury, surgery, or temporary disability may be required to provide a Nursing Program Medical Release Form from their physician or other healthcare provider before being readmitted to clinical duty.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) @ [ANA Position Statement on Fatigue](#)

“Addressing Nurse Fatigue to Promote Safety and Health: Joint Responsibilities of Registered Nurses and Employers to Reduce Risks” describes nurse fatigue as, “Impaired function resulting from physical labor or mental exertion” and recommends that nursing care shifts be limited to 12 hours or fewer. This is a patient safety concern.

Students are expected to attend a minimum of 75% of the available clinical hours to avoid a Special Concern with an automatic grade reduction and/or non-progression grade. The student is directed to the quarterly syllabus for the practicum course for additional information.

Attendance (Absence/Tardy) Requirements for the Nursing Skills Lab

Absence policies for the Nursing Skills Lab activities may be found in course syllabi. If unable to attend a Nursing Skills Lab, the student must notify the nursing department representative prior to the beginning of the assigned lab. Students will be held accountable for missed Nursing Skills Lab content.

Practicum Evaluation

Students who are unprepared for clinical may be sent home and/or to the Nursing Skills Lab. Competency for learned skills must be maintained. Students are expected to go to the Nursing Skills Lab for needed practice to ensure a safe level of performance.

Practicum courses are graded according to written criteria provided to the student at the beginning of each quarter. Evaluation methods may include observations by clinical instructors, clinical experience logs or journals, nursing care plans, case studies, participation in post-conference, Pharmacology and Medication Competency tests, and scheduled testing in the Nursing Skills Lab.

Late practicum assignments will receive a one-point deduction per day:

1. Written clinical assignments that are either submitted after the due date/time, or have been submitted in an incomplete form, will receive a one-point deduction per day (including Saturday/Sunday), until all documents are received. Clinical written assignments may be submitted on weekends electronically as instructed.

Faculty will meet with each student as needed to identify problems and/or potential corrective measures. Each student meets with faculty at the end of a clinical rotation and/or at the end of course for an Individual Conference Session (ICS) to review the student’s attainment of the course objectives and Student Learning Outcomes.

Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident Procedure

Any student who has an Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident (medication error/near miss, patient or student injury, etc.) must notify the clinical instructor immediately and complete both the clinical agency’s incident report form and the Nursing Program’s Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident Report (found in the appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook). If the Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident involved a needle stick, sharp object injury, and/or body fluid exposure, a Needle Stick and Sharp Object and Body Fluid Exposure Report (also found in the appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook) will also be completed. The clinical instructor will supervise and assist the student in the completion of any clinical agency or Nursing Program incident reports. All Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident Reports and Needle Stick Reports will be kept on file in the Nursing Program office.

Legal Responsibilities

The student is legally responsible for practicing within the student's current scope and level of education. This level is determined by how other students at the same level of nursing would be expected to act in a similar situation. Students will work under the direct supervision of faculty and/or assigned staff members at the discretion of the practicum instructor.

Progression and Exit from the Nursing Program

Progression

Progression in the Nursing Program is dependent upon the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA), which is based on a 4.0 scale. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 is required by Walla Walla Community College for a student to graduate. Likewise, a minimum grade of "C" (2.0) is required in all nursing and support courses for progression in the Nursing Program.

1. Students must complete identified support courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better by the end of the specified quarter to progress to the next quarter in the Nursing Program.
2. All nursing courses through fall quarter, second-year nursing, and the NURS 195 Practical Nurse Professional and Vocational Relationships course must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better to be eligible to take the NCLEX-PN exam.
3. All required support courses and first- and second-year nursing courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better to earn an Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP Nursing degree and to be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN examination.
4. Students are strongly encouraged to keep their advisor informed concerning aspects of their personal lives which may impact their academic performance.
5. Students are strongly encouraged to seek assistance from nursing advisor/ faculty members concerning strategies for improvement in theory or practicum performance.

Exit from the Nursing Program

When a student exits the Nursing Program, the Nursing faculty will follow the WWCC grading policy in assigning a grade. The lead instructor or designee shall conduct an Exit Interview and complete an Exit Interview form. A copy of the signed Exit Interview form will be given to the student. Should a student refuse to participate in the Exit Interview, a copy of the completed Exit Interview form will be sent to the student's WWCC email address. Refusing to participate in an Exit Interview may be considered by the Nursing Admission and Progression Committee should the student apply for readmission to the Nursing Program. The original copy will be signed by the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health and will remain in the student's permanent file within the nursing department.

Re-admission to the Nursing Program

Students seeking readmission must comply with all requirements as stated in the Nursing Admission Guide that is effective for the year to which they are applying. Readmission is based on space-available, the score on the Nursing Admission Rating and Point System, and the student's performance. The applications will be reviewed by the Nursing Admission and Progression Committee and readmission is not guaranteed.

Students who exit due to academic failure may be eligible to repeat the program one time.

As part of the readmission review process, the committee will review the student's performance as reflected in the transcript grades, and any prior Student Success Plans and Student Special Concern forms on file. These documents will be considered when determining readmission eligibility and may impact the decision, including the possibility of prohibiting re-entry.

Should a student repeat a theory course (i.e., NURS 100/140/150) to improve his/her grade, they must also repeat the practicum course offered concurrently (i.e., NURS 110). Likewise, should a student need to repeat a practicum course (i.e. NURS 110) to improve their grade, they must also repeat the theory course offered concurrently (i.e., NURS 100/140/150).

If the student has been out of the Nursing Program for more than two (2) years, they are required to repeat previously completed courses.

Dismissal from the Nursing Program, for reasons other than academic failure, will be reviewed by the Nursing Admission and Progression Committee and will likely prevent a student's readmission.

Returning Students or Transfer Students Entering After Fall Quarter, First-Year Nursing

Students who are returning to or transferring into the WWCC Nursing Program will be required to demonstrate the following:

- Competency (passing performance) in nursing skills taught in quarters prior to entry/re-entry must be assessed. **Students must pass Skills Performance Testing before they may attend clinical.** For returning students, the Admission Progression Committee will have the discretion of requiring additional skills testing based on exit interview recommendations.
- Proficiency on the previous quarter's summative **Safe & Effective Medication Administration and Dosage Calculation tests.**

Testing will be completed by Level Leads or their designees. See the Appendix for further information on Skills and Medication Competency for Returning or Transfer Students.

Required Documentation

The following requirements must be met prior to the first day of the Fall Quarter:

PLEASE NOTE: STUDENTS MAY NOT ATTEND ANY NURSING CLASSES WITHOUT HAVING COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS: TB SCREENING, VACCINATIONS, CPR, AND PROOF OF HEALTH INSURANCE. Students are expected to maintain full compliance in Complio® at ALL times while enrolled in the Nursing Program. Failure to do so will result in being disallowed to participate in clinical shifts, which may lead to non-progression in the program. Compliance requirements are as follows:

1. Tuberculosis Screening and Vaccines/Immunizations
 - a. Annual Tuberculosis screening: Initial two-step skin test and annual skin test thereafter, *or* annual QuantiFERON® blood test. Clarkston campus second-year

- students ONLY are REQUIRED to obtain the QuantiFERON® test due to clinical site requirements.
- b. Varicella (Chicken Pox): Documentation of 2 doses of vaccine or laboratory evidence of immunity.
 - c. Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR): Documentation of 2 doses of vaccine or laboratory evidence of immunity.
 - d. Tetanus-Diphtheria-acellular Pertussis (TDaP) vaccination with a Td booster every ten (10) years.
 - e. Hepatitis B vaccinations and post-vaccination titer (documentation of 1st injection required by the first day of fall quarter; series and titer must remain on schedule and be completed prior to entering the second year).
 - f. Influenza vaccine (required annually).
 - g. COVID-19 vaccination is optional; documentation is not. Students must submit documentation of *either* the most up to date COVID-19 vaccination, *or* a declination form as required by each clinical agency.
2. Health Insurance Requirement: All students are required to provide proof of personal health insurance with a minimum of catastrophic health insurance coverage.
 3. Valid American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS-CPR) certification. It is highly recommended that students have a BLS card that is valid through June 15 of the year they graduate to prevent having to renew mid-year.
 4. Annual Drug Screening: Required within 30 days of the start of Fall quarter clinicals, or within 30 days of the start of clinicals for the quarter of re-entry for a returning student.
 5. HIPAA Certification: First-year students will complete HIPAA training at the beginning of Fall quarter.

Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Professional Behavior

Student Rights

As noted in the WWCC Nursing Student Handbook, each student has the right to expect a campus climate in which all students:

1. Are given the opportunity and encouragement to succeed
2. Are treated with dignity and respect
3. Demonstrate good manners and courtesies
4. Are safe from sexual harassment and discrimination
5. Are free to ask for help

Student Responsibilities

In addition to rights, each student has a responsibility to:

1. Support a learning environment that provides opportunities for all students to succeed
2. Prepare mentally and physically to be the best they can be
3. Treat all student and staff with dignity and respect
4. Exhibit good manners and common courtesies at all times
5. Serve as a positive role model for less experienced students
6. Respect the property and space of others

7. Help keep the campus litter free
8. Refrain from swearing and using any inappropriate communication
9. Read and abide by the college rules in the WWCC Student Handbook
10. Be accountable for their own actions

Professionalism

The WWCC nursing program has the responsibility to ensure students demonstrate the inherent values of professionalism. Students must understand that to practice in the health professions is a privilege and with that privilege comes the responsibility to uphold the trust that society has placed in the nursing profession. In accordance with the professional standards outlined by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), nursing students are expected to demonstrate behaviors consistent with accountability, integrity, and ethical practice in all academic, laboratory, and clinical settings.

