College of Nursing and Health Care Professions
Undergraduate Field Experience Manual
2019-2020
Letter from the Dean

Dear Students,

Welcome to the clinical component of your program. The following Undergraduate Field Experience Manual describes student expectations related to clinical preparedness and successful achievement of clinical outcomes. This procedural document is intended to augment the policies contained in the University Policy Handbook. Students should read and become familiar with the University Policy Handbook for general University policies, in addition to reviewing the specific sections of admission, progression, and graduation policies for the CONHCP program in which you are enrolled.

It is the intent of the CONHCP to assist in developing a more consistent field experience for all undergraduate students independent of their field assignment or preceptor. This consistency revolves around appropriate supervision, regular formal and informal feedback, and consistent assessment of students’ clinical proficiencies among other topics and skills. This is an on-going process and we look to each of you and your respective professional and life experiences to aid us in shaping the undergraduate field experience so that it reflects both GCU’s and CONHCP’s missions of developing outstanding future health care professionals. While advisors and faculty are available to guide students with respect to the requirements, students ultimately bear the responsibility of their education and their career.

If you have any questions about the clinical requirements of your program please contact your assigned Office of Field Experience Specialist. They are valuable resources to guide you through the clinical requirements of your program.

Lisa G. Smith PhD, RN, CNE
Dean, Professor
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Grand Canyon University
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The College of Nursing and Health Care Professions Administration and Faculty welcome you to the clinical component of the program. Below are some College Administration contact information:

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Office of Field Experience
Grand Canyon University College of Nursing and Health Care Professions faculty and the Office of Field Experience (OFE) placement team will partner to secure clinical sites and preceptors based upon specialty and location. The assigned placement specialist and clinical faculty advisor carefully monitor each placement to ensure they meet GCU’s high academic standards. The OFE will determine if all of the application requirements necessary to begin the field experience courses have been met. Additional responsibilities of the OFE Counselor are as follows:

- Ensure that students understand the nature of the clinical or practicum experience and the expectations involved.
- Assist in ensuring all required health and safety documents and site requirements have been met.
- Be available to counsel students as situations dictate.
- Communicate with the field experience instructors and faculty as necessary.

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## Version Record

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<td>• Updated Uncontaminated Needle Stick or Intact Skin Exposure</td>
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<td>• Addition of Communicable Disease Exposure Plan</td>
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Notice: Reference the latest edition of this manual available at gcu.edu/conhcpofo as policies are subject to change.
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- During field experiences, students may be exposed to communicable diseases. Students may be required to seek medical attention according to agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. Financial responsibility for testing and recommended care following an exposure rests solely with the student. This could include testing, evaluation, treatment, and counseling. Complete a Pre-licensure Nursing Program Incident Report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Director of Clinical Operations and placed in the student’s file. .................................................. 19
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General Guidelines for Undergraduate Field Experiences

This document provides undergraduate students in College of Nursing and Health Care Professions programs the information they need to complete their clinical or practicum requirements. Information contained in this document is to be used in conjunction with the policies outlined in the University Policy Handbook and the Academic Catalog. This document’s purpose it to accompany those documents and provide more information on the processes for the clinical undergraduate programs including:

- Programs with Clinical Hours
  - Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-Licensure)
  - Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training
- Programs with Practice Immersion Hours
  - Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN)

Essential Functions of Students

The athletic training and nursing professions require significant physical, mental, and behavioral skills. The essential functions listed below describe what students must be able to do to meet the requirements of being an athletic trainer or a nurse to ensure protection of patient safety (Reference Arizona Board of Nursing R4-19-201.I).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Essential Functions</th>
<th>Some Examples of Necessary Activities (NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Ambulatory capability to sufficiently maintain a center of gravity when met with an opposing force as in lifting, supporting, and/or transferring a patient/client. Ability to bend, squat, kneel, and twist.</td>
<td>• The ability to propel wheelchairs, stretchers, etc. alone or with assistance as available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Skills</td>
<td>Gross and fine motor abilities to provide safe and effective care and documentation.</td>
<td>• Position clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Reach, manipulate and operate equipment, instruments and supplies</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Electronic documentation/keyboarding</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Lift, carry, push and pull (50 lbs. minimum without assistance)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Perform CPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td>Auditory ability to monitor and assess, or document health needs.</td>
<td>• Hears monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual</td>
<td>Visual ability sufficient for observations and assessment necessary in client care, accurate color discrimination.</td>
<td>• Observes client responses</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Discriminate color changes</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Accurately reads measurements on client related equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tactile</td>
<td>Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment, inclusive of size, shape, temperature and texture.</td>
<td>• Perform palpation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Performs functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Accurately calculate medication/solution dosages and any needed information specific to client care in a timely manner or under distress.</td>
<td>• Determines correct dosage amounts for all routes of medication administration</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Calculates intake and output</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Able to convert measurements</td>
</tr>
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<td>Categories</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Behavioral/Interpersonal (relationships)      | Develop mature, sensitive, and effective therapeutic relationships with individuals, families and groups of various social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Demonstrate ethical behaviors. | • Nonjudgmental behavior  
• Respond to a variety of behaviors (anger, fear, hostility) in a calm manner  
• Demonstrate a high level of patience and respect  
• Establish rapport with clients and members of the healthcare team  
• Adhere to GCU policies, procedures and requirements as described in the University Policies Handbook (UPH), Guidelines for Undergraduate and/or Graduate Field Experience Manual, and course syllabi. |
| Communication & Technology Literacy          | Utilizes technology skills and communication strategies in English to communicate health information accurately and with legal and regulatory guidelines, upholding the strictest standards of confidentiality. | • Read, understand, write and speak English competently  
• Communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, using written, verbal and/or visual methods  
• Explain treatment procedures  
• Initiate health teaching  
• Document patient/client responses  
• Validate responses/messages with others  
• Use appropriate nonverbal communication  
• Ability to perform a variety of technological skills |
| Problem Solving/Critical Thinking             | Collect, analyze, prioritize, integrate, and generalize information and knowledge to make sound clinical judgments and decisions to promote positive client outcomes | • Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations  
• Develop plans of care as required  
• Identifies changes in client health status  
• Handles multiple priorities in stressful situations |
| General Health/Emotional Stability            | Ability to tolerate lengthy periods of physical activity as well as environmental stressors | • Move quickly and/or continuously  
• Tolerate long periods of standing and/or sitting as required  
• Adapt to rotating shifts  
• Work with chemicals and detergents  
• Tolerate exposure to fumes and odors  
• Work in areas that are closed and crowded  
• Work in areas of potential physical violence  
• Work with clients with communicable diseases or conditions  
• Maintain focus and appropriate behavior  
• Flexibility and ability to adjust to changing situation and uncertainty in clinical situations  
• Affective skills and appropriate demeanor and rapport that relate to professional education and quality patient care. |

**Student Professional Dispositions**

One important aspect of the student experience is the fulfillment of professional dispositions—ways of working, thinking, and interacting with others—in three areas: Professionalism, Work Ethic, and Communication Skills. In order to support student
development and have clear expectations in these areas CONHCP lists the following key dispositions. Failure to demonstrate these dispositions through behaviors at any point in the program may jeopardize students’ continuation in the program. Students are expected to monitor their development of these professional dispositions, beginning now and continuing throughout their career. The ability to reflect on personal growth, strengths, and challenges is a central characteristic of effective people working in health care. These disposition statements do not replace the University Code of Conduct.

Communication Skills
1) Demonstrate appropriate, professional, respectful verbal communication
2) Demonstrate appropriate, professional, respectful written communication
3) Demonstrate a disposition toward inquiry and problem solving
4) Work collaboratively with students, faculty, and professionals
5) Demonstrate consistently positive attitudes toward learning and/or teaching
6) Accept responsibility for decisions and actions
7) Establish and maintain mutually respectful interactions
8) Demonstrate understanding of university/program organizational chart by communicating “need to know information” to individuals according to the chain of command

Work Ethic
1) Demonstrate regular attendance
2) Demonstrate punctuality
3) Complete work in a timely manner
4) Demonstrate organizational skills
5) Know and observe all pertinent policies and procedures
6) Demonstrate a disposition toward personal ownership of learning and professional development

Professionalism
1) Demonstrate a commitment to work with clients, their families, students, faculty, and staff in appropriate, professional, and respectful ways
2) Demonstrate an awareness of community, state, national, and world contexts that have an impact on the profession and the learning process
3) Treat everyone fairly, equitably, and respectfully
4) Accept constructive criticism and adjust performance accordingly
5) Express and demonstrate interest in and enthusiasm for teaching/learning
6) Adapt to new and diverse teaching/learning situations
7) Adapt to differences among people including differences of SES, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, language, etc.
8) Maintain confidentiality about all student, client, faculty, and staff records unless disclosure serves a professionally compelling purpose or is required by law
9) Demonstrate discretion when discussing colleagues, faculty, field sites, and personal information
10) Respect the points of view of others
11) Contribute meaningfully, appropriately, professionally, and respectfully to discussions by asking questions, giving opinions, and listening to others
12) Project an appropriate professional appearance in professional settings
13) Project an appropriate professional and respectful demeanor
14) Be open to leadership and opportunities for growth
15) Understand and practice professional ethical standards
16) Recognize personal at risk behavior: Behavioral choice that increases risk where risk is not recognized, or is mistakenly believed to be justified
17) Recognize personal reckless behavior: Behavioral choice to consciously disregard a substantial and unjustifiable risk
18) Acts overall in a manner that furthers the interests of others (enlightened self-interest): Enlightened self-interest refers to the understanding and trust that what a person does to enhance another's quality of life enhances one's own quality of life to a similar degree. More simply put, it is the idea that "what goes around comes around"
19) Utilize social media responsibly, avoiding issues regarding privacy and confidentiality by not communicating information regarding your clinical experiences or documents contained in a client record.

