

# BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY

## **Graduate Nursing Student Handbook 2024-2025**

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## **LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES MISSION**

### **MISSION**

The Department of Nursing, consistent with an inclusive Catholic university, prepares nurse leaders with a global perspective, capable of improving practice through sound nursing judgment and clinical scholarship. Students are educated—mind, body, and spirit—for meaningful lives, rewarding nursing careers, ethical leadership, and service to improve the human condition.

Revised 8/16/2019

### **VISION**

The Department of Nursing is recognized as a diverse and innovative learning community seeking and offering collaborative, creative opportunities to advance health knowledge, engaging in partnerships and alliances to promote health, and developing leaders in health care through transformative student experiences.

### **CORE VALUES**

We educate the whole person to realize his or her highest potential as part of an interconnected world. Our values are

- **Academic Excellence** – We are committed to providing a scholarly and creative environment grounded in the Catholic liberal arts tradition.
- **Intrinsic Dignity** – We respect the intrinsic value and dignity of every individual.
- **Social Responsibility** – We cultivate professional nurses who contribute to, and advocate for, the public good, environmental sustainability, global understanding, and informed civic engagement.
- **Integrity** – We believe that personal and professional integrity guides the practice of nursing and health sciences.
- **Hospitality/Student Centered Learning** – We are committed to education that is student centered, inclusive, and responsive to diverse learners.
- **Quality Service** – We are committed to exercising thoughtful stewardship of resources while providing quality services that support a diverse constituency.
- **Caring** – We believe that caring is an essential component of the art and science of all healthcare practitioners.

### **PHILOSOPHY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**

Consistent with Catholic social teaching, the faculty believes that quality health care should be available to all, with each individual in a society having the right to pursue the highest level of health. Nursing is a scientific discipline with a professional practice domain. The faculty supports the definition of nursing proposed by the American Nurses Association in the 2010 publication *Nursing's Social Policy Statement: The Essence of the Profession*.

*Nursing is the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and abilities, prevention of illness and injury, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities, and populations.*  
(p.3)

Faculty beliefs also include the following:

#### **Person**

The person receiving nursing care may be an individual or an aggregate (i.e., family, social group, community, or population). Each person is unique and worthy of respect with intrinsic value and inherent dignity. Diversity and inclusion are valued and celebrated; no individual or group should be excluded or marginalized. Persons are greater than the sums of parts, having integrated and interacting dimensions of mind, body, and spirit.

#### **Environment**

Environment is the setting for the human experience, composed of multiple interacting dimensions including physical, biological, social, political, and global aspects. Persons adapt to changing situations and habitats. Environments are influenced by the norms of a person, particular region,

and culture.

### Health

Health is a dynamic, multidimensional experience of well-being perceived individually by each person, including physical, physiological, emotional, intellectual, cultural, social, community, and spiritual aspects. Health is holistic wellness existing along a continuum, reflecting the person's adaptation to changing environments, with the person's goals for health changing during different stages of life. Health is different from "cure" and is not simply the absence of illness. Persons can and should experience health even in the presence of illness. As the dying process is a natural part of the life continuum, promoting optimal well-being and health during this final life transition is also essential.

### Nursing

Nursing, steeped in a tradition of caring for all persons, is a unique professional and academic discipline grounded strongly in the liberal arts and sciences. Nursing also has its own unique body of scientific knowledge, developed through theory and research, which interfaces with the scientific knowledge from other healthcare disciplines. Grounded in this scientific foundation, professional nurses deliver evidence-based nursing care through the systematic implementation of the steps of the nursing process: assessment, diagnosis, outcomes identification, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Professional nurses engage with scholarship for evidence-based practice and are competent with information management and the application of patient care technologies.

Professional nursing practice is also an art and a person-centered relational process that is deliberate, systematic, and performed collaboratively with the person receiving nursing care. Nursing is a therapeutic process reflecting critical thinking, clinical reasoning, clinical judgment, human caring, and compassion. Nursing is uniquely different from other health care disciplines, however nurses work collaboratively within interprofessional health care teams. Nurses must possess specific knowledge, skills, and attitudes to deliver safe and effective nursing care, adapting quickly and effectively to rapidly changing clinical situations. Clinical skills are an essential component of nursing practice; however, professional nursing practice must reflect knowledge-based, holistic care.

The nurse-person relationship transpires within the environmental realities of the person, with nursing care supporting the person's adaptation to changing environmental conditions and ensuring safety. Nurses anticipate, plan, and intervene to optimize environmental conditions, reduce health risks, and assist persons in maintaining integrity. Goals of nursing care include alleviating pain and suffering while promoting, maintaining and restoring health. Professional nurses view persons holistically to plan and implement nursing care that addresses biological, psychological, social, and spiritual needs.

Nursing care is provided in a manner that respects the uniqueness, dignity, worth, self-determination, and cultural needs of the person, focusing on care needs across the lifespan and in different roles and contexts (such as healthy, chronically ill, acutely ill, injured, at risk for injury). Although nursing care includes prevention of injury and disease and symptom management, the primary focus of nursing is optimizing holistic wellness. Through a variety of roles (including nurse leader, clinician, teacher, consultant, manager, and advocate), the professional nurse cares for persons in many settings as a member of the interprofessional health care team. Professional nurses provide leadership and serve as change agents within complex healthcare systems and in healthcare policy, public policy, financial, and regulatory environments to improve health and optimize quality of care for populations and individuals.

### Learning and Teaching

Learning and teaching are collaborative, iterative processes that are lifelong and experiential. Learning is a process of self-discovery and engagement allowing for intellectual and spiritual growth; teaching facilitates the learning process through mentoring, feedback, open communication, and reflection. Experiential learning, systems thinking, the meaningful use of technology, and the engagement of learners embody the learning and teaching philosophy of the nursing faculty.

Liberal arts education introduces learners to the value of the person and the meanings of ethics, equity, and social justice. In the profession of nursing, the learning process continues with self-discovery that introduces learners to health and wellness, the environment's influence on these constructs, and health promotion.