Violations or failure to meet professional expectations may result in formal corrective action, which can include, but is not limited to, written warnings, remediation, probation, or removal from a course or clinical experience. Serious or repeated violations may result in a failure to progress in the program and may render the student ineligible for future reentry.

Continued enrollment in the program requires students to consistently meet the behavioral and professional standards essential to the safe, effective, and ethical practice of nursing. Professional codes of conduct violations will be referred to the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health for immediate review.

Professional Behavior Expectations

Students enrolled in the nursing program are expected to demonstrate professional behavior and judgment at all times, both in academic settings and during clinical practice. Integrity, accountability, and adherence to ethical and professional standards are essential competencies in nursing education and practice.

Professionalism directly influences patient safety, quality of care, effective communication, and team collaboration. Therefore, behaviors that compromise these standards may result in a Student Success Form or a Special Concern report, with consequences that may include a course grade reduction and/or failure to meet course expectations leading to dismissal from the program.

Students should anticipate a Special Concern with a possible letter grade drop and/or dismissal from the course or program for behaviors including, but not limited to the following:

1. Falsification of documentation or entries in the Electronic Health Record (EHR)
2. Forgery of an instructor's or licensed healthcare professional's signature
3. Lying, deception, or academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams or assignments)
4. False accusations or statements against others
5. Failure to demonstrate personal accountability, including but not limited to:
 - a. Making excuses for errors or outcomes
 - b. Blaming others or circumstances for personal performance or responsibilities

6. Disruptive behavior or creating a hostile environment in academic, clinical, or lab settings
7. Theft or misappropriation of property belonging to the college, clinical agency, staff, or peers
8. Plagiarism: submission of uncited work that is not the student's own, including AI assisted work, and/or the student's own work from any previous assignments
9. Performing clinical skills outside the student's approved scope of practice as a nursing student.
10. Violation of patient confidentiality or HIPAA regulations
11. Sharing or discussing personal matters with patients or families in a manner that is unprofessional or inappropriate
12. Initiating or engaging in social or romantic relationships with patients or their family members
 - a. Students are prohibited from initiating or continuing any social/romantic contact with individuals with whom they had a nurse/patient relationship during the program, and for a minimum of one year after, per the ANA Nurses Code of Ethics.
13. Refusal to follow instructions from faculty members, clinical instructors or agency staff
 - a. Requiring repeated redirection or failing to engage in assigned patient care tasks
14. Threats of violence, intimidation, or retaliation in any form
15. Use of abusive, harassing, uncivil or inappropriate language or behavior in verbal, written, digital, or other formats directed toward peers, faculty, staff, or agency personnel
16. Sharing individual login credentials for electronic health record systems (EHR) or other secure systems
17. Copying, photographing, or removing Protected Health Information (PHI) from clinical settings
18. Violations of the ANA Code of Ethics or nursing professional standards of conduct
19. Failure to report known safety and ethical violations or errors in care to appropriate faculty or agency personnel
20. Use of social media to post unprofessional, confidential, or inappropriate content related to academic or clinical settings

Social Media Use

Students should be aware that using internet social networking sites (including, but not limited to, Facebook, X, Instagram and/or TikTok) to discuss classmates, instructors, or the Nursing Program is unacceptable. Sharing ANY patient information or clinical experiences/stories outside of the classroom setting may be a HIPAA violation and is grounds for disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the course and/or Nursing Program. Students will sign acceptance of this expectation on the Student Affirmation Form in the appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook.

Netiquette Expectations

The etiquette guidelines that govern behavior when communicating on the internet or the electronic classroom environment are known as "Netiquette." Such behavior is essential to the integrity of the academic environment and the free exchange of ideas. To keep electronic communication professional, nursing students are expected to follow the rules of netiquette

listed below in their electronic communications, including discussion forums, chat services, email, and social media.

1. Respect the opinions of others. A robust discussion may have disagreements but should not deteriorate into a personal attack on faculty, peers, or institutions. The subject under discussion is always the content of the idea and not the characteristics of the person expressing that idea.
2. Avoid offensive, rude, and sarcastic messages. If you receive a message of this nature, do not respond in the same tone. If this type of communication continues from someone, notify your nursing faculty.
3. Do not respond to others electronically when you are angry or upset; leave it in draft form and review it later after you are calmer.
4. Remember that using all capital letters or numerous exclamation points implies you are yelling at the reader.

Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices, including computers and cell phones, may only be used in the learning environment for learning purposes and with professional courtesy. Use of computers during class for personal “surfing the web” or social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.) is distracting to classmates and the student may be asked to leave class. Cell phone volume/vibration must be turned off. Emergency messages may be routed through the nursing department contact number. Cell phones or other recording devices may not be used in the clinical environment.

Students may use only simple, non-programmable calculators during testing if allowed. Cell phones may not be used as a calculator during testing. Calculators may not be shared between students during testing.

Possession of any cell phone or wearing of any Smartwatch (e.g. Apple watch) or activity tracker that receives electronic information or texts is prohibited during tests and test reviews (including ATI tests and Skills Performance Testing).

Consent for Electronic Recording/Video of Communication

Students may not record faculty or peers without their express consent. Consent for photography or videotaping of nursing students will be obtained by the Nursing Program for any photos or recordings used in the learning environment. Students should refuse to be videotaped by others (patients, family, etc.) in the clinical environment.

Unauthorized Children on Campus

To avoid an unsafe situation and/or disruption of the learning environment, children are not allowed to attend classes with their parents or caretaker. If children are present, the parent or caretaker will be asked to leave class. An exception is made for breastfeeding mothers and a lactation room is available on both the Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses.

Animals on Campus

For the policy on service animals, see: [Service Animal Policy on Campus](#)

Safe Medication Administration by Nursing Students

Safe Medication Administration by Nursing Students

As stated in the WWCC Nursing Program Conceptual Framework, the concept of Safety is overarching and integrated throughout the six foundational concept areas of nursing practice. Patient safety is the primary concern for any medication administration performed by nursing students. As such, the following procedures will be followed to ensure safe medication administration.

Orientation to Safe Medication Administration

Students will be provided with both theory and clinical learning experiences related to safe medication administration appropriate to their level of education. Simulated experiences with medication administration skills will be satisfactorily completed in the Skills Practice Lab before a student is allowed to administer medications in the clinical environment with supervision. Students must always be supervised by a licensed nurse/licensed respiratory therapist for any medication administration to a patient. Student orientation to safe medication administration will include, but is not limited to, the following simulated learning experiences:

1. Correct reading and interpretation of a medication order
2. Safe identification of the patient
3. Routes of medication administration, including the nursing judgment required to safely implement the routes of medication administration
4. Safe use of Automated Drug Dispensing Devices (ADDDs) and other medication dispensing systems
5. Processes for administration of controlled substances, medication wastage, and monitoring for drug diversion
6. Medication reconciliation procedures
7. Accurate dosage calculation
8. Correct documentation of medication administration

Students will complete training on ADDDs using an online tutorial and on “SmartCarts,” in the Nursing Skills Lab prior to the use of such in the clinical setting. In addition, students may receive an on-site orientation(s) to agency-specific ADDDs, with supervision, by a licensed nurse (instructor or preceptor). Information regarding safe medication administration procedures will be provided in the instructor’s Clinical Expectations document and/or on the online Learning Management System (e.g., Canvas), and will be available via the clinical agency’s Policies and Procedures. Students may not legally sign for wastage of controlled substances. Signing for the wastage of controlled substances is outside the scope of practice of student nurses.

Evaluation of Medication Competency

The Medication Competency Test is a multiple-choice/multiple-response/fill-in-the blank test. It is separated into two components: 1) Safe and Effective Medication Administration, and 2) Dosage Calculation. Students will be evaluated each quarter of the Nursing Program to determine medication administration proficiency by the use of formative and summative exams that measure knowledge of pharmacology, medication administration techniques, and safe dosage calculation. See “Grading” policy for a complete description of the evaluation and testing of Medication Competency.

Documentation of Student Medication Errors and Alleged Diversion

As mandated by the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON), the Nursing Program will complete documentation of actual student medication errors (or potential student medication errors called “near misses”) and alleged diversion of drugs and report these errors to the WABON as required. All student medication errors will be documented on the WWCC “Unusual Occurrence/Practicum Incident Report” form by the student and supervising clinical instructor and will be kept in a confidential file in the Nursing Program Office. This form may be replaced by forms provided for this purpose by the WABON.

Documentation of Medication Administration Errors or Alleged Drug Diversion must include:

1. The date and nature of the event
2. The names of the student or faculty member involved
3. The name of the clinical faculty member responsible for the student's clinical experience
4. Assessment of findings and suspected causes related to the incident or root cause analysis
5. Nursing education program corrective action
6. Remediation plan, if applicable

Principles of “Just Culture,” Fairness, and Accountability Implemented in the Nursing Program Response to Medication Administration Errors or Alleged Drug Diversion

Open reporting and participation in error prevention and improvement are facilitated by the use of the principles of “Just Culture.” Most medication administration errors are unintentional behavioral choices where risk is not recognized. However, there are rare instances where a student makes the conscious behavioral choice to disregard a substantial and unjustifiable risk which results in a medication administration error. A careful review of mistakes, errors, and “near misses” facilitates learning from such occurrences and identifies opportunities for process and system improvement.