Professional Boundaries
Professional codes of conduct are the foundation for caring relationships. These relationships exist primarily during the student’s education within the timeframe of their enrollment in the nursing program. These relationships are developed between client-nurse, student-faculty, faculty-student, and student-student. The student–client relationship exists within the timeframe of the nursing course. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing has developed a document that provides the basis for understanding the
boundaries for such relationships. Students receive a copy of this document in one of the first nursing courses. It is also available at https://www.ncsbn.org/ProfessionalBoundaries_Complete.pdf

Professional Dress

College of Nursing and Health Care Professionals (CONHCP) students have a specific dress code listed below. All other students are expected to dress in business casual attire. All students are expected to present themselves as representatives of Grand Canyon University’s program.

Reports of unprofessional behavior will result in the student being counseled by the faculty and/or the respective Director and initiation of a Code of Conduct form which is subject to review by the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions. Students are expected to follow Grand Canyon University’s official Code of Conduct policy listed in the University Policy Handbook.

Pre-licensure Student Nursing Uniform Attire

The student uniform should be worn only for specific scheduled clinical, lab, simulation, or classroom activities.

Any deviations in dress at clinical including immersive simulation and lab will result in clinical warning or being sent home from clinical, simulation, or lab and placed on probation. Proper identification MUST be worn at all times in all clinical, simulation and lab settings. The uniform and identification requirements of the clinical agency are also to be followed.

The uniform consists of:

- Scrubs and scrub jackets may be purchased through the Lopes Shop
- Wrinkle free purple scrub pants or a skirt below the knees that is purple. The length of the uniform pants cannot touch the floor.
- Wrinkle free purple scrub tops with modest neckline
- Wrinkle free purple scrub jacket (optional)
- Name Badge, available from the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions. The name badge will show the student’s picture and list their first name, and “Student Nurse”. The name badge must be worn while attending any clinical, lab or simulation activity. Name badge will not be worn outside of the clinical agency. Name badge cannot be altered by the student.
- White or neutral socks or panty hose are to be worn with the uniform.
- Shoes are to be white leather with white soles and closed toe/heels. Shoelaces must also be white.
- Undergarments should not be visible through the uniform.
- Additional items to be part of the uniform are:
  - Stethoscope with a bell and diaphragm head
  - Penlight
  - Bandage scissors
  - Black and Red pens
  - Goggles/Protective eye wear
  - If a belt organizer is used, it must be white or purple
  - Watch with a second hand
- Optional items:
  - Only white cotton tee shirts, crew neck or turtleneck, may be worn under uniforms for warmth or modesty.
  - ROTC students may wear their emblem on the uniform top and scrub jacket

Athletic Training and Pre-Licensure Professional Appearance

Professional appearance must be followed for specific clinical, lab, simulation, or classroom activities.

1. When applicable, the clinical facility’s ID must be worn whenever in that facility. Students who do not wear this ID may be asked to leave the facility.
2. Shorts, very short skirts, jeans, tank tops, tube tops, see-through clothing, exercise clothes (acceptable for athletic training when appropriate), and open-toed shoes are not acceptable attire in any clinical agency.
3. Hair should be clean, neatly groomed, and secured up in a ponytail or bun off of the shoulders. For infection control purposes, this will keep hair off of the client and prevents contamination.
4. A natural hair color is required with no purple, blue, etc. Beards or mustaches, if worn, should be neatly trimmed.
5. Only clear or neutral nail polish may be used if desired. Fingernails should be neatly trimmed and free of cracked nail polish. Acrylic nails or any other nail enhancements are not permitted.
6. Permitted jewelry is: one pair of studded earrings less than ¼ inch in diameter in each ear, a watch, a plain ring band. No other visible jewelry is acceptable including necklaces, bracelets, earring gauges, tongue rings or other facial jewelry. Clear spacers and/or plugs may not be worn in place of facial or ear piercings. Tattoos and any other body art must be covered. Students are directed to follow the agency guidelines when in specified areas such as nursery, labor and delivery, and operating room.
7. Perfume, after-shave lotion, heavy makeup and false eyelashes are not acceptable in the clinical, lab, or simulation areas.
8. Gum chewing is not acceptable.
9. Clothing worn in course activities not requiring student uniform should adhere to professional standards.
   - Women: wrinkle free slacks (dress pants), skirts (mid-calf to about two inches above the knee), blouses, shells, cardigans, blazers or dresses, shoes that cover the entire foot.
   - Men: wrinkle free dress pants, button down shirts, polo shirts (short sleeved shirts with a collar), blazers, shoes that cover the entire foot.
   - Do not wear:
     o Denim material
     o Anything that is see-through, short, tight, or shows too much skin
     o Flip-flops or tennis shoes
10. Cell phone use is not permitted in the lab, in simulation, at the nurse’s station or in client rooms. Students are expected to follow agency guidelines and clinical instructor directions regarding appropriateness of cell phone usage in the clinical, lab and simulation settings.

**Healthcare Specific Regulations**

**HIPAA Guidelines**

As health care providers, one of the covered entities, nurses must be knowledgeable about the various aspects of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). CONHCP offers this guidance below for those persons to ensure compliance with those requirements and asks that all students sign the HIPAA/FERPA confidentiality Agreement. Students are required to do the following:

- Sign the HIPAA Confidentiality Agreement before any involvement in a clinical agency.
- Know and adhere to a clinical site’s privacy and procedures before undertaking any activities at the site.
- Maintain at all times the confidentiality of any client information, regardless of whether the identifiers listed in the “Do not” section of these guidelines have been removed.
- Promptly report any violation of those procedures, applicable law, or CONHCP’s confidentiality agreement by a CONHCP student, faculty or staff member to the appropriate CONHCP clinical instructor or faculty member.
- Understand that a violation of the clinical site’s policies and procedures, of applicable law, or CONHCP’s confidentiality agreement will subject the student to disciplinary action.

Students are not to do the following:

- Discuss, use or disclose any client information while in the clinical setting or outside of clinical unless it is part of the clinical setting.
- Remove any record from the clinical site without the prior written authorization of that site.
- Disclose any information about a client during the clinical assignment to anyone other than the health-care staff of the clinical site.
- Use client information in the context of a learning experience, classroom case presentation, class assignment, or research without attempting to exclude as much of the following information as possible:
  - Names
  - Geographical subdivisions smaller than a state
  - Dates of birth, admission, discharge, death
  - Telephone and fax numbers
  - E-mail addresses
  - Social security numbers
  - Medical records or account numbers
  - Certificate/license numbers
  - Vehicle or device numbers
  - Web locators/Internet protocols
  - Biometric identifiers
  - Full face identifiers
  - Any other unique identifying number, characteristic, or code
  - All ages over 89
  - Access any client information unless client is clinical assignment.
  - Disclose any personal health information to any entity not requiring PHI for health care purposes without their consent.

**OSHA Guidelines**

Please review OSHA training for Healthcare training at this OSHA site. Students should review all topics across the ribbon including: Culture of Safety, Infectious Disease, Safe Patient Handling, Workplace Violence, Other Hazards, and Standards/Enforcement.
FERPA Guidelines

Students should refer to the University Policy Handbook for the FERPA policy. Students must complete the HIPAA/FERPA Form prior to starting clinical.

Transportation/Travel to Clinical, Lab, & Simulation Sites

Course faculty and the administrator work to put together clinical rotations using a combination of agencies that would provide a varied experience for the students in accordance with the course objectives. When students join the profession, they will be working in different types of settings over their career. Exposure to those settings now, will make them comfortable and competent regardless of which setting they choose to apply to and be employed by.

Agencies that accept nursing students for learning experiences have restrictions based on the number of students that each agency can accommodate at one time and the days that the agency is available to host students. These agencies are providing mentoring and teaching as part of their professional commitment to supporting the next generation of nurses, but they are not paid for their time or obligated to serve. Therefore, sometimes it takes a combination of agency placements to meet the required clinical hours, and they may be some distance away.

Students must provide their own transportation to the clinical sites and other off campus locations which may be required for nursing class, clinical, lab, or simulation experiences. Clinical sites may be within a 100 mile radius of the program location. GCU, in conjunction with these agencies, makes every attempt to minimize the distance that students travel to their clinical experience, but sometimes additional travel is unavoidable. Attending clinical can be challenging, the students’ learning experience is a valuable one and will guide their future as a well-prepared professional.

Student Travel (Athletic Training)

Athletic Training students are required to provide their own transportation to these clinical rotation sites, and must be supervised by a Clinical Preceptor (CP). Travel time may not be logged for clinical contact hours. Please see the student driver waiver in the University Policy Handbook for more information.

Providing or obtaining transportation to and from the clinical sites and paying for all associated costs (i.e. fuel, parking, permits, etc.) is the responsibility of the student.
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-licensure)

The following section provides information on the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Pre-licensure) program, specifically. This section contains information regarding the clinical, simulation, and lab experiences that students must adhere to, in addition to the policies explicit in the University Policy handbook.

