

SECTION IX – Health Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Health Program is to assist each student in maintaining and/or attaining optimal health. Administration of the program is the responsibility of the Trinity Health System Employee Health Coordinator. The Health Services Program is evaluated according to the Plan for Systematic Evaluation of the School. The Health Services Office is located on the ground floor of Trinity Medical Center East. The telephone number is (740) 283-7158.

PRE-ENROLLMENT HEALTH SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

1. Health inventory and physical examination.
2. Immunizations: Mumps, measles, rubella, Hepatitis B and/or serological evidence of immunity is required as well as evidence of varicella immunization or history of disease. Laboratory tests may be required.
3. Two-step Mantoux and/or chest X-ray if responsive to Mantoux.
4. Completion of a questionnaire to determine if latex sensitivity exists is required.
5. Preadmission Urine Drug Screen
6. Submission of the Essential Functions and Abilities of a Nursing Student Form.

It is the responsibility of students who are latex sensitive to inform their clinical instructor each semester/session of their latex needs. Reasonable accommodations will be made to meet the students' needs. Special gloves are provided for students with latex sensitivity.

If ongoing reactions occur (i.e. rash, respiratory problems, etc.) it is the responsibility of the students to follow up with their own physician.

Records of graduates not accepting employment are returned to the graduate; no copies are maintained by Trinity Health System.

HEALTH SERVICES

GOALS

1. Provide a health program for students that will identify health hazards and promote success in the program.
2. Provide advice to students of appropriate courses of action when physical or mental health problems exist.
3. Maintain confidential health records pertinent to the health status of each student.

POST-ENTRANCE HEALTH SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

Second and third level students will follow the guidelines established by the Student Services/Integrity Committee in accordance with the Trinity Employee Health Coordinator. Prior to the beginning of the second year, the student is responsible for a physical examination and a one-step Mantoux or a review of signs and symptoms of tuberculosis for positive responders. Students must submit documentation of their post-entrance health requirements to the School of Nursing Receptionist by Aug. 1 of each year. It is recommended that the student participate in the annual influenza inoculation program which is provided by the Hospital free of charge. The School of Nursing/Hospital complies with the current OSHA regulations regarding blood borne pathogens. Updated information is provided annually for incoming and enrolled students.

HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE

It is recommended that some type of hospitalization insurance be maintained by the student while enrolled in the program. The cost of pre-enrollment and enrollment health requirements is the responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for expenses incurred during illness, i.e., hospitalization and/or doctor fees/diagnostic tests, emergency care, medications, treatments, prosthetics and/or supplies.

Twenty-four hour emergency service is provided at Trinity Medical Center West on a fee for service basis. The School does not have facilities/personnel to provide constant monitoring of students with serious health problems. Therefore, students are encouraged to seek the advice of his/her physician concerning hospitalization or recuperation at home. A student whose health requires ongoing medical supervision and/or hospitalization is responsible for notifying the Director of the School. The School reserves the right to request the student to leave the premises. A physician's written permission for the student to continue/resume all class/clinical responsibilities must also be submitted to the Director. The purpose for requiring a physician's release is to protect the student from assuming responsibilities which could be hazardous to his/her mental/physical health.

In case of illness and/or accidents incurred while on School premises or at a clinical experience facility/agency, any emergency or on-going care received as a result of such illness and/or accident is the student's financial responsibility.

Students are reminded that any unsettled financial obligation to Trinity Health System, i.e. medical bills, may result in denial of transcripts or copies of educational records to be released, including final transcripts necessary for NCLEX- RN.

ILLNESS

The following is the procedure for reporting an illness:

1. Students are required to report illness promptly to the Faculty/Affiliate Agency.
2. When a student is too ill to report for class and/or clinical experience, **a message must be left on the receptionist's voice mail** at 740-283-7462 before 6:45 am. The student **must** also contact the clinical nursing unit.
3. The cost of visitations to private physicians, clinics, and/or emergency room services is the responsibility of the individual student. Any student who chooses may avail him/herself of the Hospital services. Students are reminded that any unsettled financial obligation to Trinity Health system, i.e., medical bills, may result in denial of transcripts or copies of educational records to be released, including final transcripts necessary for NCLEX- RN.
4. All injuries must be reported as soon as possible to the Trinity Health System's Employee Health Coordinator and faculty member whenever they occur on the Clinical area or in the School. An incident report must also be completed by the individual(s) involved. These forms are available on all nursing units, in the School office, and the Employee Health Office. Reports are forwarded to Risk Management after review by Employee Health. All charges for medical treatment received by the student post accident/illness are the responsibility of the student.
5. A student having diagnostic/surgical procedures or undergoing any other medical or rehabilitative treatment as an inpatient/outpatient is responsible for notifying the Lead Instructor and the Director of the School. A physician's written permission for the student to resume all class/clinical responsibilities must be given to the Director. The purpose for a physician's release from care is to protect the student from assuming responsibility which could prove hazardous to his/her mental/physical health.

If a student becomes pregnant while enrolled in the School of Nursing, the Director, Faculty, and Employee Health Coordinator **MUST** be notified as soon as the pregnancy is confirmed. Documentation written by the individual's physician regarding the student's ability to maintain class/clinical responsibilities is required. Any restrictions and the time duration must also be documented. This is done to safeguard the health of the expectant mother and the unborn child.

HEALTH SERVICES OPTIONS

It is a student's right to seek medical and/or surgical services other than those available in the Hospital. However, if a student exercises this right, the School has the option to verify that the student's health status reflects his/her ability to continue in the program.

DENTIST

The school encourages a dental examination prior to admission. The School recommends a dental examination every six months.

OPHTHALMOLOGIST

Students are recommended to have their eyes examined prior to entering the program. Scheduled periodic examinations are recommended.

INFORMATION MAINTAINED IN THE STUDENT'S HEALTH RECORD

1. Physical Examinations (Pre-enrollment)
2. Immunizations (Pre-enrollment – Post-entrance)
3. Chest X-Rays (if applicable)
4. Laboratory Reports
5. Annual PPD Results