Teachers individualize the approach to learners, exposing learners to diverse settings and delivery methods while modeling, recognizing and rewarding professionalism and leadership. Teachers also

foster safe learning environments with mutual respect among all partners in the learning/teaching endeavor. Teachers challenge the learner to think critically, ultimately synthesizing learned content within a nursing perspective. Teachers work diligently to help learners move into the multifaceted professional nursing role by fostering the growth of passion, compassion, respect, accountability, flexibility, competence, teamwork, communication, collegiality and finally cautious confidence, independence, and leadership. Learners have responsibilities to engage actively with their learning and to strive for high-level mastery of nursing knowledge and nursing practice.

Through increasingly complex active learning and teaching exchanges as the learner moves through the curriculum, learners move from knowing self to knowing others and from delivering simple to more complex nursing care. Through engagement with the curricular journey, learners move from a novice level of practice in their new nursing role towards expertise. Bellarmine University recognizes teaching as a departmental and institutional priority, providing community and institutional support that is vital to learner and faculty excellence. (Approved 3/24/2017)

### **DEPARTMENT OF NURSING COMMITTEES**

**\*\*APG/Awards** – Responsible for admission review, progression and graduation decisions at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Also responsible for identifying undergraduate and graduate student award nominees.

**Clinical Instruction/Quality** – Responsible for identifying evidence-based practices regarding clinical instruction and developing policies and procedures to monitor and improve clinical instruction at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

**\*\*Curriculum** – Responsible for completing curriculum revisions in the nursing programs.

**\*\*Policy** – Responsible for reviewing, revising, updating and/or developing policies in the undergraduate and graduate handbooks.

**Evaluation and Program Effectiveness** – Responsible for undergraduate and graduate program outcome evaluation, and reporting to faculty, accrediting bodies and stakeholders.

**\*\*Student Success**- Responsible for identifying best practices to facilitate student success in undergraduate & graduate programs.

**\*\*Student representatives serve on these Committees\*\***  
Volunteers for these positions are solicited annually

### **SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL**

Sigma Theta Tau is the Honor Society of Nursing; its mission is to be a leader in promoting leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research to enhance the health of all people. Lambda Psi is the Bellarmine University chapter. Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. Additional information may be found at the following websites:

Sigma Theta Tau International: <http://www.nursingsociety.org>

Lambda Psi Chapter: <http://lambdapsi.nursingsociety.org/LambdaPsiChapter/Home/>

### **DISABILITY SERVICES**

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for course work must contact the Director of Disability Services, Ronda Purdy, located in CNMH 076, or Jessiemarie Voigt, administrative assistant, in CNMH 074. Students can apply for services online at <https://bellarmine-accommodate.symplicity.com/> or call 502.272.8490 or email [rpurdy@bellarmine.edu](mailto:rpurdy@bellarmine.edu) for more information. Students are encouraged to make these arrangements with Disability Services as early in the semester as possible so that a student and his/her course instructor can collaborate for a successful course experience.

### **ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION**

Academic advisement is an essential part of graduate studies. Each student should formulate educational goals with their faculty advisor and maintain communication with that advisor throughout

the program of study. Assignment of advisors is by program track. Please refer to current “advisor list” for a listing of track advisors.

All graduate students must contact their advisors for academic advising prior to registration dates. **Students are strongly encouraged to register as early as possible in the semester preceding the course.** Classes may be cancelled due to low enrollment. Therefore, it is essential that the Registrar have an accurate number of students who desire to take a particular class as soon as possible. Students may register online only after discussing their registration plans with the advisor.

### **ACTIVE STATUS IN THE GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM**

Once admitted to the Graduate Nursing Program, students must register for a course every semester to maintain active status. If a matriculated student does not register in consecutive semesters (excluding summer), the student’s file is considered inactive. To return to the Graduate Nursing Program, the student must submit a Readmission form (See Forms section), in order to reactivate the file. The student should also contact his/her Graduate Nursing faculty advisor to revise the program of study.

### **GRADING SCALE**

The following standardized grading scale is used for graduate nursing courses.

A	A-	B+	B	B-	F
96-100	92-95	89-91	85-88	83-84	82 or less

To be successful, and satisfactorily pass a course, a student must earn a B- (83%) final grade in all graduate nursing courses.

### **WAIVERS AND EXCEPTIONS**

A student may request a waiver or exception to policy by petitioning the Nursing Admission, Progression, and Graduation (APG) Committee. The student must discuss his/her request for a waiver with the Graduate Nursing faculty advisor prior to submission of the waiver form (See Forms Section). The Nursing APG Committee will notify the student of the committee’s decision

### **PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS**

Graduate nursing students completing coursework or practicum in **clinical/hospital/ healthcare agencies or facilities** must be compliant with the Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences policy on health screening and clinical practice requirements including immunizations and communicable diseases for continuation in the programs. The purpose of the practicum requirements is to ensure the safety and health of graduate students and clients in diverse settings. Due to the terms of clinical affiliation agreements for Nurse Practitioner students, a different process exists for verification of practicum requirements for these students.

Prior to the start of any clinical experiences (including practicum, Immersions, and/or Residency), students must submit verification that the following requirements have been met:

- Current CPR certification
- Current on all health care requirements. These include:
  - Required immunizations (including influenza)
  - Hepatitis vaccine series (or waiver)
  - T-spot blood test
- Holds an unrestricted registered nurse license and has undergone a satisfactory criminal background check
- Mandatory drug screening, with negative results

### **Nurse Practitioner & POST-MASTERS Nurse Practitioner CERTIFICATE TRACK PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS**

There are several requirements that must be completed through Castle Branch prior to starting Nurse Practitioner practicum. The student is responsible for all costs associated with Castle Branch.

Instructions:

- 1) Go to [www.Castlebranch.com](http://www.Castlebranch.com) and click on “Place Order” then enter package code: **EL52**
  - 2) Select “Background Check & Immunization” Tracker
  - 3) Select a method of payment: Visa, MasterCard or money order
  - 4) Mandatory Drug Screening
- All students must submit to a drug screen and test negative for drugs before engaging in any

Instructional/clinical activities. This process will be managed through the student's account at [www.Castlebranch.com](http://www.Castlebranch.com).