With this in mind, all error incidents will be reviewed by the Nursing Program with the intent of:

1. Determining the cause and contributing factors of the incident;
2. Preventing future occurrences
3. Facilitating student learning
4. Using the results of incident assessments for on-going program improvement

Nursing Program Responses to Medication Administration Errors or Alleged Drug Diversion

Nursing Program responses to medication administration mistakes are dependent on the student’s level in the Nursing Program and most often are in the form of system improvement or individual coaching, education, counseling, and/or remediation in the Nursing Skills Lab environment. The response focuses on the behavioral choice of the individual, not merely the fact that an error occurred.

Disciplinary actions, up to dismissal from the Nursing Program, may be taken for a student who either:

1. Recklessly disregards patient safety with medication administration, or
2. Has an incident of confirmed drug diversion

Skills and Medication Competency for Returning or Transfer Students

Students who are returning to or transferring into the WWCC Nursing Program will be required to demonstrate competency in:

- Nursing skills taught in quarters prior to entry/re-entry and pass the **Skills Performance Testing**. For returning students, the Nursing Admission Progression Committee will have the discretion of requiring additional skills testing based on exit interview recommendations. To ensure patient safety, students who do not achieve a passing performance (minimum proficiency) will not be eligible to attend clinicals until they have demonstrated minimum proficiency. Each clinical absence means that the student cannot demonstrate competency in the clinical setting and may affect their ability to achieve a passing clinical grade and progress in the nursing program.
- Proficiency on the previous quarter's summative **Safe and Effective Medication Administration test**. If 75% is not achieved on the Safe and Effective Medication Administration test, the student must complete a structured remediation and take a retake test. Students who do not complete the needed structured remediation and retake test by the end of the second week of the quarter will not be able to progress and will be advised to withdraw from the nursing courses.
- Proficiency on the previous quarter's summative **Dosage Calculation test**. If 90% is not achieved on the first take of the Dosage Calculation test, the student must complete a structured remediation and take a retake test. If 90% is not achieved on the second retake test, the student must complete a structured remediation and take a third retake test. Students who do not complete all necessary structured remediation(s) and retake tests for the Dosage Calculation test(s) by the end of the second week of the quarter will not be able to progress and will be advised to withdraw from the nursing courses.
 - To ensure patient safety, students who do not achieve a 90% by the **third** Dosage Calculation retake test will not be eligible to attend clinicals until they have earned a 90% on a subsequent retake test. Each clinical absence means that the student cannot demonstrate competency in the clinical setting and may affect their ability to achieve a passing clinical grade and progress in the nursing program.

All of the above testing will be completed by Skills Lab Faculty or Nursing Faculty designee. Specific remediation instructions will be provided by the Skills Lab Faculty or Nursing Faculty designee, and it is the student's responsibility to contact them in a timely fashion. Failure to schedule skills practice sessions and testing far enough in advance may prevent the student's timely completion of testing, any remediations, and retesting. No provisions are made for students who wait until the "last-minute" to test or complete remediations and retake tests.

Procedure for Nursing Skills Validation

1. Upon registration for the nursing courses, the student will receive a list of clinical skills, procedures, websites and video sites for the student to review prior to a supervised lab practice day. The Nursing Skills Lab Faculty will schedule a time for a group demonstration of these skills. Supervised practice time by the Lab Faculty will be provided for the remainder of the day. During this time, all skills should be practiced, including those skills on which the student will NOT be tested.

2. Students may arrange with the Lab Faculty for independent practice time after the orientation day. It is the student's responsibility to arrange this practice time. Students should feel free to ask the Lab Faculty or Level Lead for assistance, if needed, during practice.
3. After the supervised and independent practice time, it is the student's responsibility to contact the Lab Faculty to schedule a time for Skills Performance Testing.

Clinical Skills by Quarter

Entering Winter Quarter, First Year

1. Practice:
 - a. Head-to-toe physical assessment
 - b. Foley catheter insertion
 - c. Clean dressing change with sterile field set-up
 - d. Medication administration: oral, IM (sites), SQ, ID, nasal, otic, ophthalmic, inhaled, transdermal, topical, vaginal and rectal
2. Skills to be tested:
 - a. Sterile Skills: Foley catheter insertion

Entering Spring Quarter, First Year

1. Practice:
 - a. Head-to-toe physical assessment
 - b. Foley catheter insertion
 - c. Clean dressing change with sterile field set-up
 - d. Tracheostomy suctioning
 - e. Medication administration: oral, IM (sites and Z-track), SQ (insulin), ID, nasal, otic, ophthalmic, inhaled, transdermal, topical, vaginal and rectal
 - f. Primary IV and Secondary IV (IVPB) administration with and without a pump
2. Skills to be tested- Students will randomly select and test on ONE of the following skills:
 - a. Sterile Skills: Foley catheter insertion, clean dressing change with sterile field set-up, or Tracheostomy suctioning
 - b. Parenteral Medications: IM (including Z-track and SQ (insulin)
 - c. Primary IV and Secondary IV (IVPB) administration

Entering Fall Quarter, Second Year

1. Practice:
 - a. Head-to-toe physical assessment
 - b. Foley catheter insertion
 - c. Clean dressing change with sterile field set-up
 - d. Tracheostomy suctioning
 - e. Medication administration: oral, IM (sites and Z-track), SQ (insulin), ID, nasal, otic, ophthalmic, inhaled, transdermal, topical, vaginal and rectal
 - f. Primary IV and Secondary IV (IVPB) administration with and without pump
 - g. NG intubation and medication administration
2. Skills to be tested- Students will randomly select and test on ONE of the following skills:

- a. Sterile Skills: Foley catheter insertion, clean dressing change with sterile set-up, or Tracheostomy suctioning
- b. Parenteral Medications: IM (including Z-track) and SQ (insulin)
- c. Primary IV and Secondary IV (IVPB) administration

Entering Winter Quarter, Second Year

1. Practice:
 - a. Focused physical assessment
 - b. Foley catheter insertion
 - c. Tracheostomy suctioning
 - d. Central Venous Access Devices (management and dressing change)
 - e. NG intubation and medication administration
 - f. IM, SQ, and IVPB medication administration
 - g. IV push medications
 - h. Blood administration
 - i. IV starts
2. Skills to be tested- Students will randomly select and test on ONE of the following skills:
 - a. Sterile Technique: Foley catheter insertion, Tracheostomy suctioning or CVAD dressing change
 - b. Parenteral Medications: IM (including Z-track), SQ (insulin), Secondary IV (IVPB), or IV Push
 - c. Blood Administration
 - d. IV Start

Entering Spring Quarter, Second Year

1. Practice:
 - a. Focused physical assessment
 - b. Foley catheter insertion
 - c. Tracheostomy suctioning
 - d. NG intubation and medication administration
 - e. IM, SQ, IVPB, and IV push medication administration
 - f. Blood administration
 - g. Central Venous Access Devices (management and dressing change)
 - h. IV starts
 - i. Chest Tube Management
 - j. Patient-Controlled Analgesia (PCA)
 - k. Parenteral Nutrition
2. Skills to be tested- Students will randomly select and test on ONE of the following skills:
 - a. Sterile Technique: Foley catheter insertion, Tracheostomy suctioning or CVAD dressing change
 - b. Parenteral Medications: IM (including Z-track), SQ (insulin), Secondary IV (IVPB), or IV Push
 - c. Blood Administration
 - d. IV Start

Student Identification

Some outside agencies, such as the State Board of Nursing and some off-campus clinical agency sites, require access to a student's Social Security Number (SSN) for legal/identification purposes. For this reason, nursing students are required to provide the Nursing Program with their SSN with the understanding that this information will only be shared with those clinical agencies that require this information for student identification. All other department activities requiring student identification will be conducted according to college policy and mandated state law (RCW 28B.10.042) which stipulates the use of confidential student identification (SID) numbers.

Substance Use/Abuse

In accordance with RCW 18.130 (Washington State Department of Health, Regulation of Health Professions, Uniform Disciplinary Act) and the Walla Walla Community College Substance Abuse Policy, the Nursing Program faculty oppose the ingestion of any substance that interferes with healthy development and function in the physical, psychological, social, occupational, and spiritual areas. Unauthorized alcohol intake is prohibited on the WWCC campus.

Walla Walla Community College Policies and Washington State laws governing Practical and Registered Nurses both consider substance abuse to be a health and safety problem. Substance abuse has significant negative effects on safety and performance. Patients are at risk for serious injury if a student is under the influence of a substance which impairs performance. THE SAFETY OF THE PATIENT IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY.

Although the State of Washington passed a law (I-502) that legalized personal use of marijuana, it is essential that all nursing students understand that Washington's system of legalized marijuana does not supersede federal law. Federally, Marijuana is illegal. It is listed as a Schedule I drug which is defined as drugs, substances, or chemicals with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse (source: [DEA Drug Scheduling](#)). If a nursing student tests positive for Marijuana metabolites, the student will be immediately dismissed from the WWCC Nursing Program.

