

Health Science Degree Requirements

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Vaccination Policy

• Nursing Program Requirements

1. Students have direct contact with patients and other health care workers in affiliated health care agencies, therefore, they are expected to have and maintain a satisfactory level of health, including freedom from chemical dependency and communicable diseases. Students must be able to fully participate in the approved program of classroom studies and campus and clinical laboratory experiences.

A completed physical, indicating that an applicant is in satisfactory mental and physical health and is free of any infectious disease, must be completed and signed by a licensed physician or certified nurse practitioner. The form must be submitted prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course.

2. Since the nursing curriculum includes direct patient care, students must meet the Essential standards with or without reasonable accommodations. These standards relate to physical, mental, and emotional capabilities of prospective students and must be signed by the student and on file in nursing office. Additional health criteria may be required by clinical agencies.

Students must notify the Director of Health Sciences of any significant changes in health, including pregnancy. The faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense in order to evaluate the student's ability to perform the academic/ clinical requirements.

3. A student who is hospitalized for any existing health problem must submit a statement from the physician/primary health care provider indicating ability to continue in the nursing program.

4. Students will be required, at their own expense, to have an annual drug and/or alcohol screen. Drug screening will be performed at a time and place determined by the Director/Faculty. In addition, a student may be required to submit to drug and/or alcohol screening for cause by a certified laboratory designated by the College. If a drug and/or alcohol screen is positive or if the Medical Review Officer documents that a student's prescribed medication could pose a safety risk in safety sensitive positions, the student will be dismissed from the nursing program.

5. Students must show proof of background screen from a company designated by the College prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course. Students with positive background checks will be unable to continue in the nursing program.

6. Clinical agencies require students to pass drug screening and background checks. Compliance with this requirement and satisfactory findings are essential for clinical placement and progression.

7. Students must submit evidence of the following (at the student's expense) prior to beginning the nursing program:

- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) - proof of immunizations or positive titers. If given prior to 1969, must be repeated.
- Varicella (Chickenpox)
- Hepatitis B Vaccination – series of three injections
- Two- PPD (tuberculin test) required for initial TB screening. After the initial screening, a PPD Step test must be completed once yearly.
- Tetanus - Proof of immunization within 10 years.
- Influenza immunization within the first semester of the program and annually.

8. Pay required annual premiums for nursing student liability (malpractice) insurance specified by the nursing program prior to the beginning the first clinical nursing course.

9. Purchase regulation Snead State nursing student uniforms and other equipment necessary for participation in the nursing program.
10. Pay required ATI Testing fees each semester.
11. Possess current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at the healthcare provider level (BCLS), prior to first clinical nursing course. Community CPR is not acceptable. This certification must remain current throughout the program. American Heart Association and American Red Cross accepted.
12. In addition, the student will abide by the individual health care facility policies and procedures. Any student denied clinical access by a clinical affiliate will be subject to dismissal from the program.
13. Because neither the college nor affiliated clinical agencies provide health care for students, each student is required to show proof of health insurance prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course.
14. Not be eligible for wages or workers compensation from either college or the healthcare facility since the student is not an employee of either party.
15. All students (transfer students, mobility students, readmission students, and all new admission students) will be required to pass a dosage calculation exam prior to attending clinical. Students will be given two attempts to score an 90% or above. Failure to pass the dosage calculation exam will result in failure to meet course objectives and will result in lack of progression in the nursing program.