Once your order is submitted, you will receive a password to view the results of your background check within approximately 48-72 hours. If you need assistance, call us at 888.723.4263 x7194 for more information.

#### Employment Verification Form

Admittance into the Graduate Nursing Programs requires 1 year of full time Registered Nurse (RN) experience. Full time work is defined as  $\geq 32$  hours per week. All graduate nursing programs allow individuals to complete the 1 year of experience during the first year of curriculum PRIOR to starting the specialty year if they have not gained the experience by the time they apply and are accepted into the program. The Employment Verification Form is the responsibility of the student and must be completed at the beginning of each semester, in the first year of the program, and returned to the graduate administrative assistant. Failure to submit this document and follow this policy could lead to dismissal of the program.

### **ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION MSN & DNP PROGRAMS**

Students who are completing practicum hours in clinical/hospital/healthcare agencies or facilities must submit documentation regarding background checks and immunization requirements to the Graduate Nursing Department office at least two weeks prior to beginning the practicum.

For students who have existing documentation of these requirements on file with an employer, the form entitled "Employer Verification of Practicum Requirements" may be used. (See copy of forms section.) Students should take the form to the institution in which their records are on file and ask that an appropriate individual at that institution complete the form to verify the student's compliance with the requirements. The student should then return the completed form to the Graduate Nursing Department office at Bellarmine at least two weeks prior to beginning the practicum.

Students who do not have existing documentation must submit requirements to the Graduate Program Administrative Assistant.

For students completing course work or practicum in **nonclinical** agencies or facilities, only compliance with the policies and requirements of the specific agency or facility is required.

### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

#### Health Insurance

Due to the nature and variety of clinical experiences, it is strongly recommended that all nursing students carry health insurance. Bellarmine University and the Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences are not responsible for the costs related to health emergencies, injuries, or illnesses occurring while students are engaged in clinical practice. Nursing students are not employed by the affiliating clinical agencies; agencies are not responsible under Worker's compensation for reimbursements if injuries, incidents or illness should occur while in the role of a nursing student. The Office of Student Affairs has information for students regarding health insurance (<http://www.bellarmino.edu/studentaffairs/>). Accepted 4/16/2008

#### Dress Code for Practicum

Professional appearance is always expected when the student is representing Bellarmine University and its programs. All tattoos must be covered if they are offensive, depict violence, or advocate sexual, racial or ethnic discrimination. If questions about appropriate dress occur, the student must consult with the professor for the practicum class, whose judgment will be final.

#### Practicum Honesty Policy

Any breach of professional and/or ethical conduct in the clinical area will be viewed as a most serious offense. For instances of dishonesty in the laboratory or clinical settings, the nursing department will follow the procedures outlined in the academic honesty policy in the university student handbook. The student handbook may be accessed online via the student portal on <http://www.bellarmino.edu/nursing>

#### Online Program Orientation

Students will be required to participate in the online BU distance education orientation, as well as a Graduate Nursing program orientation. The Nursing orientation will be held on campus, but students may also attend either synchronously or asynchronously.

### **LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Nursing students are insured through Bellarmine University for professional liability while enrolled in graduate nursing courses and practicing in the role of student. The student's lab fees incorporate the cost for this insurance.

### **INCIDENT REPORT**

All incidents, such as medication errors or an injury to a student or a patient, must be reported to the faculty member immediately upon occurrence. Each incident will be handled according to facility policies and procedures. The course faculty member is responsible for completing a Bellarmine Incident Report and turning it in to the Department Chair within 24 hours of the incident (see Forms Section).

### **INJURY/ACCIDENT/EXPOSURE**

Neither Bellarmine University nor the clinical facility accepts responsibility for any personal injury, illness, or exposure to pathogens that the student experiences. This pertains to incidents in any setting: classroom, lab, or clinical. Expenses incurred for the medical treatment related to incidents are the direct responsibility of the student.

### **INVASIVE PROCEDURES POLICY**

With explicit regard for the dignity and privacy of students, it is a legitimate expectation that students work with one another during normal physical assessment activities. These activities may include inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation of various parts of the human body.

No student will be coerced or intimidated into being a subject for other students during physical examination practice. However, all students must exhibit competence in the physical examination of another student or standardized patient.

### **ONLINE PROGRAM STANDARDS**

1. Courses will be built using a template to provide continuity and ease of navigation.
2. Faculty will maintain a minimum of 2 virtual office hours weekly to maintain student engagement and faculty touch points.
3. Courses will not require any synchronous learning experiences. However, optional synchronous sessions may be offered.
4. Innovative teaching modalities (beyond the use of discussion boards) will be utilized to engage students and maximize learning experiences.
5. The course gradebook will be maintained in Moodle.
6. Courses requiring testing will utilize a monitoring mechanism.
7. The Nurse Practitioner programs will maintain one, required, on-campus learning experience:
  - a. Summer PRIOR to starting practicum rotations.
8. Advisors will have a minimum of one virtual meeting with their advisees every semester.
9. Responses to student emails should take place within 48 hours on weekdays. Any contact after 5:00pm EST on Fridays, holidays, or days when the University is closed, should be returned by end of business on the following Monday.
10. Initial course assignments used to determine attendance will not be due until the end of the first week (7 days from the start date) to allow students time to review course materials and requirements.
11. Content videos will be no more than 15 minutes (ideal) – 30 minutes in length.
12. All assignments will be visible by students on the course calendar on the first day of class.
13. Faculty will communicate to students how modules will be open (date/time).



## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

### Introduction

The College of Health Professions (CHP) is committed to providing a quality education for Students admitted into its Programs. In order to protect the integrity of the Programs, as well as safeguard the welfare of Students and of clients receiving care from Students, this Policy addresses Drug and alcohol testing of Students involved in Instructional/Learning Activities through the CHP.