Expectations

All student nurses shall abstain from alcohol and/or drug use that alters mental, verbal, or motor responses within eight hours prior to their practicum and class periods. This includes the use of illegal drugs, the illegal use of prescription drugs, and the abuse or illegal use of alcohol. Attending classes and/or practicum activities while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be cause for suspension from the Nursing Program.

If a student takes a prescribed medication that may impair consciousness, alertness, or cognitive ability, he/she must inform his/her clinical instructor. The same applies in the Nursing Skills Lab. If the medication causes the student to demonstrate altered mental, verbal, or motor responses, he/she may be sent home. An individual on medications that dull the senses is not considered a safe practitioner. THE SAFETY OF THE PATIENT IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY.

Although the WWCC Nursing Program does not conduct drug testing without cause, students placed at some clinical agencies will be required to submit to a mandatory urine drug screening test before Day 1 of clinical or at any subsequent time as requested.

ALL REPORTS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN ANY SCHOOL-SANCTIONED ACTIVITY WILL BE ACTED UPON IMMEDIATELY. (See “Procedure” below).

If a student nurse should be convicted of a drug-related felony, he/she will be dismissed from the Nursing Program. Healthcare facilities will not allow students who have been convicted of a drug-related felony to practice in the clinical environment.

The Nursing Program will provide assistance and guidance to any student who wishes to obtain help for substance use-related concerns.

Reporting Suspected Substance Use/Abuse

A staff member of the clinical agency who suspects a student of being under the influence of alcohol and/or any other drug that alters mental, verbal, or motor responses should immediately report this observation to the agency supervisor and the WWCC clinical instructor.

A student who suspects a peer of being under the influence of alcohol and/or any other drug that alters mental, verbal or motor responses should immediately report this observation to the WWCC clinical instructor or the clinical agency supervisor (if instructor not immediately available).

Procedure

An instructor who has received a report of suspected abuse or who suspects a nursing student of being under the influence of alcohol and/or any other drug will immediately remove the student from direct patient care. The instructor will then confer with another instructor or agency staff member to assess, and if possible, confirm, the evidence of suspected alcohol or drug use.

Should two agree that there is observable evidence of substance abuse, the following will occur:

1. The student will submit to urine and blood drug testing immediately after signing a consent/release of information form (see “Student Nurse Laboratory Test Results Certificate of Agreement in the Appendices of the Nursing Student Handbook). Failure to submit to the testing and/or signing the Certificate of Agreement form will result in immediate suspension from the program.
2. Every effort should be made to obtain testing within one hour from the initial observation of suspected influence. If the suspected offense occurs at a clinical facility with drug/alcohol testing capabilities, testing should occur at that facility.
3. If the student is in the classroom, Nursing Skills Lab, or in a clinical setting which does not have testing capabilities, it will be the student’s responsibility to arrange for transportation to the testing facility. Students suspected of substance abuse may not transport themselves. The instructor will contact the testing facility and facilitate expeditious testing, informing them of the student’s impending arrival and need for drug/alcohol testing.
4. If the test results are positive or not immediately available, the student will not be allowed to drive and/or leave the testing facility alone. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for safe transportation home.
5. The student will be suspended from all Nursing Program activities until the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health receives a copy of the test results.
6. If the results for alcohol and/or drugs are positive the student will be immediately dismissed from the program.

7. All expenses incurred due to mandatory testing and/or required transportation shall be the responsibility of the student.

Re-admission

Students dismissed for substance use related concerns must provide documentation of substance abuse treatment prior to readmission to the Nursing Program. In addition, the student will be required to adhere to a plan, developed in conjunction with a counselor, for ongoing evaluation of compliance to the substance abuse policy.

Statement of Suspension for Nursing Students

Purpose

To allow a period of not more than five (5) instructional days (excluding weekends) for purposes of investigation of any issue which may compromise student's ability to provide safe, competent care to clients.

Protocol

During the investigative proceedings, the student may continue with theory and/or practicum depending on the infraction. It is possible that the infraction would warrant suspension from both theory and practicum.

Procedure

1. The instructor will formulate a statement regarding the infraction (serious concerns/accusations related to improper demonstration of skills, client safety or legal/ethical issues). This statement will be given to the Dean of Nursing and Allied Health who will then submit it to the Vice President of Instruction or designee.
2. A formal recommendation will be submitted to the Vice President of Instruction for final approval if such a suspension is warranted.
3. The student would then be notified in person and in writing of the suspension. A copy of the instructor's statement and suspension protocol will be given to the student at this time.
4. The investigation will proceed. Information will be gathered from all parties concerned including the student.
5. Results of findings will determine students' continuation in the program or dismissal.
6. A student may contest or appeal such at any time during this process and is due the same consideration for appeal that applies to student termination or dismissal.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)

All students are encouraged to join the NSNA <https://www.nsna.org/> . Information regarding membership and dues can be found at <https://www.nsna.org/membership.html> . Belonging to the NSNA includes membership in the Nursing Students of Washington State (NSWS) Organization. Contests, scholarships, loans, discounts, insurance, and job opportunity information are available to members through the organization.

Professional Nursing Club

The purpose of the Professional Nursing Club is to aid nursing students in their preparation for professional nursing careers. The club receives funds from the WWCC Student Government Association (SGA) for professional development activities such as state conventions or regional workshops. Membership stimulates the understanding of, and interest in, professional nursing organizations such as the National Student Nurses Association, Washington State Nurses Association, and the American Nurses Association. Members are actively involved in the WWCC SGA and participate in school-sponsored activities. With nursing faculty advisor guidance, members take part in fund-raising activities, facilitate professional development and guest speaker offerings, and volunteer for community projects related to nursing or healthcare. Club officers and representatives are elected annually.

Nursing Department Committee Representation

Students from each nursing class will be given the opportunity to select representatives and alternates to the following Nursing Department committees:

1. Nursing Faculty
2. Nursing Level Faculty
3. Nursing Curriculum (2nd year only)

Student concerns are addressed regularly in Nursing Faculty and Nursing Level Faculty meetings. Students may present their concerns to faculty via their class representative(s). Requests to have items placed on meeting agendas should be presented to the committee chair prior to the meeting.

Graduation/Nurses Pinning Ceremonies

Graduation Ceremony

An application is required to receive the Associate in Nursing DTA/MRP degree and must be submitted to the admissions office prior to graduation.

Graduation ceremonies are held on the Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses. The Associate Nursing DTA/MRP degree is conferred during the graduation ceremony. Caps and gowns are free and must be ordered in advance. Attendance by nursing students is expected.

Nurses Pinning Ceremony

The nursing faculty establishes the guidelines for the Nurses Pinning ceremonies on the Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses. **NOTE: This is a professional ceremony; students should dress and conduct themselves accordingly.** Uniforms according to the professional dress code are required. Students are required to adhere to the Appearance and Dress Code for Practicum guidelines for the Nurses Pinning Ceremony and any WWCC professional nursing composite photo. Nurses Pinning Ceremony related committees will be organized, and all committee decisions are subject to faculty and/or administrative approval. Nursing faculty will pin students with the WWCC Nursing Program pin. It is expected that first-year students will participate as "honor guards" for the Associate Nursing pinning.

In accordance with the decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, **it is not constitutional to allow prayer** as a part of a commencement exercise or similar official school function.

Academic Advising

Each student will be assigned a nursing faculty advisor. It is the student's responsibility to:

1. Make appointments with the advisor.
2. Inform the advisor of any proposed class schedule changes.
3. Meet with their faculty advisor quarterly to assure satisfactory progress toward meeting program requirements.

Clinical Agency Contingency Plan

If for some unforeseen reason an agency used by WWCC Nursing Program should close or become unable to provide practicum experience, the following course of action will be taken by the faculty:

1. Assess courses that would be affected by agency closure.
2. Meet with the Nursing Advisory Committee for community input for alternate practicum experiences.
3. Explore expanded practicum hours in currently used agencies.
4. Explore alternative community resources to meet practicum objectives.
5. Explore regional community resources to meet needed practicum objectives.
6. Explore virtual (online) clinical simulation activities as a replacement (state limitations apply)

Departmental Guidelines

1. When faculty/departmental meetings are in progress, instructors will be unavailable to meet with students.
2. Students wishing to meet with an instructor should do so during the instructor's **Posted Office Hours** and must use the phone to verify the instructor's availability.
3. The **copy machine** in the nursing department is not for student use. Students have access to a copy machine in the library.
4. Students may also print electronic documents in the Health Science Computer Lab on the WW Campus or in the Computer Lab of the main building on the CLK campus. If printers lack paper, students should notify the nursing office staff.
5. If students must be in the administrative staff work area, they are expected to be quiet and courteous to those working.
6. No information about students, including job references, will be released from the nursing department without written consent from the student. To submit consent, use the following link to access the "Release to Access Education Records / Letter of Recommendation Request Form:" <https://www.wvcc.edu/academics/academic-resources/?ecopen=important-academic-forms#important-academic-forms>
7. Although students may wish to show a gesture of appreciation to instructors by giving gifts, there are restrictions as to what the faculty can and cannot accept. According to the Ethics Policy for Walla Walla Community College, "No state officer or state employee may receive, accept, take, seek, or solicit, directly or indirectly, anything of economic value as a gift, gratuity, or favor from a person if it could be reasonably expected that the gift, gratuity, or favor, would influence the vote, action, or judgment of the officer or employee, or be considered as part of a reward for action or inaction." "...exceptions generally include certain unsolicited items, tokens of appreciation...and minor promotional items, with a total annual value of less than \$50.00."
8. Although patients (or patient family members/friends) may wish to show a gesture of appreciation to students by giving gifts, the student should inform the patient that they

cannot accept a gift. He/she can suggest that if the patient is appreciative of the service which was received the patient or family may discuss this with the nurse manager or charge nurse to see what might be appropriate to give the entire unit for the great care (although nothing is needed). The student could suggest that the patient convey his/her appreciation in the post-hospitalization survey that asks about the care received.