BSN Pre-licensure Clinical Placements

All students in the BSN pre-licensure program are assigned an OFE Counselor and will be scheduled for an appropriate Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 clinical experiences to align with progression of didactic courses which form the core of the program. The Counselor will work with students to ensure all health and safety and site required documents are verified and on file prior to clinical placement. It is the student’s responsibility to work to complete these requirements timely to ensure successful placement. Students will typically be notified a minimum of a month in advance of the beginning of clinical assignments. Transition to Practice Residency is a different process that is competitive and requires a preceptor. Students will be sent information on this program during their Level 3 experience.

myClinicalExchange (mCE)

Clinical rotations are reserved using mandatory database systems that all users must register for and participate in as part of regional pre-licensure nursing education management processes. Students are required to complete an online orientation program as part of their clinical education experience. Students onboard for clinical experiences through OFE or myClinicalExchange (mCE), a web-based automated tool used to operate, administer, and manage clinical placements. Students cannot be entered into a clinical rotation unless they are registered in mCE. mCE uses a Pay-Pal system to charge individuals for setting up their account. Each student will be charged a fee of $35 per year plus the Pay-Pal transaction fee of $1.50. The year begins with the date the mCE profile is first created. Each student will create their own account by going to the following link: https://register.myclinicalexchange.com.

Students should take immediate action upon receiving this notification. mCE assists in placing students for valuable learning experiences. If students require any additional information, they should contact their OFE Counselor.

Clinical Experiences for RN Programs

A registered nursing program shall provide clinical instruction that includes, at a minimum, selected and guided experiences that develop a student's ability to apply core principles of registered nursing in varied settings when caring for:

- Adult and geriatric clients with acute, chronic, and complex, life-threatening, medical and surgical conditions;
- Peri-natal clients and families;
- Neonates, infants, and children;
- Clients with mental, psychological, or psychiatric conditions; and
- Clients with wellness needs.

A nursing program may utilize simulation in accordance with the clinical objectives of the course.

Skills Laboratory, Instructional Simulation, and Immersive Simulation Experience

Skills is an inclusive term for psychomotor skills that includes rationale, critical thinking, physical assessment, medications and fluids. The Skills Lab is where students will be introduced to new skills, be expected to practice, and be evaluated on their competency performance. Simulation activities will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

As students progress through their nursing program, they will spend time in the skills lab each semester, whether they are learning new skills, reviewing previously learned skills, or being evaluated in preparation of clinical. Simulation activities will be a key component of all these elements, whether it is using a simple task trainer, a complex full bodied simulator, or a peer. Critical thinking is encouraged by incorporating the rationale for the learning objectives as well as understanding the nursing assessments and responsibilities that accompany these skills. Evaluation is a continuous process utilizing peer evaluations, course skills testing and clinical experiences. The lab and simulation faculty and staff collaborate with the course faculty to coordinate nursing theory and clinical labs.

Students have the opportunity to practice independently, with peers and with faculty to develop nursing skills. How much time students dedicate to practice is dictated by how quickly they learn and by the difficulty level of the skills. Practice is completed on students’ own time and testing may either be on their own time or during scheduled class/clinical time (course dependent).

The skills lab is an integral part of the students’ nursing education, where they have the opportunity to overcome their own fears and insecurities while working with a variety of task trainers, simulators, and actual hospital equipment. By using the provided equipment and supplies, students are able to simulate a clinical environment where they have the ability to learn and practice safely without causing harm to their clients.
The primary goal of the skills lab is to provide an environment for students to become competent with their nursing skills and thereby becoming a safe practitioner while working towards excellence in nursing.

**Student Lab Skills and Simulation Responsibilities**

1. The skills lab is an extension of students’ clinical and academic programs. Therefore, all the same requirements for maintaining professional behaviors in both clinical and academic settings apply (i.e. dress and behavior, etc).
2. No food or drink – may cause damage to equipment
3. No children - risk of injury from equipment
4. No cell phones during testing or in student work areas (Please turn phones off) – Can be very distracting to students when testing & practicing. Photographs and video-taping is prohibited during skills lab or simulation.
5. Students are required to wear their student ID at all times while in the lab and follow the recommended dress code of the college.
6. Respect lab personnel and equipment at all times.
7. Review and check lab schedules for open and closed times (posted outside of lab areas)
8. Students are prohibited in the simulation control room.
9. Review the course syllabus for due dates and late assignment policies.
10. Failure to meet deadlines may result in failure to meet course objectives.
11. Review all skills guidelines for each check-off.
12. Practice/Testing areas: Follow directions/signs for use of lab space and equipment. Ask for directions and for location of practice or testing equipment.
13. Students may be given equipment for their own use during the semester for certain classes. If they are given equipment from the lab, it is their responsibility to keep this equipment (i.e. Cath kit) intact and to bring it with them to skills lab and/or practice lab.
14. High-fidelity simulators are only to be operated by trained faculty and/or staff.
15. If at any time a student’s equipment becomes faulty, it must be returned to the lab for disposal and for replacement.
16. Do not move simulation equipment or simulated parts (“manikins”) without the help of lab personnel.
17. Do not use betadine on human simulation equipment (“manikins”).
18. Use beds for practice and testing purposes only.
19. Report any malfunctioning, unsafe, or damaged equipment to lab personnel.
20. If students are aware that they have a latex allergy, or suspect that they do, it is their responsibility to notify skills lab personnel.

Non-latex gloves and equipment is available upon request.

Please refer to the Lab, Simulation and Clinical Safe Practice Guidelines policy in the University Policy Handbook.

**Pre-licensure General Health and Safety Requirements**

Students are expected to take measures to maintain their personal health so as not to jeopardize themselves or any client with whom they come in contact. Students who are accepted into the programs must show evidence of the CONHCP required immunizations and diagnostic procedures as required by the clinical agencies utilized. At any time, a student may be required to receive a medical examination if deemed necessary by the faculty for the wellbeing of the student and/or the clients.

As students are in contact with clients in a variety of health situations, it is imperative that they maintain protection against communicable illnesses. In addition, students must meet agency health requirements to enter clinical course work. Students are responsible for updating BLS, personal health insurance, TB screening, Influenza and Tetanus immunizations when needed. Students will not be allowed to participate in clinical experiences unless all agency and GCU requirements are current. Any student that falls out of compliance due to expired documentation will immediately be restricted from clinical participation until renewed documentation is provided and coinciding faculty will be notified. Missing clinical may jeopardize a student from being successful in the program. All students will be contacted early in their program by the Office of Field Experience and provided guidance on the proper submission of required health and safety documentation.

Students will adhere to all guidelines for Standard Precautions within the clinical, lab and simulation areas.

**Required Prior to Starting BSN Clinical Coursework**

Upon acceptance into the nursing program, and prior to starting the major coursework and clinical phase of the program, students must complete the following:

1. Sign the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Confidentiality Agreement before any involvement in a clinical setting.
2. Attend College of Nursing and Health Care Professions training or an approved in-classroom clinical instruction on requirements relating to patient privacy.
3. Complete the Substance Screening. Please refer to the University Policy Handbook for additional information.
4. Provide the following health information to the Office of Field Experience at least two weeks before the semester start date where the student will begin their clinical coursework. Some requirements will need to be updated after the initial screening/immunization. Please refer to the University Policy Handbook for additional information.
   - Health history
- Physical exam
- Current health insurance coverage
- Proof of immunization and/or immunity:
  - Tuberculosis (TB) screening
  - MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
  - Varicella Zoster (VZV)
  - Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (Tdap)
  - Influenza
  - Meningococcal (recommended; not required)
  - Hepatitis A (recommended; a signed waiver is required if the vaccination series is not completed or declined by the student)
  - Hepatitis B (recommended; a signed waiver is required if the vaccination series is not completed or declined by the student)
- Submit a Professional Rescuer CPR course completion card through an approved CPR provider. Online-only courses will not be accepted. The certification has to remain current throughout the program.
- Submit an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance card.

| Tuberculosis (TB) For continued enrollment – required annually | Initial Tuberculosis testing must be a 2-step PPD (repeated PPD) or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold blood test. If the first PPD is negative, a second skin test is required within 7 – 21 days. Subsequent tuberculosis testing is a one-step PPD repeated annually. The skin test reaction should be read between 48 and 72 hours after administration. A patient who does not return within 72 hours will need to be rescheduled for another skin test. A TB test is valid for one year. TB records must be current and on file. For positive skin tests, an annual symptoms checklist is required and date of positive conversion provided. CXRs will be required. A chest x-ray is valid for 1 year. The QuantiFERON®-TB Gold blood test may be accepted in lieu of the PPD or chest x-ray. The PPD is not contraindicated for anyone including pregnant women, persons who are HIV-infected, or persons who have been vaccinated with BCG. Evaluation will be made on an individual basis. |
| MMR: Measles, (Rubeola), Mumps, Rubella | Documentation of history of measles, mumps, and/or rubella is not sufficient. Student must be vaccinated with two doses of MMR vaccine, separated by at least 28 days. Students must show proof of positive immunity (lab evidence indicating positive MMR titers). If titers results are negative, equivocal, or borderline documentation of the two doses of MMR must be submitted. If you have a medical condition which does not allow current immunization, then you may sign a waiver and upload it into your student portal to document your medical exception. Evaluation will be made on an individual basis. |
| Tetanus- Diphtheria- Pertussis (Tdap) For continued enrollment - required 10 years from date of last vaccine. | Documentation of Tetanus-Diphtheria with Acellular Pertussis vaccination administered within the past 10 years. If you have a medical condition which does not allow current immunization, then you may sign a waiver and upload it into your student portal to document your medical exception. |
| Influenza (Flu) For continued enrollment - required annually. | Flu vaccines are available from late September through early May. Students are required to have a flu vaccine for the current season on file no later than September 30th of each year in order to enter the clinical setting. Influenza vaccine is required annually. If you have a medical condition which does not allow current immunization, then you may sign a waiver and upload it into your student portal to document your medical exception. If exempt from obtaining the flu vaccination, the student will be required to mask while in the clinical setting at all times during the flu season as indicated by the health care facility. |
| Hepatitis B | Hepatitis B vaccine (3 doses). Hepatitis B Waiver, or blood titers are required. A lab confirmation must be presented (see below) if using blood titers. You will be required to repeat the vaccine series if there is no immunity. If you have repeated vaccination series and completed a second titer and the results are still negative, equivocal, or borderline, then you may sign a waiver for this disease. A waiver is required if vaccine not administered. If you have a medical condition which does not allow current immunization, then you may sign a waiver and upload it into your student portal to document your medical exception. Evaluation will be made on an individual basis. |
**DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card**