The purpose of this Student Drug and Alcohol Policy (the "Policy") is to notify Students and Faculty Members of the CHP's Drug and alcohol rules and testing procedures, and to provide assistance and due process for Students who test positive for Drugs (including legally prescribed medications) and/or alcohol. This policy applies to all Students admitted to the CHP programs ("Program" or "Programs") at Bellarmine University, and is effective immediately. The testing of Students for Drug or alcohol use while engaged in Program-sponsored Instructional/Learning Activities will be completed through an independent agency contracted by CHP. Testing costs are the responsibility of the student. These costs are beyond the control of the CHP and are subject to change at any time without notice.

It is the policy of Bellarmine University to comply with federal and state laws and regulations regarding the usage and detection of Drugs and alcohol. In addition, it is the professional duty and ethical obligation, of health care providers and students to identify and report when they have reasonable suspicion of an impaired health worker. This Policy is subject to change at the sole discretion of Bellarmine University and/or CHP, and is meant to supplement other relevant Bellarmine University policies, including but not limited to the *Policy on Alcohol* and the *Illegal Drug Use Policy* contained in the *Bellarmino University Student Handbook*. Violations of this Policy may result in the student's inability to complete the program. The CHP bears no responsibility for a student's inability to complete or participate due to a failed drug or alcohol screening.

### Definitions

For the purposes of these guidelines, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- 1) "Drug" or "Drugs" means all of those drugs included in the current Medical Professional substance abuse profile (LabCorp, 2016). These may include, but are not limited to:
  - Amphetamines (including Methamphetamine)
  - Barbiturates
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Cocaine metabolites
  - Cannabinoids (THC, Marijuana)
  - Methadone
  - Methaqualone
  - Ecstasy
  - Opiates (codeine, morphine)
  - Phencyclidine
  - Oxycodone
  - Propoxyphene
- 2) "Student" means any student enrolled in one of the CHP programs at Bellarmine University.
- 3) "Reasonable Suspicion" means that the Student's faculty member, clinical instructor, preceptor, supervisor, or his/her designee (collectively, "Faculty Member") believes that the behavior, speech, body odor, or appearance of the Student is indicative of the use of alcohol or Drugs, as described in detail in this Policy.
- 4) "Instructional/Learning Activities" include classroom and other activities on and off campus that involve patient care, instruction, or practice of preparatory skills as a component of health care provider practice, including but not limited to clinical practicums, internships, clerkships, service learning, community engagement, skills labs, and/or non-class associated practice at on-campus or off-campus sites.
- 5) "Medical Review Officer ("MRO")" is a nationally certified, licensed medical doctor or osteopath responsible for receiving laboratory results under these guidelines who has knowledge of substance abuse disorders and has appropriate medical training to interpret and evaluate confirmed positive test results, medical history, and any other relevant biomedical information. Access to the MRO is through the agency contracted to complete the testing.
- 6) "Positive Drug Test" is determined by the MRO in accordance with guidelines established for

healthcare workers.

- 7) "Positive Alcohol Test" means an alcohol test that is at or exceeds the Department of Transportation ("DOT") Guidelines for blood, breath, or saliva testing depending on the test used, e.g. blood alcohol content of 0.04 or greater (under current DOT Guidelines).

### Policy

The CHP prohibits the unlawful use or possession of Drugs or alcohol by any Student during any Instructional/Learning Activities associated with any Program. Prior to participation in a clinical course in their Program, all Students will be provided with a copy of this Policy and will be required to complete the CHP Student Drug and Alcohol Policy Acknowledgment Form (see Appendix A).

Per Bellarmine University policy as contained in the *Bellarmino University Student Handbook*, Students in possession of a controlled substance will be referred to the Dean of Students, and such conduct may result in suspension or expulsion from the University and/or a requirement that the Student enroll and actively participate in a Drug or alcohol counseling and rehabilitation program as a condition of continued enrollment or readmission.

In addition, the improper use of any Drugs or alcohol by any student in the CHP may constitute grounds for removal from all Instructional/Learning Activities and/or cause for termination from the program. Students who participate in a CHP Program may not Test Positive for Drugs or Test Positive for Alcohol, with the exception that a Student who Tests Positive for Drugs will be provided an opportunity to explain if that positive test is the result of his or her use of legally prescribed medication.

### Mandatory Drug Screening

Many clinical training sites now require students to undergo drug testing, similar to what is required of their employees. Therefore, all Students will submit to a drug screen and test negative for Drugs before engaging in any Instructional/Learning Activities.

### Consequences

- 1) Refusal to Participate in Mandatory Drug Screening:  
If a Student fails to comply with the policy, they will not be allowed to begin any Instructional/Learning Activities within the School.
- 2) Negative Drug Screen Test Result:  
The Student will be allowed to participate in all Instructional/Learning Activities as planned if results of the negative drug screen are received by the requested deadline. Students who fail to meet the deadline will incur a \$50.00 fine charged to their bursar account and will be unable to attend Instructional/Learning Activities until the deficiency in documented information has been resolved.
- 3) Positive Drug Test and Self-Admission:  
If a Student receives a Positive Drug Test, or if the Student admits to a Drug and/or alcohol problem, the Student will not be allowed to attend any Instructional/Learning Activities, and will be referred to their Chairperson and school Dean.

### Drug and Alcohol Screening for Reasonable Suspicion

In addition, students will be tested for the use of Drugs and alcohol upon observation of behavior that creates a Reasonable Suspicion of alcohol or Drug use; this could include conduct that prevents the Student from performing the essential functions of his or her role in the Instructional/Learning Activity, or which poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others. Other behavior which could create a Reasonable Suspicion of Drug or alcohol use by a Student includes, but is not limited to: odor of alcohol or Drugs, unsteady or staggering gait, rapid or slurred speech, pinpoint or dilated pupils, unresponsiveness, bloodshot eyes, fine motor tremors, difficulty participating in activities, nausea, vomiting, sweating, erratic behavior, incoherent speech, verbal or physical outbursts, self-report of Drug use or alcohol abuse, unsafe behavior, unsatisfactory care for others, and threats to harm self or others. Students in an CHP Program are expected to act in conformity with, and will be held accountable to, the same professional standards of licensed healthcare professionals during all educational and Instructional/Learning Activities. While it is not the intent of the CHP to monitor Students' behavior outside of their Program, Students' use or suspected use of Drugs and alcohol outside of the Program may adversely impact their behavior during their Program,'s Instructional/Learning Activities and may lead to a Drug or alcohol test based on Reasonable Suspicion of Drug or alcohol use. The Student will bear the cost of the screening based on a Reasonable Suspicion of Drug or alcohol use.