Nursing Technician Role

The purpose of the role of nursing technician is to provide an opportunity for students enrolled in an ADN or BSN program to gain work experience within the limits of their education, but not limited to the scope of functions of the certified nursing assistant. Some healthcare agencies hire nursing technicians to work in a role known as “Nurse Extern.”

Definition

The nursing technician is as defined in the State of Washington WAC 246-840-870 Functions of the nursing technician. Key points include:

1. Nursing technicians are defined as nursing students who are employed by a hospital or nursing home and are either enrolled in a Nursing Program approved by the Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON) and have not graduated, or have graduated from a Commission-approved Nursing Program within 30 days (or 60 days with a determination of good cause by the Secretary of Health).
2. Nursing technicians may only perform specific nursing functions based upon and limited to their education and when they have demonstrated the ability and have been verified to safely perform these functions by the Nursing Program in which the nurse technician is enrolled.
3. The Nursing Program providing verification is immune from liability for any nursing function performed or not performed by the nursing technician. Nursing technicians are responsible and accountable for their specific nursing functions.
4. Nursing technicians may only practice under the direct supervision of a registered nurse who agrees to act as supervisor and is immediately available to the nursing technician. The supervising RN must have an unrestricted license and two years of experience in the setting where the nursing technician works.
5. In order to practice as a nursing technician, an individual must be registered by the state Department of Health (WAC 246-840-905). In addition to providing any registration criteria established by the Department, nursing technician applicants must submit acknowledgments from the Nursing Program and employer. Nursing technicians are added to the Uniform Disciplinary Act and are subject to discipline by the Commission.

Functions of the Nursing Program

The Nursing Program in which the nursing technician is enrolled shall:

1. Provide the employer with written documentation of specific nursing functions the nursing technician may perform. This documentation shall be based upon, and limited to, the nursing technician’s education and demonstrated ability to safely perform the functions listed.

2. Provide the employer and the commission with written documentation when a nursing technician is no longer considered to be in good standing as defined in WAC 246-840-010 (16). The Nursing Program shall notify the employer and the commission immediately if the nursing technician is no longer in good standing. Notification to the commission shall be sent to P.O. Box 47864, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7864.

Responsibilities of the Nursing Technician or “Nurse Extern”

If functioning in, or planning to function in, the role of Nursing Technician or “Nurse Extern”, the nursing student must:

1. Make an appointment with the Lead Faculty member once each quarter to review their progress in the nursing program. This must be done before the Lead Faculty member will submit any documentation of specific nursing functions to the employer.
2. Notify the Lead Faculty member if no longer working as a Nurse Technician or Nurse Extern.

How to Register

An individual shall complete an application for registration on an application form prepared and provided by the secretary of the department of health. This application shall be submitted to P.O. Box 47864, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7864. For more information, go to the WABON Website regarding Nurse Tech licensing [url: <https://nursing.wa.gov/licensing/apply-license/nurse-tech-license>]

Every applicant shall provide:

1. The application fee under WAC 246-840-990
2. Verification of seven clock hours of AIDS education as required by RCW 70.24.270 and chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 8.
3. A signed statement from the applicant’s Nursing Program verifying enrollment in, or graduation from, the Nursing Program. If the applicant has not yet graduated, this statement will include the anticipated graduation date.
4. A signed statement from the applicant’s employer or prospective employer certifying that the employer understands the role of the nursing technician and agrees to meet the requirements of RCW 18.79.360 (4).

Student Support Services

Financial Aid

The Financial Aid office at WWCC handles all Financial Aid information and transactions. Grants, short-term loans and nursing loans are available. If you are in need of aid, please contact the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible. Financial aid will only pay for courses directly applying to Nursing Program requirements.

Scholarships

A variety of scholarships are available to WWCC students, made possible by the WWCC Foundation, individual donors, special endowments, private corporations and other foundations. Award decisions are based on academic performance, potential to benefit, and financial need. Many scholarships are designed for students in specific fields of study.

Important Dates

Applications for WWCC Foundation Scholarships open on **October 1. Applications typically close in late Winter/early Spring.** Please check the [WWCC Foundation](#) website for updates. Announcements of awards for the following school year will be made in late spring.

Applications

Access the fillable PDF application on the Foundation's web site: [WWCC Foundation](#). Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. To be considered for funding, the application must include each of the following:

1. Completed scholarship application form
2. Official transcripts
3. Two letters of recommendation

Contact Information

For questions, please contact the WWCC Foundation office at 509-527-4275.

Student Success Center

The college offers many services to students who need assistance with study habits, reading, test taking, and other academic concerns. The following services are offered through the Student Success Center: Career Services, Completion Coaching, Counseling, Disability Support Services, Opportunity Grant (possible source of additional funding), Transfer Center, Veterans Services, and TRiO. Students may also find assistance through the Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC), Writing Center, and Worker Retraining office.

Students who need part-time job placement should contact the WorkSource office at (509) 524-5230 (Walla Walla) or (509) 758-1716 (Clarkston).

The Nursing Program can be demanding and stressful. It is best to seek assistance early, before difficulties arise. There may be times when a faculty member will refer a student to seek additional counseling services.

Child Care

The Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses have on-site daycare facilities for student use. For more information, call:

- Walla Walla campus (509) 527-4544
- Clarkston campus (509) 758-1779

Personal Health Insurance

Students are responsible for providing their own injury and illness insurance. All students are required to provide proof of personal health insurance with a minimum of catastrophic health insurance coverage before being allowed to attend practicum. **The college and the clinical agencies do not assume any financial responsibility for student accidents occurring during the course of their studies.**

Students may contact Student Support Services for referrals to healthcare insurance options.

NOTE: Each student must complete the "Acknowledgment of Insurance Coverage" form in the appendices.

APPENDICES

UNUSUAL OCCURENCE REPORT

Student Name: _____

Instructor's Name: _____

Date report completed: _____

This form is to be completed by the student and the faculty member together. The completed form is to be submitted to the Level Lead.

Occurrence Demographics	Recipient of Unusual Occurrence
<p>Date: _____</p> <p>Time: _____</p> <p>Location of event: _____</p> <p>Category of Event: (check one)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Error</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Near Miss</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fall</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other: _____</p>	<p>Who was the recipient of the Unusual Occurrence?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Patient</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Visitor</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Staff</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Student</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other (specify): _____</p> <p>Status of the recipient of the Unusual Occurrence:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No Harm</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Harm</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Death</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other (specify): _____</p>

Type of Incident
<p><input type="radio"/> Medication error:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Wrong dose/rate <input type="radio"/> Wrong route <input type="radio"/> Wrong client <input type="radio"/> Wrong drug/solution <input type="radio"/> Wrong time/delayed/out of sequence <input type="radio"/> Adverse/allergic reaction <input type="radio"/> Extra dose/ repeated <input type="radio"/> Omission <input type="radio"/> Patient self-medicated <input type="radio"/> Other (specify): _____ <p><input type="radio"/> Needle stick (complete "Needle Stick and Sharp Object Injury and Body Fluid Report")</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Blood/Pathogen exposure</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fall event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Witnessed: Yes <input type="radio"/> Assisted to the floor: Yes <input type="radio"/> Fall from: _____ <p><input type="radio"/> Injury to body</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Failure to assess and/or respond to an adverse change in client condition</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Breach of confidentiality</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other: _____</p>

Follow-Up Action

Who was alerted?