**For continued enrollment:**
Unexpired card required.

Arizona: The FP Clearance card must be submitted prior to beginning the program for all new students. This is not a copy of your actual fingerprints. See the Department of Public Safety for forms &/or questions: [http://www.azdps.gov/Services/Fingerprint/](http://www.azdps.gov/Services/Fingerprint/)

When requesting a fingerprint clearance card, please ask for a "Healthcare Student" card (which encompasses criminal and sex offender checks performed at the federal and state levels). In other words, per the Fingerprint Clearance Card application, students are to indicate that they are Health Sciences Students and Clinical Assistants (ARS 15-1881). When completing the Fingerprint Clearance Card application, please list Grand Canyon University (and its address) as the sponsoring agency.

**Varicella (Chicken Pox)**

Documentation of history of chicken pox is not sufficient. Student must be vaccinated with two doses of Varicella vaccine, separated by at least 28 days. Students must show proof of positive immunity (lab evidence indicating positive varicella titers). If titers results are negative, equivocal, or borderline documentation of the two doses of Varicella must be submitted. If you have a medical condition which does not allow current immunization, then you may sign a waiver and upload it into your student portal to document your medical exception. Evaluation will be made on an individual basis.

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**Protocol for Puncture Wounds and Exposure to Blood or Bodily Fluids:**

- Incidents involving any type of needle stick or body-fluid exposure must be reported to the Preceptor/Faculty/Facility immediately. The faculty will then notify the Director of Clinical Operations or Director of Lab and Simulation.

- All students must follow the protocol for safe needle usage when practicing or performing parenteral injections, IV starts, blood draws, using syringes, or performing any invasive procedure while in lab, simulation or clinical settings. The student must follow the protocol for needle usage at the agency where clinicals are being held.

**Uncontaminated Needle Stick or Intact Skin Exposure**

A student who accidentally punctures him/herself with an uncontaminated needle or is exposed to blood or bodily fluid that is an intact skin exposure should:

- Wash the area immediately and thoroughly with soap and water
- Follow up with a health care provider who will make a determination of Tetanus immunization status and give appropriate prophylaxis or referral for appropriate prophylaxis.
- Complete a Pre-licensure Nursing Program Incident Report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Director of Clinical Operations and placed in the student’s file.
- Financial responsibility for testing and recommended care following an exposure rests solely with the student. This could include testing, evaluation, treatment, and counseling.

**Contaminated Needle Stick or Non-Intact Skin or Mucous Membrane Exposure**

If the exposure is via a contaminated needle or if a bodily fluid exposure to non-intact skin, or to mucous membranes the student should continue with the following:

- Wash the skin area immediately with soap and water. If exposure is to mucous membranes, flush area with water immediately
- Report the incident to their preceptor/faculty/supervisor.
- Immediately seek medical attention. If in an acute care setting, always follow agency guidelines. This may include reporting to either Occupational Health or the agency Emergency Department.
- If student is in the population health or community setting, the student must immediately seek a medical professional equipped to treat contaminated needle stick injuries (e.g. Emergency room, urgent care, or primary care provider). See below for available medical professionals that may be utilized.
- Complete a Pre-licensure Nursing Program Incident Report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Director of Clinical Operations and placed in the student’s file.
- Financial responsibility for testing and recommended care following an exposure rests solely with the student. This could include testing, evaluation, treatment, and counseling.
- Exposed students may contact the Center for Disease Control and Prevention PEP 24 hour assistance line at 1.888.448.4911 (Clinicians’ Post Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline) after seeking local medical attention first.

Available Medical Professional Services
1. Maricopa County Public Health Clinic  
STD/HIV Testing  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
602-506-1678  
Clinic Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 am - 5:00pm; Wednesday 9:00am – 5:00pm  
Please register before 3 pm, no appointment necessary  
2. Planned Parenthood Centers  
*Please contact individual center to verify ability to provide PEP services  
*Clinic hours vary per location  
3. Maricopa Medical Center-Emergency Department  
2601 East Roosevelt Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
Hours: 24 Hours available  

**Note: Above services are subject to change. It is strongly encourage the student contact the service to verify ability to provide PEP services.**

**Communicable Disease Exposure Plan**

During field experiences, students may be exposed to communicable diseases. Students may be required to seek medical attention according to agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. Financial responsibility for testing and recommended care following an exposure rests solely with the student. This could include testing, evaluation, treatment, and counseling. Complete a Pre-licensure Nursing Program Incident Report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Director of Clinical Operations and placed in the student’s file.

Written medical clearance from a health care provider as well as permission of the Directors of Lab or Clinical and course instructor(s) is required before students with aforementioned concern will be allowed to utilize the laboratory, simulation, or clinical areas.

**Tuberculosis Exposure Plan**

According to the CDC, “It is important to know that a person who is exposed to TB bacteria is not able to spread the bacteria to other people right away. Only persons with active TB disease can spread TB bacteria to others.”

“Some people develop TB disease soon (within weeks) after becoming infected, before their immune system can fight the TB bacteria. Other people may get sick years later, when their immune system becomes weak for another reason. Many people with TB infection never develop TB disease.” http://www.cdc.gov/tb/topic/basics/exposed.htm

Students will not be held from clinical experiences unless they have an active TB infection, not TB disease. Active TB is determined by the use of TB screening and confirmation by qualified health care providers/professionals based on symptoms of active TB. Tuberculosis (TB) exposure potential is defined as any exposure to the exhaled or expired air of a person with suspected or confirmed TB disease. A high hazard procedure involving an individual with suspected or confirmed TB disease is one that has the potential to generate potentially infectious airborne respiratory secretions such as aerosolized medication treatment, bronchoscopy, sputum induction, endotracheal intubation, and suctioning. Workplaces with inherent exposure potential to TB disease:

- Health care facilities
- Corrections facilities
- Homeless shelters/clinics for homeless
- Long term health facilities
- Drug treatment centers
- When a Tuberculosis (TB) exposure occurs, the involved student will report the incident to the clinical instructor and the appropriate administrative staff at the involved institution or agency.
- The clinical instructor will complete a Pre-licensure Nursing Program Incident Report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the exposure. A copy of this report will be given to the Director of Clinical Operations and placed in the student’s file.
- The student will be counseled immediately and referred to his or her personal health care provider or the local Health Department.
- A baseline Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) should be administered as soon as possible after the exposure.
- Frequency of follow-up TSTs will be performed per provider protocol. A TST performed 12 weeks after the last exposure will indicate whether infection has occurred.
- A student with evidence of new infection, (TST conversions) needs to be evaluated for active TB. Even if active TB is not diagnosed, prophylactic therapy for latent TB is recommended.
• A student with a previously documented reactive TST need not be retested but should have a baseline symptom screen performed following the exposure and repeated 12 weeks after the exposure. If the symptom screen is positive a chest x-ray is required.
• Any active case of TB must be reported to local Health Department.

A student diagnosed with active pulmonary or laryngeal TB may be highly infectious and will not be able to attend class or clinical experiences until he/she is noninfectious.

1. In order to return to school the student will need to provide documentation from the health care provider that he/she is noninfectious. The documentation needs to include evidence that:
   a) The student has received adequate therapy for a minimum of 2 weeks.
   b) The cough has resolved, and the student is not experiencing chest pain, hemoptysis, fever or chills.
   c) The results of three consecutive sputum acid-fast bacilli (AFB) smears collected on different days are negative.
   d) Note: The Health and Wellness Center can perform TST, but will refer the student to local Health Department for treatment and AFB testing if indicated.

2. Documentation and Financial Responsibility
   a) After the student returns to school and remains on anti-TB therapy, periodic documentation from their health care provider is needed to show that effective drug therapy is being maintained for the recommended period and that the sputum AFB smear results remain negative.
   b) The student is responsible for all costs related to the exposure incident.
   c) The student’s health records will be maintained in a confidential file within the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions.

Performance Evaluations by Preceptor

Transition to Practice (TTP) in Pre-licensure Nursing Program

The Transition to Practice Nurse Residency Program clinical nursing course aligns with its co-requisite didactic course and builds on prior knowledge, skills, and attitudes from other courses and levels within the program. The RN Preceptor in collaboration with the Residency Site Supervisor will perform both a midterm and final clinical evaluation, using the Clinical Evaluation Tool (CET) for the student.