Faculty Members are encouraged to consult with other faculty members and clinicians, or other health care providers who may have witnessed the behavior, if possible, to validate the basis for Reasonable Suspicion testing. If the Faculty Member determines that Reasonable Suspicion of Drug use or alcohol use is present, Faculty Member should take the following steps:

- 1) Remove the Student from the Instructional/Learning Activity:
- 2) Move the Student into a private setting and in the presence of a witness, if possible;
- 3) Discuss the suspicious behavior with the Student and allow the Student to explain;
- 4) Decide whether Reasonable Suspicion exists for Drug and/or alcohol testing, in conformity with this Policy; and
- 5) Make arrangements for Drug and/or alcohol testing, if necessary, or allow the Student to return to the Instructional/Learning Activity.
  - Notify the Department Chairperson of the drug and/or alcohol testing need
  - If unable to reach the Department Chairperson, notify the “on call” Student Affairs staff member
  - If in the Louisville area, call the Yellow Cab Service at 502-636-5511 for transportation needs
  - Call Mainline Drug Testing Services, LLC to determine the closest testing facility (412-884-6967 or 412-398-8074)
  - Provide the student with the drug testing form
  - Either the clinical faculty member / preceptor or Department Chairperson (or their designee) should escort the student to the testing facility, wait for specimen collection to occur, and then using Yellow Cab, escort the student to their residence

If the Faculty Member determines that Reasonable Suspicion exists for a Drug and/or alcohol test, the Student must submit to a Drug and/or alcohol test at the earliest time possible in accordance with arrangements made by the Faculty Member. A Student tested for Drug, alcohol use, based on Reasonable Suspicion, will not be allowed to participate in Instructional/Learning Activities until he, or she meets with the Faculty Member, Chairperson and school Dean.

If a Student is asked to submit to a Drug or alcohol test in accordance with this Policy, the involved Faculty Member will immediately, or within one business day for evening or weekend occurrences, notify the Chairperson of their program. The Faculty Member will also make a written report for their Chairperson within two working days of the event identifying the Student involved and describing the Student’s conduct, names of witnesses, and a summary of the events that led to the Reasonable Suspicion Drug or alcohol test.

### Consequences

- 1) Refusal to Test for Drugs or Alcohol:  
If a Student fails to produce the requested sample at the date and time designated, the Student will be allowed 30 minutes to reconsider the decision and the Faculty Member will notify the Chairperson immediately. A Student who refuses to take the test after the 30-minute waiting period will be treated as if he or she received a Positive Drug Test or Positive Alcohol Test.
- 2) Negative Test Result:  
If the Drug or alcohol test is negative, no action will be taken, and the Student will be allowed to participate in all Instructional/Learning Activities. The Student will be allowed to make-up any missed clinical/laboratory time at no cost.
- 3) Positive Drug Test or Positive Alcohol Test, Other Policy Violations, and Self-Admission:  
If a Student receives a Positive Drug Test or Positive Alcohol Test, if a Student violates this Policy in any other manner, or if the Student admits to a Drug and/or alcohol problem, the Student will be immediately removed from all Instructional/Learning Activities and the Faculty Member will notify the Chairperson and school Dean. At a minimum, a Student who violates this Policy will receive a zero for the missed clinical/laboratory day when the Student was removed for testing. The Student will be responsible for payment of all costs associated with making up the clinical/laboratory day. However, a Student who receives a Positive Drug Test will be provided with an opportunity to explain any Positive Drug Test that results from his or her use of a legally prescribed controlled substance, and such circumstances will be taken into account in determining the consequences of the Positive Drug Test.

### Student Conduct Proceedings for Violation of the Drug and Alcohol Policy

A Student found in violation of this Policy will be referred to the Chairperson and school Dean, as well as Bellarmine University's Dean of Students. A Positive Drug or Positive Alcohol Test result could result in the Student's suspension or dismissal from the CHP program and from Bellarmine University, and/or a requirement that the Student enroll and actively participate in a Drug/alcohol counseling and rehabilitation program as a condition of continued enrollment or readmission. These regulations are not substitutes for criminal sanctions provided for by state and federal statutes or regulations. Please reference the *Bellarmino University Student Handbook* for more information on student conduct proceedings.

- 1) If not suspended or dismissed from the CHP program and/or Bellarmine University, the Student will not be allowed to participate in Instructional/Learning Activities until he/she fulfills all terms set forth by the CHP and Bellarmine Dean of Students.
- 2) A second positive Drug or alcohol test or violation of this Policy will result in dismissal from the CHP program.

### Confidentiality

The University will take reasonable measures to ensure individual privacy under this Policy including, without limitation, keeping all Drug and alcohol test results confidential to the extent possible. Drug or alcohol test results will only be released in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Reviewed by Mark Wiegand, Tony Brosky and Nancy York 7/11/14, 7/2016, 8/23/2017  
Approved by University Council 7/22/14, 8/10/2016  
Approved by LSNHS Chairs/Deans 9/8/2014, 8/12/2016

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Each student contributes to the learning of the entire class. Courteous and professional behavior is expected at all times in the classroom and clinical setting.

**For issues related to academic honesty within the classroom setting, see the *Bellarmino University Student Handbook* <https://www.bellarmino.edu/docs/default-source/student-affairs-docs/student-handbook.pdf>**

### Student Classroom Responsibilities

- 1) Promptness
- 2) Attendance/Participation in all class activities
- 3) Preparation - bringing and/or submitting preparation work for class
- 4) Notification to professor when unable to attend/participate in class
- 5) Completion of assigned reading before class
- 6) Appropriate contributions to class
- 7) Appropriate conduct during class/online **for example:**
  - Arrives on time
  - Remains in classroom until class is dismissed
  - Returns from breaks on time
  - Stays awake in class
  - Refrains from having side conversations
  - Attends to speaker, and students asking questions, during class time
  - Allows others to hear and learn
  - Posts reflective/insightful comments to peers and faculty
  - Maintains civility in all online communications
  - Participates in online group activities

### Electronic Devices

- 1) Portable electronic devices must be turned off and no electronic devices should be on any person during exams/test reviews.
- 2) Permission should be obtained from instructor or guest speakers before video/audio recording.
- 3) Courteous and professional responsibilities extend to electronic communication.
- 4) Computer etiquette should be used when communicating with professors. Professors will respond within a reasonable period during the week. Students should not expect responses to queries over the weekend.
- 5) Students should ask permission from the course faculty to use electronic devices in the classroom. Students using electronic devices for non-academic purposes during class will be asked to leave the classroom.

## USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Nursing students must be aware of the risks associated with the improper use of social media, as there is an ethical and legal obligation to protect patient privacy and confidentiality. The following policy is based on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (2011) *White paper: A nurse's guide to social media*. This document has been recognized as a primary resource by the Kentucky Board of Nursing and the American Nurses Association and is available online for any person at the NCSBN website. Students should familiarize themselves with the technology policy in the University student handbook. This nursing policy is congruent with the policies in the University student handbook, which is available online via the student portal on the Bellarmine University website.

- Students are restricted from posting any information, which may lead to the identification of a patient. Privacy settings within websites are not sufficient to protect patient privacy and confidentiality. If there is a reasonable basis to believe that the person could be identified, then use or disclosure of the information could constitute a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- Students and faculty have an ethical/legal responsibility to promptly report an identified breach of confidentiality or privacy to the appropriate instructor and the Department Chairperson.
- Students are strictly prohibited from transmitting by means of any electronic device any patient-related information. This includes but is not limited to photographs or audio/video

recording. Students are restricted from transmitting any information that could be reasonably anticipated to violate patient rights to confidentiality or privacy, or otherwise degrade or embarrass the patient.

- Students should not refer to patients, staff members, faculty members, or other students in a harassing manner via social media, even if the individual cannot be identified. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, verbal harassment, sexual harassment, hate speech, cyber-bullying, and verbal threats. This includes conduct, which is disorderly, obscene, lewd, indecent, or a breach of peace.
- Students must maintain professional boundaries in the use of electronic media. The fact that a patient initiates contact with a student does not permit the student to have a personal relationship with the patient.

Non-adherence to these guidelines will result in charges under the Code of Conduct as noted in the University student handbook. The Student Conduct Procedures (Non-Academic) will be used to adjudicate student conduct cases involving alleged violations of the Code of Conduct. All confirmed incidents of academic dishonesty via social media will be reported to the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, and sanctions will be imposed as dictated by the academic honesty policy. The use of social media policies apply to a student's use at any time, in any place, and with any medium.

Resources:

National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (August 2011). *White paper: A nurse's guide to social media*. Retrieved on April 12, 2012 from [https://www.ncsbn.org/Social\\_Media.pdf](https://www.ncsbn.org/Social_Media.pdf)

American Nurses' Association. (2011). *ANA Principles of social networking and the nurse*. Silver Springs, MD; American Nurses' Association

Kentucky Board of Nursing. (2011) <http://kbn.ky.gov/>

Bellarmino University Student Handbook (2017-2018)

<https://www.bellarmino.edu/docs/default-source/student-affairs-docs/student-handbook.pdf?>

### **HUMAN STUDIES REVIEW PROCESS**

Students completing a scholarly project or thesis involving human subjects may need to submit an application for Bellarmine Institutional Review Board (IRB) review and approval. Approval from the IRB must be obtained prior to beginning the project or thesis. IRB procedures and documents can be retrieved from the website at: <http://www.bellarmino.edu/academicaffairs/effective/research-and-creativity/irb/>

If you are conducting a project at your place of employment, and your facility requires that the project go through its own IRB of record, then the project should be submitted to that IRB. Once you have received approval, a copy of the approval letter should be submitted to the Bellarmine IRB, along with a cover form (available from the Bellarmine IRB Office). As a result, the Bellarmine University IRB will have a record of the project but will not be responsible for project oversight.

If you are not required to submit your project to your facility's IRB, you should submit the project to the Bellarmine University IRB for review and determination of status. While you may believe that the project is exempt or does not meet the definition of research, the project should still be submitted for the IRB to make that determination.

## PROTOCOL FOR IRB REVIEW

Describe the study's purpose and methods in no more than three typewritten pages. The following outline is intended to serve as a guide.

- 1) Introduction
  - Very brief introduction to the topic of interest and why it's important
  - No more than 1 – 2 paragraphs
- 2) Statement of purpose
  - Methods
  - Study design
- 3) Setting – Where will the study take place?
- 4) Subjects
  - How many do you plan to study?
  - Inclusion/exclusion criteria for the sample
  - How will you recruit? If relevant, include process for obtaining consent.
- 5) Measures
  - Indicate how you will measure the variables of interest in the study
  - Be sure to include a full copy of any questionnaires, surveys, or other measurement instruments to be used (not included in the 3 pages)
- 6) Procedure for data collection
  - Describe (step by step) how the study will be conducted.
  - Include (as appropriate):
    - Description of study visit(s) and procedures to be done at each visit
    - What data will be collected and when? By whom?
    - Detailed description of any intervention that will be delivered
- 7) Ethical considerations
  - Measures to maintain privacy/confidentiality
  - How and where will data be stored

\*References should be included as an appendix, along with copies of all study instruments, intervention materials (e.g. patient education booklet), and any other materials of relevance.

## APPEALING DECISIONS OF THE ADMISSIONS, PROGRESSION, & GRADUATION COMMITTEE

- 1) If a student decides to appeal a decision from the APG committee, the first appeal must be submitted in writing within 7 calendar days to the Department Chairperson. There must be some clear basis for the student's appeal, such as the student's belief that a **procedural violation** occurred.
- 2) If a student desires to appeal the chair's decision, the second appeal must be submitted in writing within 7 calendar days to the Dean of the Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences. The decision of the Dean is final.