- WWCC Faculty-specify name(s): _____
- WWCC Nursing Administration-specify name and title of the individual(s): _____

- Patient
- Patient's family-specify: _____
- Healthcare Provider-specify: _____
- Other: _____
- Unknown

Inform clinical agency:

- Yes-specify name and title of individual(s): _____
- No
- Unknown
- N/A

Agency incident report completed:

- Yes (specify who completed the agency report): _____

- No
- Unknown
- N/A

Root Cause Analysis- Changes occurring as result of incident:

- System changes
- Policy changes
- Practice changes
- Curriculum changes
- Nothing at present
- Other: _____
- Unknown
- N/A

Measures to prevent his type of incident from occurring in the future: _____

Instructor Initials: _____ Student Initials: _____

NEEDLE STICK AND SHARP OBJECT INJURY AND BODY FLUID EXPOSURE REPORT

Student Name: _____ Instructor Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ SID# _____ Date of Injury: _____

Where did the injury occur? (check one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Room | <input type="checkbox"/> Venipuncture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outside Patient Room (hallway, nurse's station, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dialysis Facility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Department
etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Procedure Room (X-ray, EMG,
etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intensive/Critical Care Unit | <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Laboratories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operating Room | <input type="checkbox"/> Autopsy/Pathology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient Clinic/Office | <input type="checkbox"/> Blood Bank |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Service/Utility Area (laundry, central supply, etc.) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, describe _____ | |

Was the source patient known? (check one)

- yes no unknown not applicable Medical Record

Was the injured worker the original user of the sharp item? (check one)

- yes no unknown not applicable

Was the sharp item: (check one)

- contaminated (known exposure to the patient or contaminated equipment)
 uncontaminated (no known exposure to pt. or contaminated equipment)
 unknown

For what purpose was the sharp item originally used: (check one)

- unknown/not applicable
 injection, intramuscular/subcutaneous, or other injection through the skin (syringe)
 heparin or saline flush (syringe)
 other injection into (or aspiration from) I.V. injection site or I.V. port (syringe)
 to connect I.V. line (intermittent I.V./piggyback/I.V. infusion/other I.V. line connection)
 to start I.V. or set up heparin lock (I.V. catheter or Butterfly™ –type needle)
 to draw a venous blood sample
 to draw an arterial blood sample (ABG)

- to obtain a body fluid or tissue sample (urine/CSF, Amniotic fluid/other fluid, biopsy)
- fingerstick/heel stick
- suturing
- cutting (surgery)
- electrocautery
- to contain a specimen or pharmaceutical (glass items)
- other, describe _____

Did the injury occur: *(check one)*

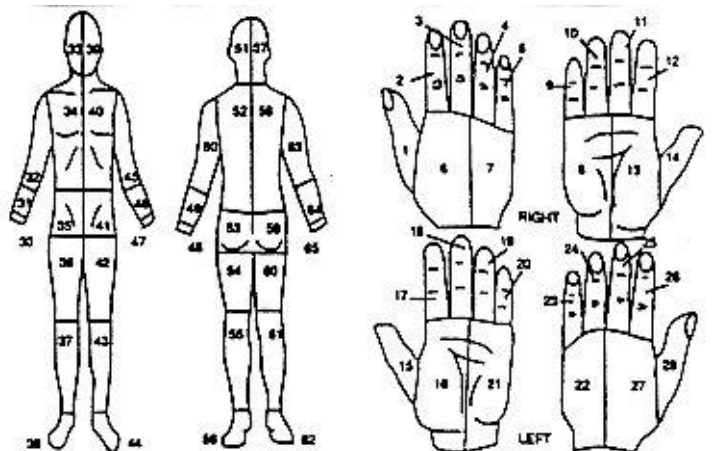
- before use of the item (item broke or slipped, assembling device, etc.)
- during use of the item (item slipped, patient jarred item, etc.)
- between steps of multistep procedure (between incremental injections, passing instruments, etc.)
- disassembling device or equipment
- in preparation for reuse of reusable instrument (sorting, disinfecting, sterilizing, etc.)
- while recapping a used needle
- withdrawing a needle from rubber or other resistant material (rubber stopper, I.V. port, etc.)
- other after use, before disposal (in transit to trash, cleaning up, left on the bed, table, floor, or other inappropriate place, etc.)
- from item left on or near disposal container
- while putting the item into the disposal container
- after disposal, stuck by item protruding from the opening of a disposal container
- after disposal item protruded from trash bag or inappropriate waste container

What device or item caused the injury?

Mark the location of the injury:

If the item causing the injury was a needle, was it a “safety design” with a shielded, recessed, or retractable needle?

- yes
- no/not applicable



Was the injury: *(check one)*

- superficial *(little or no bleeding)*
- moderate *(skin punctured, some bleeding)*
- severe *(deep stick/cut, or profuse bleeding)*

Describe the circumstances leading to this injury:

Instructor Initials: _____

Student Initials: _____

BODY FLUID EXPOSURE:

Which body fluids were involved in the exposure? *(check all that apply)*

- blood or blood product
- pleural fluid
- vomit
- amniotic fluid
- CSF
- urine
- peritoneal fluid
- other, describe _____

Was the exposed part: *(check all that apply)*

- intact skin
- nose
- non-intact skin
- mouth
- eye(s)
- other, describe _____

Did the blood or body fluid: *(check all that apply)*

- touch unprotected skin
- touch skin through gap between protective garments
- soak through protective garments
- soak through clothing

Which protective items were worn at the time of the exposure? *(check all that apply)*

- single pair latex/vinyl gloves
- surgical gown
- double pair latex/vinyl gloves
- plastic apron
- goggles
- lab coat, cloth
- eyeglasses
- lab coat, other _____
- face shield
- other, describe _____
- surgical mask

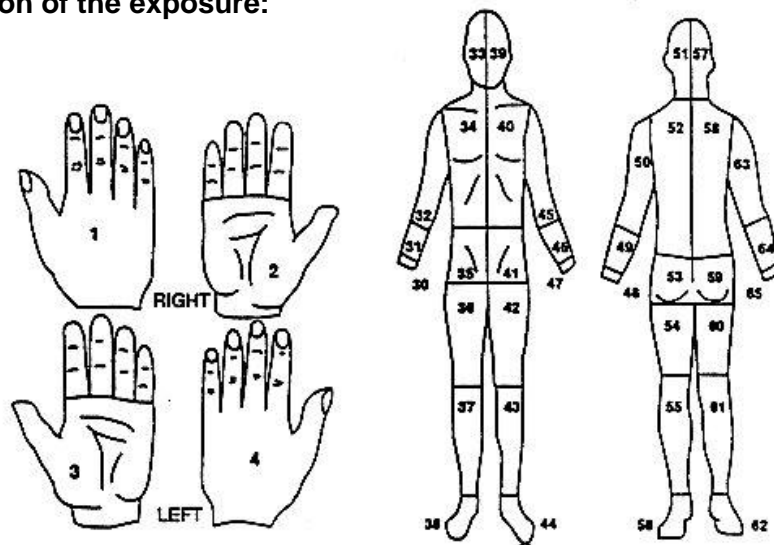
Was the exposure the result of: (check one)

- direct patient exposure
- touched contaminated equipment
- specimen container leaked/spilled
- touched contaminated drapes/sheets/gowns, etc.
- specimen container broke
- unknown

Estimate the quantity of blood or body fluid in contact with your skin or mucous membranes: (check one)

- small amount (up to 5 cc, or up to a quarter cup)
- moderate amount (up to 50 cc, or up to a quarter cup)
- large amount (more than 50 cc)

Mark the size and location of the exposure:



Describe the circumstances leading to this exposure:

Student Initials

Instructor comments:

Instructor Initials

ATI “FAQ” Sheet

1. **Q:** “Why do we have to have ATI tests? They are a waste of time.”

A: According to the literature, students who have completed a minimum of 1000 computerized test questions during their nursing education have a far greater chance of success on the NCLEX-RN than those students who have not. Multiple graduates, who while in the program did not like having to take ATI tests, have returned later after taking the NCLEX-RN and lauded ATI and thanked us for requiring it. ATI is an integral part of our program and here to stay.

2. **Q:** “Why can’t we get the answers to the questions on the proctored ATI tests? They help me learn.”

A: The proctored ATI tests are not designed to be a learning tool. They are designed to assess your knowledge about certain topics related to nursing. For each ATI test, a printout of the results is available which provides the learner with the topics of questions the student did not answer correctly. This is designed to aid the student in focusing on subsequent studies. However, the online practice ATI tests are designed as a learning resource and do provide rationales for the answers to all questions.

3. **Q:** “Why are there things on the ATI tests that were not covered in our theory class content? That’s not fair.”

A: It is fair to expect students to be accountable for previously learned knowledge as well as relevant information currently provided in ATI review modules, ATI’s website, required textbooks and suggested learning resources. ATI tests cover nursing subjects in greater breadth than can be delivered in a few classes. For example:

- a. The Maternal-Newborn ATI test covers information provided in both years of the program; both normal labor and delivery taught in first year, as well as high risk maternal-newborn taught in second year.
- b. The Medical-Surgical Cardiac & Respiratory content, for example, covers content taught in both years over a number of quarters.
- c. The Mental Health test covers concepts taught in the first year as well as the first two quarters of the second year.
- d. The Management test covers concepts taught in first year, second year, and in all of the Ethics and Policy in Healthcare courses.

It is inevitable that ATI tests, which are nationally standardized and designed to represent nursing’s body of knowledge on particular topics, will ask questions on topics or medications about which you have no knowledge. That is ok; what we are seeking to ascertain is if you have sufficient knowledge to care for patients safely and manage care effectively. You are not expected to know everything. Regularly, students who score 70-80% of the questions correct are in the upper 90th percentile in the nation. Again, we are assessing if you have sufficient knowledge – not that you know everything.

To prepare for ATI exams, students should regularly read the soft-cover ATI books provided during the first quarter of the nursing program. Instructors may assign specific readings from these content-specific books. However, even when no reading assignments from these books are given, students are encouraged to read them consistently each quarter. Use the table of contents from each ATI book to help guide your study. This ongoing review helps avoid cramming before an ATI proctored exam. Also, students who prepare for a proctored retake exam by fully completing the focused review for that exam and thoroughly reading the ATI book often achieve higher scores.

If you are struggling with how to take ATI tests, it would be a good idea to review the “Testing and Remediation” module in NurseLogic 2.0 that is found in your ATI tutorials. Begin by reading the section that is entitled “Preparing for Standardized Tests.” Then go through the rest of the module: “Critically Reading Test Items”, “Testing Taking Strategies”, etc.

