Clinical Experiences

1. MSUM SON has elected to use CertifiedBackground.com to track student health, immunization, and other required forms.

2. State law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care facility have a background study conducted by the State. An individual who is disqualified from having direct patient contact as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a health care facility. Failure to participate in a clinical placement required by the academic program could result in ineligibility to qualify for a degree in this program.

Students will be asked to complete the background study form at the end of spring semester each year, to ensure clearance is received prior to the beginning of the fall clinical courses. The SON must provide background study results to each agency in which you have a clinical experience.

3. Professional Liability Insurance is required of all nursing students and is available through the Minnesota State Colleges and University System at low premium rates. This coverage meets requirements of clinical agencies. Protection is limited to those nursing activities which are performed during clinical experiences and supervised by School of Nursing faculty or precepted by faculty arrangement. The student needs to be aware that insurance does not provide protection for nursing actions which are performed as an employee in a health care agency.

Students must provide written verification to CertifiedBackground.com that liability insurance is current prior to each clinical course. The policy number and expiration date must be provided. Students will not be allowed into the clinical agency until current liability insurance is verified. Missing more than one clinical day may result in failing the course.

4. Students must be certified in professional two-rescuer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) of adults and children before scheduled clinical experiences. Written evidence that CPR certification is current must be provided prior to each clinical course. Students will not be allowed into the clinical agency until current CPR certification is verified. Missing more than one clinical day may result in failing the course.

5. Item #’s 3, 4, 5 and 6 under the section on Health must also be met before students will be allowed into the clinical agency. Failure to provide written evidence of met health requirements will result in dismissal from the clinical. Missing more than one clinical day may result in failing the course. MBN # 6301.1800 Subpart 6. O.

6. All nursing students must be covered by some type of health insurance: an individual policy, a family policy, or through Medical Assistance, which assists in paying for bills for medical services and/or hospitalization. Nursing students can also purchase a student health insurance plan. Information on the Student Health Insurance Plan can be found online at http://www.mnsu.edu/shs/clinic/insurance.html.

7. Students are required to participate in Pass for Clinical each semester as scheduled on calendars distributed during Group Advising Sessions each spring semester (fall semester for spring admits). Students must provide xerox copies for their file of the following information: current professional liability insurance; current certification in professional two-rescuer CPR of adults and children; completed medical history and physical examination; current immunizations for rubella, rubeola, and varicella; negative mantoux every 6 months; if not a negative mantoux, follow-up with appropriate health care provider is required, Hepatitis B vaccination or declination, and Signed Medical/Hospitalization insurance Coverage form (Appendix H). Students will be issued a Pass for
Clinical Ticket when information is complete. The ticket will indicate requirements to participate in clinical experiences have been met.

8. The School of Nursing utilizes a variety of clinical agencies in the rural and in the Twin Cities Metropolitan areas. Students will be required to travel to these clinical agencies and this travel will be at their own expense. In addition, students who stay overnight at a distance from their home must make their own accommodations at their own expense.

9. Students are not allowed to complete a clinical rotation at a site where they are currently employed except at the discretion of the instructor.

10. The student is responsible for following the policies of the agency in which clinical experience is obtained.

11. All clinical experiences, including conferences and seminars, require attendance. If the student finds that it is necessary to be absent from a clinical experience due to illness or an emergency, he/she must report the expected absence to the clinical area of assignment at least one hour prior to the scheduled clinical experience. This is necessary in order to provide for continuity of patient care. In addition, some individual faculty members may require that students notify them directly when an absence from a clinical experience becomes necessary. If the student anticipates an expected absence because of other University course requirements, such as a field trip, arrangements must be made with the clinical instructor several days in advance. The student’s first priority is to the current registered nursing courses and course requirements.

12. The student is expected to take the responsibility for contacting the clinical instructor to make the necessary arrangements for making up those clinical experiences which were missed because of absences due to an emergency, illness, weather, etc. The clinical instructor reserves the right to make the decision as to whether the student needs to make up clinical experience(s) in order to meet the outcomes of a clinical course.
   In the event that clinical experiences cannot be satisfactorily re-scheduled and progress toward course outcomes and requirements is impeded, the situation needs to be reviewed by the Admission and Progression Committee.

13. When the University cancels because of bad weather and it is a clinical day, the clinical day is not made up. If a clinical faculty member cancels class because of weather when the University remains open, the clinical must be made up. Insurance coverage is not determined based on whether a class is canceled; therefore, faculty may hold clinical in a site where weather does not warrant cancellation even if the University closes because of weather, according to Legal Services at Minnesota State University, Mankato. If the University is officially closed because of a holiday or break, the University is not obligated to enact the liability insurance policy; therefore, faculty may not hold clinical.

14. Failure during a clinical course may occur for a student at any time with or without prior notification. Unsafe practice at any point in the clinical rotation constitutes grounds for failing the course.