## FORMAL COMPLAINTS/ACADEMIC GRIEVANCES

The nursing department considers a formal complaint as one that cannot be resolved within the academic unit. Within the department, student issues are initially directed to the involved party. For example, if a student has a concern about a grade in a course or on an assignment, s/he will be directed to the course instructor. If the issue is not resolved, the student can appeal to the department chairperson. The department chairperson will have 7 business days (not including days the university is officially closed) to issue a response to the student. If the issue remains unresolved, the student has the option of meeting with the Dean and should make this request within 3 business days (not including days the university is officially closed) of receiving the response from the department chairperson. The Dean has 7 business days (not including days the university is officially closed) to issue a response to the student. Grade complaints/grievances do not advance past the decision of the Dean. If an academic or non-academic issue is not resolved within the department, the student will be directed to the appropriate university policy (e.g., academic, or non-academic grievance). If the student wishes to appeal the decision of the Dean (excluding grade complaints/grievances) they must do so within 3 business days (not including days the university is officially closed) of receiving the response from the Dean

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING & POST-MASTERS FNP, AGACNP and PMHNP CERTIFICATES**

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The purpose of the Master of Science in Nursing is to prepare nurses to identify and address gaps in healthcare delivery and design through advanced nursing knowledge and higher-level leadership skills for improving health outcomes. The graduate of this program is prepared in nursing education, nursing administration, or advanced practice nursing. Consistent with Bellarmine's goal to prepare leaders for our society, graduate students in nursing will be able to lead change, promote health, and elevate nursing care in various roles and settings.

The graduate program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing or Post-Masters FNP, AGACNP, PMHNP Certificate builds on the baccalaureate degree. The curriculum is designed to meet the individual needs of students, while maintaining a sound academic program in nursing. Each student identifies educational goals with a faculty advisor and maintains communication with the advisor throughout the program of studies. The nurse practitioner and Post-Masters Certificate tracks are designed for full-time or part-time study, while the administration and education tracks may be pursued on a part-time basis.

### **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

Graduates of the MSN program will be able to:

- 1) Integrate findings from the sciences and humanities to continually improve nursing practice across diverse settings.
- 2) Collaborate within interprofessional teams using effective leadership skills, ethical awareness, and critical decision making to promote quality and safety outcomes within the healthcare system.
- 3) Use appropriate quality improvement methods and healthcare technologies to integrate, coordinate, and improve care.
- 4) Employ evidence-based practice methods to initiate changes in practice settings and to disseminate results.
- 5) Examine strategies to advocate for policies that improve the health of the public and the profession of nursing.
- 6) Incorporate organizational, client-centered, and culturally sensitive concepts in the implementation of evidence-based clinical prevention for individuals, families, and identified populations.
- 7) Demonstrate advanced level expertise in performing direct or indirect nursing interventions that influence healthcare outcomes for individuals, populations, or systems.

### **TECHNICAL STANDARDS AT THE MASTER'S LEVEL**

Each student must be able to meet the basic technical standards of performance necessary for the practice of nursing (provided at the time of application).

The master's degree program curriculum is designed to provide the education necessary for the advanced practice of nursing. Students build on the fundamental principles of nursing, acquire skills of critical judgment based on education and experience, and develop an ability to use principles and skills wisely in decision-making and problem-solving pertaining to their roles as nurse educators or nurse administrators or advanced nurse practitioners. Students in the Master of Science programs are expected to fulfill the following technical standards:

- 1) Acquire information from demonstrations and experiences in the basic and applied sciences, including but not limited to information conveyed through lecture, online activities, group seminar, small group activities and physical demonstrations.
- 2) Acquire information from written documents and computer-information systems (including literature searches and data retrieval), and identify information presented in images from paper, video, transparencies and slides.



- 3) Use and interpret information from diagnostic maneuvers (e.g., sphygmomanometer, otoscope, ophthalmoscope, etc.), and other diagnostic representations of physiological phenomena during the course of conducting a comprehensive physical assessment of a client.
- 4) Accurately elicit information, including a medical history and other information required to adequately and effectively evaluate a client's condition.
- 5) Synthesize information, problem solve and think critically to judge which theory and/or strategy of assessment and intervention is most appropriate.
- 6) Exercise proper judgment, and accurately complete responsibilities attendant to the advanced practice role in a timely manner.
- 7) Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with clients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals under all circumstances.
- 8) Communicate effectively and efficiently with faculty, colleagues, preceptors and all members of the health care team during practicum and other learning experiences.
- 9) Function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments inherent in the classroom and practice setting.

Upon admission, a candidate who discloses a disability and requests accommodation will be referred to Disability Services, on the B- level of the W.L. Lyons Brown Library; office B05 A. call (502) 272-8490). The University will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of a program or provide auxiliary aids that present an undue burden to the University. To matriculate or continue in the curriculum, the candidate must be able to perform all the essential functions outlined in the Technical Standards either with or without accommodation.

## **NURSE PRACTITIONER & POST-MASTERS NP CERTIFICATE TRACKS**

### **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

- 1) No more than 25% of the final grade will be derived from non-exam materials (e.g. papers, presentations, projects) in any of the following NP Track specialty courses:
  - NURS 611 Advanced Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
  - NURS 629 Pathophysiologic Concepts for Clinical Decision Making
  - NURS 650 Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice
  - NURS 659 Primary Care 1
  - NURS 660 Primary Care 2
  - NURS 665 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Pharmacology
  - NURS 667 Psychopharmacology and Effective Client Interviewing
  - NURS 669 Adult Gerontology Acute Care I
  - NURS 670 Adult Gerontology Acute Care II
  - NURS 673 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Comprehensive Practicum
  - NURS 679 Psych Mental Health I
  - NURS 680 Psych Mental Health II
  - NURS 683 Psych Mental health Comprehensive Practicum
- 2) Students must achieve an average grade of 83% or better on course exams in order to successfully pass the course. Quiz grades are not factored into the 83% or better course exam average that is required. If the student does not pass the exams with an average grade of 83% or better, the average grade for the exams will be submitted as the final grade. All other assignments will be computed into the final grade only after an average grade of 83% or better has been successfully achieved.
- 3) When taking an assessment on ExamSoft, all students are responsible for checking their exam time at the start of the exam. If the time is incorrect, the student must notify the exam proctor before beginning the exam.