4. **Q:** “What is the correlation between ‘Level II Proficiency’ and the grade we get?”

A: The Level II Proficiency Score (or designated percent score on a Comprehensive Predictor examination) is used to identify those persons who have and have not mastered the specific content at the designated level. Students have the option to remediate and take a retake test at a pre-scheduled time. If a student chooses to retake an ATI proctored test, the higher of the two tests will count toward the final grade. A testing fee is assessed each quarter that includes 2 attempts at each ATI test.

Your achieved Proficiency Level will appear on your test report in the upper right-hand corner, just under your “Adjusted Individual Total Score.” ATI Proficiency Levels are established by nursing experts from across the nation and are different for each ATI test. The “Level II Proficiency” is actually a range of scores; for our purposes, the minimum score of the Level II proficiency range will yield 75% of the available points. (See below for how the grade is calculated). The number of points possible for each ATI test is determined by the Level faculty.

5. **Q:** “How are the points calculated based on my ATI scores? Can I figure it out for myself?”

A: Yes. Here is how it works:

Step 1. Multiply the available points by 75%. (Example: if an ATI test is worth 30 points, 75% would be 22.5 points).

Step 2. Divide the Level II Proficiency minimum score, or designated percent score, by the product of Step 1. (Example: if the minimum Level II Proficiency score for a particular ATI test was 61.7%, divide 61.7 by 22.5, this would yield 2.74). (Faculty can provide the Level II Proficiency minimum score).

Step 3. Divide the score percent you achieved on the ATI test by the quotient of Step 2. (Example #1: if you achieved a score of 75% on your ATI test, divide 75 by 2.74, this would yield a score of 27.37 points out of 30 points possible). (Example #2: if

you achieved a score of 58.3% on your ATI test, divide 58.3 by 2.74, this would yield a score of 21.27 points out of 30).

6. **Q:** “Why can’t the points for the ATI tests be included in ‘activity points’ instead of ‘tests only’ points? We don’t like that it affects our test grade.”

A: ATI tests assess your knowledge and ability to process information to arrive at correct deductions just as much as our other tests do. As such, they are a valid assessment, and the scores belong with other test scores. Secondly, we have been using ATI successfully for years in this program. In years past when ATI test scores were NOT included in “tests only” points, students, recognizing that there was little weight associated with the tests and that it had minimal impact on their grade, failed to take the ATI testing seriously and failed to apply themselves to achieving their very best. In turn, they failed to gain the body of knowledge necessary to demonstrate that they had sufficient mastery of the content. To help students understand the importance of studying to do their very best on ATI tests, faculty have – and will continue to – place ATI test scores with other “tests only” scores.

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STUDENT NURSE LABORATORY TEST RESULTS CERTIFICATE OF AGREEMENT

Under the suspicion of substance use/abuse, I understand that testing must occur within one hour and, if transportation to a testing facility is required, I may not transport myself.

I hereby authorize _____ to perform a urinalysis and blood tests to determine the use of alcohol and/or controlled substances on specimens provided by me. I authorize Walla Walla Community College Nursing Program to receive these results and utilize the results of this test to determine suitability for continued enrollment in the Nursing Program.

Name (Please Print)

ctcLink ID Number

Signature

Date

Witness

Date

I hereby refuse to agree to the above testing and realize that my refusal **will** result in immediate suspension from the program.

Student Signature

Date

Witness

Date

Witness

Date

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STUDENT SIGNAGE PAGES

The following pages must be signed and returned to the designated Lead Instructor by the assigned due date.

Please note: Students **may not attend clinical** until these signed pages are returned to the Lead Instructor.

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ATTESTATION: MEETING THE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE WWCC NURSING PROGRAM

To ensure student and patient safety, the WWCC Nursing Program has specific Technical Standards which identify the functional abilities that are necessary in the provision of safe, effective, professional nursing care (see pp. 4-7 in this handbook). All nursing students must provide a personal attestation that they meet these Technical Standards, with or without accommodations. **Students who do not sign and return this attestation will not be able to attend nursing clinical. Nursing clinical is required to be able to progress in the Nursing Program.**

Attestation:

"I attest that I meet the Technical Standards for all nursing students identified in this Nursing Student Handbook."

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

*If a nursing student has a health change or is under the care of a provider that changes their ability to meet these Technical Standards, with or without accommodations, **the student must then submit a "Change in Ability to Meet the Technical Standards During the Academic Year" at <https://www.wwcc.edu/nursing-student-resources/>**. This form would be completed by the healthcare provider and describes any limitations that the student has and the expected duration of these limitations. Many of these health changes may qualify for temporary disability accommodations through Disability Support Services: <https://www.wwcc.edu/current-students/disability-services/> .

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ATI CONTRACT

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that:

As per the WWCC Nursing Student Handbook and nursing course syllabi, I am required to take standardized nursing tests (proctored online ATI tests) throughout the Nursing Program.

Should I fail to achieve the designated proficiency level or designated percent score on an ATI test, I am required to retake the designated test one time. With the retake, I have the opportunity to improve my score on the failed ATI test up to (but not beyond) 75% of the available points.

Should I fail any proctored ATI test, it is my responsibility to self-remediate before I re-take the failed test. I may not retake an ATI test within 48 hours of failing the test.

If I fail an ATI test, remediation materials are provided on the ATI website as a Focused Review. If other remediation materials beyond the ATI Focused Review are desired, I should contact my advisor (or the designated instructor, if applicable) for further help.

I may retake the failed ATI test at the scheduled retake times throughout the quarter. These scheduled retake times will be arranged with the testing center/computer lab or the designated instructor, when applicable. Please see the calendar for retake times.

If I do not complete an ATI Comprehensive Predictor examination by the end of spring quarter, second-year nursing, I will receive an incomplete grade for that course and have two weeks into the subsequent quarter to resolve the incomplete grade.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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PROGRESSION TO LEVEL II STUDENT ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT

Having thoroughly read the current Nursing Admission Guide during my application process, I acknowledge and accept that I will not be allowed to progress to the second year of the Nursing Program until I have completed ALL of the Nursing Degree Requirement support courses with a "C" (2.0) grade or better (Nursing Student Policy/Procedure: Admission to the Nursing Program).

Nursing Degree Requirements before the start of Fall quarter will not be allowed to begin Nursing Core Courses. Minimum GPA requirement: 2.0 for all college-level classes.

1. BIOL& 160, General Biology w/lab (5 credits)
2. BIOL& 241, Human A & P I (5 credits)
3. BIOL& 242, Human A & P II (5 credits)
4. BIOL& 260, Microbiology (5 credits)
5. CHEM& 121, Introduction to Chemistry (5 credits) or other accepted Chemistry class
6. ENGL& 101, English Composition I (5 credits)
7. MATH& 146, Intro to Statistics (must have MATH prefix) (5 credits)
8. NUTR& 101, Nutrition (5 credits)
9. PSYC& 100, General Psychology (5 credits)
10. PSYC& 200, Lifespan Psychology (5 credits)

Additional Nursing Degree Requirements Prior to Beginning Year Two Nursing

1. ENGL& 102, English Composition II or other Communication class from the distribution list 5 credits)
2. HUMANITIES from the Humanities distribution list (10 credits)
 - a. Humanities must be selected from at least two disciplines from the WWCC Master List of Transfer Courses, no more than 10 credits allowed from any one discipline, no more than 5 credits in foreign language at the 100 level, no more than 5 credits in performance/skills courses are allowed.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

I am aware that during the practicum and/or lab experience in which I am participating under the arrangements of Walla Walla Community College, certain dangers may occur, including, but not limited to, the following:

Infectious conditions, needle punctures, allergic reactions, musculoskeletal injuries, etc.

In consideration, and as part payment for the right to participate in this practicum and/or laboratory experience and the other services of Walla Walla Community College, I have and do hereby assume all the risks involved and will hold the State of Washington, Walla Walla Community College, its employees, agents, and assigns, harmless from any and all liability actions, causes of action, debts, claims, demands of every kind and nature whatsoever, which may arise from or in connection with participation in any activities arranged for me by Walla Walla Community College. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for the heirs, executors, administrators, and members of my family, including minors.

All students are required to provide proof of personal health insurance with a minimum of catastrophic health insurance coverage. If a student's personal health insurance coverage is cancelled at any time while the student is in the WWCC Nursing Program, the student will immediately notify the Nursing Program Administrative Staff.

I have uploaded documentation of personal health insurance coverage to Complio® (information below):

Insurance Information:

Policy Holder's Name: _____ Policy # _____

Insurance Company: _____

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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INVASIVE PROCEDURES CONSENT FORM AND STUDENT AGREEMENT FOR USE OF PRACTICE AND INVASIVE KITS

I, _____, have read and understand my ethical responsibilities as outlined in the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Nurses and the Nursing Student Policy/Procedure: Invasive Procedures.

In accordance with these principles, I agree to use kits intended for practice on manikins only on those manikins and on equipment intended for that purpose. I also agree to use invasive kits for peer practice on my peers only **and** in the presence of a WWCC instructor only. I understand that the intentional misuse of this equipment will be considered unethical conduct, and such conduct will be brought before the Level for disciplinary action, up to and including possible dismissal from the Nursing Program.

I understand the risks, discomforts, and benefits listed in the Nursing Student Policy/Procedure: Invasive Procedures and my questions have been answered. I agree to participate as a subject in these optional learning experiences.