After Completing the BSN Pre-Licensure Program

Students are to follow the Graduation Requirements policy found in the University Policy Handbook. http://www.gcu.edu/Policy-Handbook.php

Licensure Examination

In order to be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Examination for Professional Licensure after graduation, students must have completed the BSN program of study and hold a diploma. No exceptions are made to this policy.

Students are responsible for applying to take the National Council License Examination—Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) exam for professional licensure through the State Board of Nursing.

The registered nurse licensing requirements are the exclusive responsibility of the State Board of Nursing (Arizona: Nurse Practice Act, A.R.S., Sections 36-1601 et. seq.;) and must be satisfied independently of any requirements for graduation from the University. Historically, College of Nursing & Health Care Professions graduates have been successful on the licensure examination. Satisfactory performance on the licensure examination is the responsibility of the graduate and not guaranteed by the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions.

Professional Nurse Qualifications

Section 32-1632 of the Arizona State Board of Nursing Statutes, Chapter 15, Article 2 – Licensing states, “An applicant for a license to practice as a registered nurse shall file with the board a verified written application accompanied by the prescribed fee and shall submit satisfactory proof that the applicant:

1. Has completed satisfactorily the basic curriculum in an approved registered nursing program and holds a diploma or degree from that program.
2. An applicant for licensure by either licensure or endorsement, who does not meet the requirements of subsection (B), shall have completed the clinical portion of a pre-licensure program within two years of the date of licensure.
3. If convicted of one or more felonies, has received an absolute discharge from the sentences for all felony convictions three or more years prior to the date filing an application pursuant to this chapter.”
If the applicant has been convicted of a felony pursuant to section 13-604, the court has entered judgment of conviction for a class 1 misdemeanor.

Nursing students are expected to be clear of any felony convictions at the time of admission into the College of Nursing & Health Care Professions and to remain free of felony convictions for the duration of the program. If the prospective student or student is charged with a felony, or undesignated offense either before admission or during the program, he/she must speak with the Dean immediately.
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN)

Expectations for Practice Experiences in the RN-BSN Program

Clinical practice experiences are an essential component of the post-licensure BSN program. The Capstone and Practicum course combines scholarly activities with clinical practice experiences designed to synthesize learning into the practice environment and impact health outcomes of the recipient (individual patients, families, groups, communities, or populations) of nursing care or services.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2012) defines nursing and the achievement of baccalaureate standards as follows:

Nursing is a practice discipline that includes both direct and indirect care activities that impact health outcomes.

Baccalaureate programs provide opportunities for practice experiences designed to assist graduates to achieve The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice. All baccalaureate programs, including RN-BSN programs, must provide practice experiences for students to bridge to baccalaureate-level professional nursing practice” (AACN, 2012).

To meet course and program outcomes, students enrolled in the RN-BSN Program are expected to participate in planned, clinical practice experiences that refine professional competencies at the baccalaureate level and enable students to integrate new knowledge and higher level skills reflective of educational preparation at the baccalaureate degree level. All students, regardless of licensure status, must complete clinical practice experiences that build upon prior learning as a part of a pre-licensure program (diploma or associate nursing).

Professional growth to meet RN-BSN Program outcomes are identified and documented using the Individual Success Plan (ISP). Students develop individual plans to achieve specific learning goals with their assigned faculty member and in collaboration with a mentor/preceptor identified by the student from the practice setting in which the clinical practice experience is planned.

Mentors/Preceptors are in the practice setting to support student learning objectives and oversee the practice experience. For faculty to approve mentors/preceptors identified by students, mentors/preceptors must:

- Possess an active, unencumbered RN license in the state in which the practice experience is taking place or hold multistate license in either a compact state or enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC)
- Hold a Bachelor's degree in Nursing (BSN) or higher
- Have a minimum of 3 years of practice experience in direct client care
- May not be a relative or personal friend of the student
- Be available to the student to serve as a resource during the practice experience
- Be available to participate in the evaluation process by providing feedback to the student and the faculty member completing the final evaluation of the student

Faculty are responsible for working directly with students to select a practice experience and setting deemed appropriate to meet learning objectives of the course as well as guide students in identifying an appropriate scholarly capstone project to demonstrate application of knowledge in the areas of research, leadership, and community / public health. Practice experiences, settings, mentors/preceptors, and projects must be approved by the faculty.

Practice Experience Objectives

- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of factors to consider when planning to work with a chosen community.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of approaches that will facilitate engagement of the community.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge and skills required to work constructively with communities.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge related to engagement of organizational leadership and change agents.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge related to disseminating project findings/data with organizational leadership and change agents.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge related to completing an evidence-based project to impact population health outcomes.
- Demonstrate and apply Healthy People 2020 principles related to completing an evidence-based project to impact population health outcomes.

There are currently multiple versions of this program in operation, depending on the students' enrollment agreement. Please check with the Office of Field Experience (OFE) if you do not know which experience pertains to your enrollment agreement and program version.
Practice Experience Hours
The total number of practice hours required in the Capstone and Practicum Course: 100 hours

Clinical Practice Experience Hours in NRS-493 and NRS-491:
- All clinical practice hours must be completed with an approved preceptor at the clinical setting
- 50 clinical practice hours will be dedicated to learning objectives in community health
- 50 clinical practice hours will be dedicated to learning objectives in leadership

Practice Immersion Experience Hours in NRS-490:
- Practice immersion hours will be obtained through a combination of assignments, professional development activities, and time spent in the clinical practice setting.

Hours NOT Included
Hours spent participating in the following activities cannot be counted toward the total number of practice hours required in the Capstone and Practicum course:
- Attendance / participation in seminars, conferences, employee learning, or continuing education (CE) programs
- Time spent traveling to and from practice settings
- Time participating in the pre-/mid-/post- evaluation meetings with faculty and preceptors (NRS-493 and NRS-491)
- Non-qualifying course activities and assignments, ie. those not expressly listed in the course syllabus

Practice Settings and Experiences

Clinical Practice Settings for NRS-493 and NRS-491:
- Hospital-Based Clinic
- Acute Care Hospital ONLY when paired with Infection Control Nurse as preceptor
- Occupational Health Setting
- Insurance company when paired with Nurse Case Manager
- Public Health Department
- Indian Health Services
- Community Health Center / Clinic
- University / School Health Center

Clinical Practice Experiences for NRS-493 and NRS-491:
- Perform direct assessments of a community / population of interest
- Develop and implement a health promotion / wellness intervention to address specific health issues / needs of a community as identified in the direct assessment
- Options for interventions:
  - Primary prevention: health promotion education
  - Secondary prevention: screenings for vulnerable population
  - Bioterrorism: disaster preparedness education
  - Environmental issue detection and staff training
- Perform a direct assessment of organizational needs pertaining to the detection of at-risk or vulnerable populations
- Using assessment results, influence the delivery of care, deployment of resources, and / or the development of policies to promote health and prevent disease
- Develop and implement an education initiative to address detection of at-risk or vulnerable populations*
  *May be completed with a nurse leader or infection control nurse as a preceptor.

Practice Immersion Settings for NRS-490:
- Inpatient, outpatient, ambulatory, or clinic settings
- Acute, long-term, rehabilitative, or sub-specialty care settings
- Community settings
- Public health settings
- Educational settings
Practice Immersion experiences for NRS-490:

- Direct and indirect patient care*
- Patient or population teaching
- Population interventions
- Quality assurance / improvement projects
- Leadership and change projects
- Process or policy development

*Definitions of indirect and direct patient care, as defined by AACN (2012), are provided.

**Direct Care / Indirect Care**

Direct care refers to nursing care activities provided at the point of care to patients or working with other healthcare providers that are intended to achieve specific health goals or achieve selected health outcomes. Indirect care refers to nursing decision, actions, or interventions that are provided through or on behalf of patients. These decisions or interventions create the conditions under which nursing care or self-care may occur. Nurses might use administrative decisions, population or aggregate health planning, or policy development to affect health outcomes in this way (AACN, 2012).

**Worksites as Settings for Practice Experiences**

The line between current employment and practice immersion hours and projects must remain clear to the organization, the mentor/preceptor, the faculty, and the student. Students must be able to demonstrate the achievement of the BSN competencies, regardless of whether they are in their current place of employment or a different practice setting. Students may only complete their hours in their workplace setting under the conditions described below.

Criteria for approving worksites for clinical practice experiences (NRS-493 and NRS-491) or practice immersion (NRS-490) include:
- The workplace setting must meet the leadership and community learning objectives identified in the course
- Goals and boundaries are clearly identified and agreed upon by the faculty, mentor/preceptor, and workplace manager
- The student is assigned to a department different from his/her current work department
- Organization/setting permits the student to complete the experience in the workplace setting

In all cases, students should ask the organization or department to share existing practice problems as a means to identify an evidenced-based solution (nursing practice intervention) mutually supported by the organization / department. Worksite settings that do not meet the leadership and community course objectives are NOT permitted.

**Securing Practice Experience Sites**

It is the responsibility of the student to identify clinical placements and preceptors. Should a student have difficulty securing a site, the Office of Field Experience will provide assistance to secure a placement on the student’s behalf. Priority will be given to those students who have submitted the application and all required documentation by the appropriate deadlines. Practice site should be selected a minimum of 4-6 months in advance of placement (in their PHI-413V course) to ensure all necessary approvals are completed (prior to the NRS-493 or NRS-491 course). If the practice site requires an Affiliation Agreement, please contact the Office of Field Experience (OFE). Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Field Experience (OFE) for answers to site-specific questions and support when securing a practice site.

The practice site selected may be used for educational purposes. Students may not receive payment for practice experiences.