- Check all that you agree to:**
- Eye drop administration
 - Finger stick to check glucose
 - Intradermal injections
 - Intramuscular injections
 - Subcutaneous injections
 - Intravenous (IV) starts (2nd year students only)

Student Signature: _____

Instructor Signature: _____

Date: _____

OR

I, _____ **do not agree to participate as a subject** in any learning activities involving invasive procedures. I understand I must complete an Alternative Learning Activity. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor to arrange alternative learning activities.

Student Signature: _____

Instructor Signature: _____

Date: _____

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EXPECTATIONS IN REGARD TO PLAGIARISM and ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
("CHEATING")

According to the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses, it is expected that all students demonstrate integrity and assume responsibility and accountability for their actions.

Please read the following procedure and **place your initials on the line beside each section**, then sign and date at the bottom of this form and return as directed.

_____ 1) Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's work, including the work of other students, as one's own.

A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge indebtedness whenever:

- _____ a. directly quoting another person's actual words, whether oral or written;
- _____ b. using another person's ideas, opinions, or theories;
- _____ c. paraphrasing the words, ideas, opinions, or theories of others, whether oral or written;
- _____ d. borrowing facts, statistics or illustrative material; or
- _____ e. offering materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment.
- _____ f. using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for assistance with completing assignments.

People's ideas may be contained in written text, visual text, multi-media products, including websites, music, and written text.

_____ 2) Any student who aids or abets the accomplishment of such activity as defined in subsection one (1) above shall also be subject to reasonable action by the instructor as defined below.

_____ 3) Any student who has plagiarized or engaged in academic dishonesty may be subject to disciplinary action which may include, but is not limited to:

- _____ a. student receives a warning;
- _____ b. student receives a lowered grade;
- _____ c. student receives a failing grade for the course;
- _____ d. student dropped from the course;
- _____ e. student subject to a Special Concern

_____ 4) Any student who has engaged in academic misconduct may be referred to the Vice President of Instruction and the Student Conduct Officer, as soon as possible, but no later than five working days after the incident. Any student disagreeing with disciplinary action is referred to the Grievance Procedure for Instructional Issues.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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WWCC NURSING STUDENT AFFIRMATION FORM

Please **place your initials on the line beside each section**, then sign and date at the bottom.

- _____ I understand that as a nursing student I am a member of a profession which places me in a position of confidence requiring the utmost discretion and professionalism to protect those with and for whom I work. I acknowledge that as a member of the nursing profession I have a responsibility to act in a manner consistent with the essential attributes of the profession. In this regard:
- _____ I agree to protect the privacy of faculty, peers, patients and family members of patients by not inappropriately disclosing confidential information about faculty, peers, patients or their family members that is disclosed to me in my capacity as a WWCC nursing student. In addition, I agree not to inappropriately disclose confidential information about my agency or institution that is disclosed to me in my capacity as a WWCC nursing student. I will adhere to HIPAA guidelines.
- _____ I will not share assigned Electronic Health Record (EHR) log-in information with another student or staff member.
- _____ I will read the syllabus for each of the nursing courses I will attend this academic year. I understand that the grading criteria for each course are explained in the syllabus.
- _____ I agree that I will conduct myself in a manner that exhibits professional values and in accordance with the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses.
- _____ I will maintain and uphold the policies of WWCC, and the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses related to academic integrity, ethics, and professional conduct. I will not condone or participate in any activities of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, stealing or copying another's assigned work, lying about any situation, and/or forgery of another person's name. I understand that failure to meet professional expectations may result in formal corrective action, which can include removal from the course and clinical experience along with dismissal from the program and inability to re-enter the nursing program.
- _____ I understand that signing the name of my instructor, or other healthcare professional, to any document constitutes forgery.
- _____ I will not recreate any items or portions of any test/quiz for my own use, or for use by others during my enrollment in the WWCC Nursing Program.
- _____ I will not accept or access any unauthorized information related to any test/quiz administered during my enrollment in the WWCC Nursing Program.
- _____ I will sign my own papers and other documents and will not sign or initial any other student's name to anything, including class roster.
- _____ I will not allow any student access to any of my paperwork for the purpose of copying.
- _____ I will not discuss or post any information about faculty, peers, patients, family members, or any clinical facility on any electronic venue (i.e. My Space, Facebook, X - formerly known as Twitter, cell phones, etc.). Nor will I leave/save any patient, family, faculty, clinical facility or student information on any open access desktop or hard drive.
- _____ I understand that marijuana is defined as an illegal substance by the Federal Government.
- _____ I understand that a clinical agency may require me to take a random drug screening test as a requirement for participating in clinical.

Student's Signature

Date

Student's Printed Name

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STUDENT ACCEPTANCE STATEMENTS

Please **place your initials on the line beside each section**, then sign and date at the bottom.

_____ **CLINICAL SCHEDULE ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT**

I understand that during the course of the WWCC Nursing Program I will be assigned to clinical rotations in which I may be required to work during day, evening, night, and weekend shifts. I also understand that the length of shifts may vary and may last up to 12.5 hours. I further understand that I may be required to travel to distant clinical sites and am responsible for my own transportation. I accept and will abide by the clinical assignment scheduling terms above. I will not independently contact a clinical agency to attempt to arrange or modify clinical placement.

_____ **PERMISSION FOR WWCC TO SHARE STUDENT INFORMATION WITH CLINICAL SITES**

I understand and accept that clinical agencies may request my personal information from Walla Walla Community College, including, but not limited to full name, date of birth, social security number, copies of background check reports, drug screening results, and TB screening and vaccination status. I accept and understand this information will be shared only where absolutely necessary and will be transmitted via the most confidential means possible (encrypted email or other equally secure means).

I further understand that unwillingness to share personal information may prevent acceptance into certain clinical agencies.

_____ **MERGED CLASSROOM ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT**

I understand and accept that Nursing classes at the Walla Walla and Clarkston campuses are merged in the Canvas online classroom. I understand that while other students will not be able to see my grades, my name will be visible.

_____ **NURSING STUDENT HANDBOOK ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT**

Having read all of the 2025-26 WWCC Nursing Student Policies and Procedures as specified in this Nursing Student Handbook, I understand and accept the responsibilities of my role as a nursing student at Walla Walla Community College. I agree to abide and be bound by these policies as a condition of enrollment in and graduation from the program. I have had an opportunity to have my questions satisfactorily answered by a nursing faculty member or the Nursing Program Dean.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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SIMULATION VIDEOTAPING NOTICE

1. I, the undersigned, do hereby acknowledge that Walla Walla Community College, its employees, or agents, have the right to take videotape recordings of me during the Simulation Lab experience while I am a student of the Nursing Program and to use these for educational purposes for students involved in the simulation.
2. I understand that my identity will not intentionally be revealed therein nor be identified by descriptive text or commentary.
3. I understand that there will be no financial or other remuneration for recording me, either for initial or subsequent transmission or playback.
4. I understand that it is the established practice of the Nursing Program to delete the simulation videotape recordings after the participants have had the opportunity to view and discuss the contents with the simulation instructor.
5. I represent that I am at least 18 years of age, have read and understand the foregoing statement, and am competent to execute this agreement.
6. By my signature on this document, I acknowledge that I understand the above information regarding videotaping during the simulation lab experience.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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LATEX ALLERGY ALERT AND VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE

Natural Rubber Latex allergy and sensitivities may often be caused or exacerbated by frequent exposure to Latex. It is vitally important for all nursing students to know this because Latex-containing products are present in the Nursing Skills Lab and most clinical settings.

If you have a suspected Latex allergy or sensitivity, you may want to be tested. If you have a Latex allergy or sensitivity that is confirmed by a healthcare provider, you may choose to notify the Nursing Department and contact the WWCC's Disability Services Coordinator to discuss and request reasonable accommodations that might be made for you.

Disclosing that you have a confirmed or suspected Latex allergy or sensitivity is voluntary on your part. Disclosure and a request for reasonable accommodations will not affect your position in the program or in the clinical setting and is solely to determine whether reasonable accommodations can be made for you.

Whether you choose to disclose the presence or absence of a Latex allergy or sensitivity, we require that you sign this form as notification that you may be exposed to Latex in the WWCC Nursing Skills Lab and/or clinical agency sites.

Please check one of the following:

- Yes, I have a documented Latex allergy or sensitivity.**
- To the best of my knowledge, I do not have a Latex allergy or sensitivity.**
- I choose not to disclose this information**

I understand that I can contact the WWCC Disability Coordinator to discuss and request reasonable accommodations that might be made for me in light of a confirmed Latex allergy or sensitivity.

I understand that I may be exposed to Latex in the WWCC Nursing Skills Lab and/or clinical agency sites.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Appeal/Grievance Form

Name: _____ ctcLink ID: _____

Address: _____

1. Please describe the nature of your appeal/grievance. If your appeal is related to a course grade, please explain the variance in program policy/procedure leading to the inability to meet minimum standards.

2. Have you spoken to your faculty advisor about this appeal/grievance?

Circle: Yes No

a. If you have not spoken to your faculty advisor, why not?

3. In your words, what is the outcome sought for you regarding this appeal/grievance?

Please attach supporting documentation to this form and submit to

The Level Lead at:

Level 1 Lead: Grace.hiner@wwcc.edu

Level 2 Lead: Lana.toelke@wwcc.edu