**When a Mentor/Preceptor Agrees to Serve**

Once a mentor/preceptor has agreed to serve in the role of mentor/preceptor, the student must complete and submit the Site Information Form to their faculty for approval in the LoudCloud classroom. This should occur immediately following acceptance so that practice experiences can begin in a timely manner. Delays in identifying and completing the appropriate paperwork may result in difficulty completing course requirements or successful completion of the course.

The student is responsible for obtaining all signatures and for submitting paperwork to the correct individual / department. Faculty will approve all sites and mentors/preceptors according to the course objectives and student learning needs. Prior to the start of the practice experience, a copy of the mentor/preceptors’ license and CV, or resume, must be on file for the faculty to approve. Agencies may require an Affiliation Agreement. If an agreement is needed, the student should contact the Office of Field Experience (OFE) as soon as they are made aware.

**Affiliation Agreements**

If a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is not accepted by the site, the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions must have a facility contract with the site prior to the student beginning a practice experience. An Affiliation Agreement must be obtained for each site the student plans to utilize. It is the student’s responsibility to give OFE their sites’ coordinator information, so that the
OFE can work directly with leadership at the facility/agency to obtain the signed, legal contract. Please remember the planning form is not a contract when submitted for approval. The planning form initiates the process of securing the final agreement and ensures liability coverage. Failure to complete the form completely and accurately can slow this process and may prevent the student from beginning the clinical experience on time.

If a current agreement is not already in place, the OFE will send the legal contract directly to the agency. Completing new facility/agency agreements require a considerable amount of time therefore, please allow at least four to six months for a new agreement to be finalized. An affiliation Agreement must be in place prior to the course start date. Once an Affiliation Agreement has been finalized, students will be notified via email.

Some facilities may have specific requirements for documentation prior to placing students. Students must work with both the facility/agency and OFE to ensure all requirements are met (e.g. a hospital may require a background check, different from other background checks that may have already been completed, and reserves the right to specify their own institutional requirements). The university does not have control of these circumstances.

Roles and Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities

- Ensure a MOU or an Affiliation Agreement has been approved.
- Align individual learning objectives from the Individual Success Plan (ISP) with course and program objectives.
- Review course objectives and learning needs with mentor to develop strategies to meet them.
- Maintain professional behavior in the setting at all times including professional dress, professional ethics, and professional communications.
- Demonstrate increasing competency while incorporating evidence-based practice guidelines.
- Adhere to professional attitude that is in accordance with site requirements.
- Function in the role of the nursing professional under the guidance of the mentor/preceptor.
- Participate in pre-/mid-/post- practice experience conferences with faculty and mentor/preceptor, if applicable.
- All clinical hours must be completed during the specified course.
- Complete mentor/preceptor, faculty, site, and course-related evaluations.

Faculty Responsibilities

- Approve all mentors/preceptors, practice experiences, and Individual Success Plans (ISPs) in the LMS classroom.
- Promptly communicate issues of concern regarding student academic progress or unsafe practice to mentor/preceptor.
- Provide preferred method of communication and be available answer questions or concerns regarding the student’s practice immersion experience.
- Provide regular feedback to improve the student’s knowledge and skills.
- Facilitate pre-/mid-/post- practice experience conferences with mentor/preceptor and student in the NRS-491 and NRS-493 course.
- Document pre-/mid-/post- practice experience conferences located in the LMS classroom.
- Facilitate student’s progressive independence in knowledge and skills by supporting the student’s autonomy.
- Facilitate professional socialization.
- Assist student and mentor to optimize the learning environment.
- Communicate with student as needed throughout the course.
- Issue an Early Alert for unsatisfactory academic or professional behaviors.
- Complete the evaluation of student performance incorporating feedback from the mentor/preceptor.
- Complete course-related evaluations that provide feedback to the student, the mentor/preceptor, and the practice setting.

Mentor/Preceptor Responsibilities

- Orient student to the site and agency policies.
- Discuss with student the preferred method for communication.
- Review with student the site’s client population, most frequent diagnoses and procedures commonly performed, if applicable.
- Discuss mentor/preceptor and agency expectations.
- Review the objectives of the course and student’s learning objectives to determine the type of learning opportunities that will enhance the student’s learning. Direct the student to resources and evidence based readings and areas for quality improvement.
- Provide a variety of appropriate learning experiences. If available, encourage participation in interdisciplinary team meetings.
- Facilitate a collaborative and mutually respectful environment in which to learn.
- Share expertise, tools, and references that will aid the student in role transition.
• Provide time to mentor/preceptor student learning by answering questions and reviewing material
• Promptly communicate to faculty regarding issues of concern or unsafe practice
• Provide regular feedback to improve the student’s knowledge and skills
• Facilitate student’s progressive independence in knowledge and skills by supporting the student’s autonomy
• Facilitate professional socialization
• Participate in pre-/mid-/post- practice experience conferences with faculty and student
• Complete course-related documents that provide feedback to faculty

Student, Faculty, and Preceptor Meetings (NRS-493 and NRS-491 Course)

Pre-/mid-/post- conferences between the student, faculty, and preceptor are mandatory.

A pre-conference will occur prior to the start of the practicum experience. This meeting is intended for the student, faculty, and preceptor to review course and program learning objectives, the Individual Success Plan (ISP), proposed capstone project, and the roles / responsibilities / expectations of students, faculty, and preceptors. The preceptor and student will attest to meeting by signing the preceptor approval form and submitting to the classroom in the first week for faculty approval of the proposed experience.

A mid-term conference will occur at the mid-point of the course. This meeting is intended for the student, faculty, and preceptor to discuss student progress toward meeting the learning goals contained in the Individual Success Plan (ISP) and course learning objectives. Progress toward completing the written capstone project will also be discussed with faculty recommendations for project development. The practicum faculty will contact the preceptor at midterm by phone, skype, facetime or any other desired virtual modality and the faculty member will complete the midterm evaluation electronically with the input of the preceptor.

A post-practice experience conference will occur at the end of the course. This meeting is intended for the student, faculty, and preceptor to discuss achievement of goals and evaluation of course-specific competencies / requirements identified in the practice experience clinical evaluation tools (evaluation of student, student evaluation of preceptor, and evaluation of practice setting). The final evaluation will be completed electronically by the preceptor and reviewed with the student. The valuable feedback/input given by the preceptors on the students’ performance will then receive a final review and evaluation by the practicum faculty.

Logging Practice Experience Hours

Logging Hours in NRS-493 and NRS-491:
The Document Management System (DMS) is used to track practicum hours throughout the students RN to BSN program.

Logging Hours in NRS-490:
The Individual Success Plan (ISP) is used to track practice hours. This must be signed by the student’s mentor the first week of class and prior to the end of the course to verify all hours have been met. All practice experience assignments and hours will be reviewed by the faculty and feedback provided to the student in the LMS classroom.

Capstone/Practicum Programmatic Assessments

The Individual Success Plan (ISP) requires collaboration with the course faculty in the first week to establish a plan for successful completion of mutually identified goals and specific deliverables to meet course and programmatic requirements. ISPs are intended to guide students in developing their learning plan over the 10-week course. Programmatic requirements include: (1) completion of the required 100 clinical practice experience / practice immersion hours, (2) completion of work associated with program competencies, (3) work associated with completion of the student’s Capstone Project. ISPs are submitted to the LoudCloud classroom. The template can be located in the LMS classroom.

Capstone Project

The capstone project is a practice experience assignment which offers students an opportunity to research and propose an evidence-based, nursing intervention to address an issue significant to nursing practice within a clinical environment. Students identify a specific patient population, or clinical department, within their chosen practicum environment to design and propose an evidence-based solution. Faculty must approve capstone projects. Faculty and mentors / preceptors support students toward project completion.

Examples of practices experience assignments are listed in Appendix A of the document titled: American Association of Colleges of Nursing - White Paper: Expectations for Practice Experiences in the RN to Baccalaureate Curriculum.

Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training

Athletic Training Clinical Course Expectations

Program Mission, Goals and Objectives

Program Mission Statement
The mission of the Grand Canyon University Athletic Training Educational Program is to prepare superior quality athletic training professionals while teaching them to become global citizens, critical thinkers, effective communicators and responsible leaders by providing academically challenging, values-based curriculum from the context of our Christian heritage.

Program Goals and Objectives
1. Program Goals
2. To prepare competent entry level Athletic Trainers in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains
3. To provide a student focused educational environment that, while meeting the professional requirements of athletic training, is capable of meeting a student's individual needs with concern and flexibility
4. To challenge students to academic excellence and optimize student's abilities in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning domains
5. To encourage students to think critically, analyze situations, learn to solve problems, adapt to situations, and challenge others to optimal skills and abilities
6. To assist students in their Christian faith journey and in how to apply that faith, with its moral and ethical tenets, in the profession of athletic training
7. To encourage students to prepare for entry into high schools either as full-time athletic trainers or as teacher-athletic trainers
8. To prepare students for any role or employee setting as defined by the state of Arizona athletic training practice act
9. To offer various clinical education experiences for students to understand employment opportunities and make contact for possible employment

2. The objectives of Grand Canyon University Athletic Training Education Program are to provide the athletic training students with exceptional learning experiences to gain the knowledge and practical skills required to be a highly competent, functional and well-rounded athletic trainer, including ability to:
1. Identify specific injuries and illnesses and provide the appropriate immediate care
2. Plan and implement a risk management and injury prevention program for various sports
3. Evaluate and distinguish various injuries
4. Establish proper usage of various therapeutic modalities
5. Design therapeutic exercises for rehabilitation of injuries
6. Differentiate between various pharmaceuticals and their uses
7. Organize and provide administration of an athletic training program
8. Design research and gain the ability to develop professionally
9. Intervene when necessary concerning psychosocial events
10. Counsel athletes in general nutrition and ergogenic aids

Athletic Training General Health and Safety Requirements

The following information indicates the specific health requirements for undergraduate clinical program admission and continuous enrollment. Guidelines are based on the Center for Disease Control guidelines, Morbidity Mortality Weekly Report. Students are expected to take measures to maintain their personal health so as not to jeopardize themselves or any client with whom they come in contact. Students who are accepted into the programs must show evidence of the Athletic Training required immunizations and diagnostic procedures. In addition, students must meet agency health requirements to enter clinical course work. At any time, a student may be required to receive a medical examination if deemed necessary by the faculty for the well-being of the student and/or the clients.

As students are in contact with clients in a variety of health situations, it is imperative that they maintain protection against communicable illnesses. Students are responsible for maintaining all progression requirements, including all health and safety documents, as stated in the University Policy Handbook. Students will not be allowed to participate in clinical experiences unless all agency and GCU requirements are current. Any student that falls out of compliance due to expired documentation will immediately be restricted from clinical participation until renewed documentation is provided and coinciding faculty will be notified. Missing clinical may jeopardize a student being successful in the program. All students will be contacted early in their program by the Office of Field Experience and provided guidance on the proper submission of required health and safety documentation.

Students will adhere to all guidelines for Standard Precautions within the clinical agencies.
Communicable Disease Policy

Reference the University Policy Handbook for the Communicable Disease Policy. Blood-borne Pathogen Policy

Athletic Training Students in the clinical phase of the ATP will undergo annual Blood-borne Pathogen education (pathogen and infection control) at Grand Canyon University during ATS orientation at the start of each academic year. Clinical sites are responsible for providing accessibility to their sites blood-borne pathogen policy and exposure plan. Students will have access to and utilize appropriate blood-borne pathogen barriers, access to and utilize proper sanitary precautions, and access to appropriate biohazard disposal equipment and procedures at each clinical site.

Protocol for Puncture Wounds and Exposure to Blood or Bodily Fluids:

- Incidents involving any type of needle stick or body-fluid exposure must be reported to the Preceptor/Clinical Faculty/Facility immediately. The clinical faculty will then notify the course faculty and Program Director.
- All students should observe the protocol for safe needle usage and disposal when practicing or performing skills that involve using syringes, lancelets, or any other procedure that involves an invasive intervention. The student should follow the protocol for needle usage at the agency where clinical rotations are being held.

Intact Skin Exposure or Uncontaminated Needle Stick

A student who accidentally punctures him/herself with an uncontaminated needle or is exposed to blood or bodily fluid that is an intact skin exposure should:

- Wash the area immediately and thoroughly with soap and water
- Follow up with the Canyon Health Center or own Primary Care Provider or other facilities listed on the resource page who will make a determination of Tetanus immunization status and give appropriate prophylaxis or referral for appropriate prophylaxis.
- Complete a student puncture wound incident report (available from the CONHCP) to be filled out by the student and the supervising faculty or instructor who was present during the incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Program Director and College Administrator, and placed in the student’s file.
- Counseling referral and other referrals can be arranged through the health center.
- If student is outside Maricopa County, the Program Director must be contacted for specific information related to resources for medical treatment.

Non-Intact Skin or Mucous Membrane Exposure or Contaminated Needle Stick

If the exposure is via a contaminated needle or if a bodily fluid exposure to non-intact skin, or to mucous membranes the student should continue with the following:

- Wash the skin area immediately with soap and water. If exposure is to mucous membranes, flush area with water immediately
- Report the incident to their clinical preceptor, faculty/CEC, and program director.
- Immediately seek medical attention. If in an acute care setting, always follow agency guidelines. This may include reporting to either Occupational Health or the agency Emergency Department.
- If student is in the community setting and an agency Occupational Health Center or Emergency Department are not available, the student may report to the Health and Wellness Center on GCU Main Campus if it is during normal operating hours. The Health and Wellness Center’s number is 602.639.6215.
- In the event that this incident occurs in the community setting, when the Health and Wellness Center is not open, GCU recommends that students seek immediate treatment at an Urgent Care or Physician’s Office equipped to treat contaminated needle stick injuries. If follow up visits are required, they may schedule them at the Health and Wellness Center on GCU Main Campus. Counseling referral and other referrals can be arranged through the Center.
- If student is outside of Maricopa County, please contact the Program Director for specific information related to resources for medical treatment.
- Student puncture wound incident report (available from the CONHCP) will be filled out by the student and the faculty or instructor who was present during incident. A copy of this report will be given to the Program Director and College Administrator to be placed in the student’s file.
- Financial responsibility for testing and recommended care following an exposure rests solely with the student. This could include testing, evaluation, treatment, and counseling.

If students have questions about the appropriate medical treatment, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that they call a 24 hour assistance line at 1.888.448.4911 (Clinicians’ Post Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline).

Athletic Training Student Responsibilities and Code of Conduct

1. Act in a professional manner, consistent with the NATA code of ethics, regarding dress, speech, body language, and client confidentiality at all clinical sites.
   a. Students are expected to wear their GCU ATP student name tag at all clinical sites.
2. Adhere to the GCU ATP clinical attendance and tardiness policy. More information on this policy can be found in the University Policy Handbook.
3. Abide by the clinical site’s policies and procedures manual
4. The student’s clinical responsibilities vary with the clinical site and level of the student. This is dependent upon the level of formal instruction they have received. Students are required to meet with the clinical supervisor to discuss their specific responsibilities no later than the first day of the clinical rotation.
5. Complete all clinical coursework including, but not limited to: proficiencies, EBP’s, Discussion Forums, etc.
6. Informing the clinical preceptor and faculty of any questions or concerns regarding the clinical rotations or clinical site.
7. Informing the clinical preceptor and faculty of any violations of local laws, state laws, federal laws, policies and procedures of the clinical site and/or the ATP, and/or the NATA’s Code of Ethics.
8. Informing the program director and clinical preceptor if his/her health status changes.
   a. Specifically, students are asked to report injuries or illnesses that would prevent their ability to continue meeting the ATP’s Technical Standards.
   b. Also, students are expected to notify the program director and clinical preceptor if they develops a communicable disease or illness that could be contracted by a client or athlete that the student is in contact with.
   c. If an ATS acquires an injury or illness that she/he believes is directly related to their involvement at an affiliated clinical rotation site, the student is required to report the injury or illness to the clinical preceptor and program directory immediately. The clinical preceptor and the program director will then determine a course of action.
10. Initiate instruction and assessment of the current knowledge, skills, and clinical abilities designated by the CAATE.
11. Initiate instruction and opportunities to develop clinical integration proficiencies, communication skills and clinical decision-making during actual client care.
12. Initiate assessment of clinical integration proficiencies, communication skills and clinical decision-making during actual client care.
13. Regular communication with the appropriate faculty.
14. Presence during an annual site visit by GCU’s Clinical Coordinator or GCU program faculty.

Required Prior to Starting BSAT Clinical Coursework

In order to meet all CAATE accreditation standards and guidelines, as well as liability and health precautions, all students must complete the following information prior to starting their first clinical course. All costs associated with compliance are the responsibility of the student.

1. Attend a mandatory athletic training program orientation.
   a. This meeting will address the following programmatic requirements for all clinical levels:
      i. College of Nursing and Health Care Professions training or an approved in-classroom clinical instruction on requirements relating to patient privacy (HIPAA/FERPA).
      ii. Communicable disease policy.
      iii. Blood-Bourne Pathogen training and policy.
      iv. Chain of command for the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions.
      v. Updates to policy and accreditation standards.
2. Complete and submit the application for an Arizona Department of Public Safety Fingerprint Clearance Card (~$65).
   a. Students are required to complete the regular application (not an IVP) and check the box for Health Science Student & Clinical Assistant (ARS 15-1881) for their clinical assignment. It is required for clinical rotation sites and completed through the Arizona Department of Public Safety (AzDPS).
3. Complete and submit a First Aid course completion card from one of the following listed below (cost varies per provider):
   a. American Heart Association
   b. American Red Cross
   c. American Safety and Health Institute
   d. Emergency Care and Safety Institute
   e. National Safety Council
4. Submit a Professional Rescuer CPR course completion card (costs varies per provider). CPR course must meet the Board of Certification (BOC) Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) requirements (www.bocatc.org/athletic-trainers). Your ECC certification must include: Adult CPR, Pediatric CPR, Second Rescuer CPR, AED, Airway Obstruction and Barrier Device Training. Course completion card from one of the following listed below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Name</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider, Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider, Basic Life Support (BLS) - RQI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer, Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Safety and Health Institute</td>
<td>CPR for Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Care and Safety Institute</td>
<td>Health Care Provider CPR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Safety Council</td>
<td>Basic Life Support (BLS) for Health Care and Professional Rescuers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Red Cross</td>
<td>First Responder CPR/AED HCP Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC)</td>
<td>Cardiac First Responder - Community Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cardiac First Responder - Advanced Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Submit a completed HIPAA and FERPA confidentiality acknowledgement form prior to any involvement in a clinical setting.

6. Purchase National Athletic Trainers Association Membership at the cost to the student, which provides access to clinical course proficiency requirements (~$125).

7. Purchase a name badge from the provider on the GCU athletic training webpage. Once the student has received your name badge, scan a copy and submit to OFE. (~$10)

8. Provide the following health information to the Office of Field Experience Prior to the semester start date where the student will begin their clinical coursework. Some requirements will need to be updated after the initial screening/immunization.
   a. Health History and Physical Examination form.
   b. ATP Technical Standards Form.
      i. The technical standards are to ensure all students meet the essential qualities necessary to be a successful athletic training student. Students can request reasonable accommodations through the Student Disability Services.
   c. Current health insurance coverage.
   d. Provide proof of valid professional liability insurance (~$25-$50).
   e. Proof of immunization and/or immunity are required:
      i. Tuberculosis (TB) screening (only required if observing surgery or for certain general medical rotations)
      ii. Lab evidence (titer) of immunity or current vaccination records:
         1. MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
         2. Varicella Zoster (VZV)
         3. Hepatitis B (titer required; a signed waiver is required if the vaccination series is not completed or declined by the student)
            a. This vaccination has a separate form that is required to fill out prior to the start of clinical rotations.
      iii. Tetanus-Diphtheria (TD) (recommended; not required)
      iv. Influenza (recommended; not required)
      v. Hepatitis A (recommended; not required)
Clinical Requirements

Clinical Site-Specific Orientation
All students must be familiar with the clinical sites prior to client care. This includes the following site-specific information.

- Venue specific EAP’s
- BBP Policy and Equipment
- Policy and Procedures
- Therapeutic Equipment Safety Check
- Determine Clinical Schedule

Clinical Time
The Athletic Training Program requires students to complete at a minimum of 10 hours per week up to a maximum of 20 hours per week in clinical courses to achieve at least 900 hours in the clinical program. This policy is consistent with federal work-study policy. Students must have a minimum of one day off in every seven-day period. Students are responsible for submitting their assigned clinical hours within the first week of classes.

Student Clinical Supervision

Supervision Policy
As an athletic training student, it is important to understand and comply with appropriate boundaries in the practice of athletic training clinical skills. These boundaries protect the student, the client, and the profession. In compliance with the Commission on the Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE), the GCU ATP Supervision Policy is that “Students must be directly supervised by a preceptor during the delivery of athletic training services. The preceptor must be physically present and have the ability to intervene on behalf of the athletic training student and the patient.”

Student Work Policy
Athletic Training Students (ATS) are not certified athletic trainers and will not be used in the place of a certified athletic trainer. Students will not receive any monetary remuneration during this education experience, including scholarships. After demonstrating proficiency, athletic training students may be permitted to undertake those specific defined activities with appropriate supervision, direction, and job description.

Preceptor
A preceptor is a licensed healthcare professional who is affiliated with the GCU ATP and provides professional supervision and education to program students. Students will be assigned to a preceptor by the ATP.

Direct supervision
Direct supervision means that the preceptor is physically present and has the ability to intervene on behalf of the athletic training student and the patient. Direct supervision is required during the delivery of athletic training services. This direct supervision does not preclude a student’s ability to learn and exercise key skills such as critical thinking or clinical decision making. Preceptors should allow students appropriate autonomy to engage in critical thinking and decision-making in a suitable environment. Supervision must be adequate to ensure that each patient receives competent and quality care, as well as to ensure compliance with Arizona Statutes and CAATE standards.

Clinical experience
Clinical experiences are educational experiences for the ATS that involve patient care and the application of athletic training skills under the supervision of your assigned preceptor. Clinical experiences generally occur at practices, games or during clinical coverage. When in a supervised clinical experience situation, the student can, at the discretion of the preceptor, perform all skills that have been previously instructed and evaluated.

Clarification of Athletic Training Services
During the delivery of athletic training services does not mean that the student and preceptor are physically inseparable every instant, only during patient care. The preceptor may need to step outside the facility (e.g. to answer a call or respond to an injury), and likewise a student may need to leave the facility (e.g. to prepare water coolers). If an injury/emergency occurs during a clinical experience while the preceptor is not physically present to directly supervise, the student should notify (call/radio) the preceptor immediately, and may provide basic first aid and CPR until the preceptor arrives. The student may not perform evaluations, treatments, or determine return to play without direct supervision.
Use of skills outside of supervised clinical experience

An ATS may not travel with a team without supervision even in the role of “first aider”, or open up the Athletic Training Room to provide treatment to a patient when a preceptor is not present. To do so is a violation of professional standards and Arizona State law (R4-49-402 and ARS 32-4121). In circumstances not affiliated with a university clinical experience, the student assumes the role of a voluntary citizen with emergency responder (first aid and CPR) training. If a situation arises in a student’s private life that necessitates the use of emergency responder skills, the student’s decision to act (or not act) is completely voluntary and the student is responsible to stay within the scope of practice of an emergency responder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptable Skills</th>
<th>Unacceptable Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acute injury first aid treatment (e.g. controlling bleeding, POLICE, splinting)</td>
<td>Application of modalities (other than ice/heat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring ABC’s, performing rescue breathing and/or CPR as necessary</td>
<td>Performing an orthopedic evaluation or any rehabilitation procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activating the emergency medical system</td>
<td>Return to play decisions regarding an athlete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any situation where the athletic training student’s presence takes the place of a licensed healthcare professional is unacceptable (e.g. athletic training student hired to provide first aid services at an athletic camp without a licensed athletic trainer present)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When in doubt about their role or responsibility, the student should request clarification from an ATP faculty member. If faced with an emergency situation where clarification cannot be sought, the student should first abide by all applicable state laws, and then consider the ethical and moral principles of both the athletic training profession and Christian faith. Afterward, the student should document the incident and report it to the Program Director immediately.

If the student experiences violations of this policy within their clinical experience site (e.g. their preceptor leaves them unattended), the student MUST report the incidence to the Clinical Coordinator and/or Program Director immediately.

ATrack Student Instructions

Our program uses the NATA system called ATrack. ATrack is an online database that manages our ATP student data. In order to begin clinical courses, students must become an NATA member which allows them to use ATrack. To become a member and enroll in ATrack, students must download the “First Time Student Member” form. Note: This form must be completed at the time of initial enrollment. If the first time student enrolls without using this form, their status cannot be changed.

Once students receive their membership number, they will log in to www.atrackonline.com at the bottom right corner. Once logged in, students will click on “my portfolio” in the left hand column. There, they will find the forms that are for them to complete in “available forms” area. The first form students will complete on week 1 is the initial clinical rotation visit check sheet. Students will be required to type in all of the information on the form. Students will also be required to document their time at their clinical site. This documentation will be verified by their preceptor. Students will only have one week to enter in their time. After one week, the submission for time is closed and their hours will not count.

Athletic Training Preceptor and Site Evaluation by Student

Students must evaluate the site and/or the preceptor/mentor at the end of the course. These evaluations are imperative and provide necessary feedback for future placements with the preceptor/mentor/site. The evaluations are found and completed in ATrack. These evaluations are not shared with the preceptor/mentor since a formative/summative assessment is not the intent of these evaluations.

Preceptor Requirements

Preceptor Qualifications

GCU ATP preceptors must:
1. Be credentialed by the state in a health care profession.
   a) Arizona Athletic Training License and BOC Certification (ex.)
2. Not be currently enrolled in the professional athletic training education program at the institution.
3. Receive planned and ongoing education from the program designed to promote a constructive learning environment.

**Preceptor Responsibilities**

GCU ATP preceptor responsibilities to the program and student are:

1. Directly supervise students during clinical education.
2. Provide instruction and assessment of the current knowledge, skills, and clinical abilities designated by the CAATE.
3. Provide instruction and opportunities for the student to develop clinical integration proficiencies, communication skills and clinical decision-making during actual patient/client care.
4. Provide assessment of athletic training students’ clinical integration proficiencies, communication skills and clinical decision-making during actual patient/client care.
5. Demonstrate understanding of and compliance with the program's policies and procedures.
6. Have regular communication with the appropriate ATP administrator.
   a) Allow for an annual site visit by GCU’s Clinical Coordinator or GCU program faculty.
   b) Collaborating with ATP course facilitator at appropriate clinical level of the student.
7. Maintain the following documents and credentials:
   a) Certification appropriate for profession (ATC, PA-C, MD, PT, etc.)
   b) License Appropriate for Arizona (Refer to Arizona State Statutes for clarity)
   c) Therapeutic Equipment Safety and Calibration (if applicable)
      i. Must indicate:
         1. Manufacturer’s recommendation for calibration
         2. Most recent calibration date
         3. Itemized calibration receipt
      ii. If clinical site is externally accredited (i.e. the Joint Commission), this table is not required and site must provide evidence of external accreditation.
   d) Site Policy and Procedure Manual
      i. Emergency Action Plans (venue-specific and general)
      ii. Blood-borne Pathogen Policy

**Preceptor Expectations**

GCU ATP Preceptors are expected to:

1. Complete the onboarding process prior to having a student assigned to them for clinical education. Preceptors are considered adjunct faculty for the GCU ATP.
2. Provide student instruction and evaluation of the Athletic Training Educational Clinical Proficiencies/Assignments as directed.
3. Complete and return student evaluation forms and hour approval on ATrack by assigned dates.
4. Maintain professionalism as described by the NATA Code of Ethics and the BOC’s Standards of Professional Practice.

**Preceptor Benefits**

GCU ATP Preceptors will:
1. Receive ongoing preceptor training from the ATP.
2. Receive a stipend as determined by GCU.