### **RE-ENROLLMENT IN Nurse Practitioner OR POST-MASTERS Nurse Practitioner CERTIFICATE TRACK**

Review for re-enrollment applies to any student who has been admitted to the NP or Post-Masters NP Certificate track and has withdrawn from the track **for any reason**. When requesting to return to the NP or Post-Masters NP Certificate track sequence, the student must submit an "Application for Re-enrollment to the Graduate Nursing Program" (see Forms Section) and include an explanation of the absence. The application must be submitted to the Admission, Progression, and Graduation (APG) Committee Chairperson at least 2 weeks before registration begins for the semester in which the student wants to return. The APG Committee will review the application and may set conditions for the student's return.

### **NP & POST-MASTERS NP CERTIFICATE TRACK STUDENT PLACEMENT POLICY**

A variety of sites and locations will be used for NP student placement. It is the responsibility of the NP Program Graduate Practicum Coordinator to arrange placements for all students who have a primary residence in Kentucky. Students whose primary residence is in southern Indiana and falls within a 30-mile radius from Bellarmine's zip code (40205) will also be placed by the NP Program Graduate Practicum Coordinator. All other out of state students are required to secure their own placement which must be approved by the Graduate Practicum Coordinator and NP Program Director.

Students placed by the Graduate Practicum Coordinator will receive notification of their placement via email. Students will have 48 hours to respond to the Coordinator to accept or deny their placement. If the student denies their placement it is the student's responsibility to secure alternative placement and coordinate appropriate documents and approval through the Graduate Practicum Coordinator. Students should be aware that denying a practicum placement could impact their ability to secure appropriate practicum hours and delay their progression in the program.

It is the responsibility of all NP students to obtain and return appropriate practicum documents to the Graduate Clinical Coordinator prior to the start of practicum. Those documents include Preceptor CV and Preceptor Agreement and any other documents requested by the Graduate Clinical Coordinator.

### **UNSATISFACTORY GRADE IN NP OR POST-MASTERS NP CERTIFICATE PRACTICUM**

A student who receives an unsatisfactory evaluation in a practicum course will receive a grade of Fail for the course. The student must request continuation in the program according to the procedure outlined in the Graduate Student Handbook. If the student is approved for continuation by the APG Committee, the student must repeat the course in its entirety and complete the requirements as outlined by the APG Committee.

### **FIRST UNSATISFACTORY GRADE AFTER ADMISSION TO THE NP OR POST-MASTERS NP CERTIFICATE TRACK OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM**

For purposes of continuation, one unsatisfactory grade is defined as:

- a grade of B- or lower in any course, **OR**
- two withdrawals from any courses or combination of courses

The student must request continuation in the graduate program by submitting an "Application for Continuation (Graduate Version - Forms Section)" to the APG Committee Chairperson at least 2 weeks before registration begins for the semester in which the student wants to return.

If the student is approved for continuation by the APG Committee, the student must repeat the course in its entirety and complete the requirements as outlined by the APG Committee in order to continue in the NP track.

### **APPEAL PROCESS FOR PROGRESSION**

- 1) If the student decides to appeal the decision from the APG committee, the first appeal must be submitted in writing within 7 calendar days to the Department Chairperson. There must be some clear basis for the student's appeal, such as the student's belief that a **procedural violation** occurred.
- 2) If a student desires to appeal the chair's decision, the second appeal must be submitted in writing within 7 calendar days to the Dean of the Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences. The decision of the Dean is final.

### **DISMISSAL FROM THE NP OR POST-MASTERS NP CERTIFICATE TRACKS**

Grounds for dismissal from the NP or Post-Masters NP Certificate track are any of the following:

- 1) **Two unsatisfactory grades in any combination of the following courses:**
  - NURS 611 Advanced Physical Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
  - NURS 629 Pathophysiologic Concepts for Clinical Decision Making
  - NURS 650 Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice
  - NURS 659 Primary Care 1
  - NURS 660 Primary Care 2
  - NURS 665 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Pharmacology

- NURS 667 Psychopharmacology and Effective Client Interviewing
- NURS 669 Adult Gerontology Acute Care I
- NURS 670 Adult Gerontology Acute Care II
- NURS 673 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Comprehensive Practicum
- NURS 679 Psych Mental Health I
- NURS 680 Psych Mental Health II
- NURS 683 Psych Mental health Comprehensive Practicum

**A student who demonstrates unprofessional behavior in either the classroom or clinical setting will meet with a designated faculty member and/or Graduate Program Chair to determine the consequences for the behavior. Consequences of unprofessional behaviors by the student may result in a failing course/ clinical grade or dismissal from the nursing major.**

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE**

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The changing demands of today's complex health care environment require the highest level of scientific knowledge and practice expertise to assure high quality patient outcomes. The Doctor of Nursing Practice program is designed to prepare nurses to transform health care delivery through the design, evaluation, and continuous improvement of the context within which nursing care is delivered. Nurses prepared at the doctoral level with a blend of clinical, organizational, economic and leadership skills are most likely to be able to critique nursing and other clinical scientific findings and design programs of care delivery that are locally acceptable, economically feasible, and which significantly impact health care outcomes.

The curriculum consists of core courses, which all students take, and specialty-specific courses. Core content includes topics such as research and evidence-based practice, quality improvement and patient safety, clinical informatics, advanced statistics, health care economics and financing, and domestic and global health policy. In addition, all students complete a practice immersion and residency experience, which culminates in a final project.

### **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

Graduates of the DNP program will be able to:

- 1) Use epidemiologic and other scientific findings from nursing and other clinical disciplines, as well as organizational, political, and economic sciences, to develop practice initiatives that will improve the quality of care delivery.
- 2) Provide organizational and systems leadership to develop care delivery models that are fiscally responsible and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and patient populations.
- 3) Engage in clinical scholarship to evaluate the effectiveness of evidence-based efforts in the planning and practice of health care program delivery to individuals and communities.
- 4) Use healthcare informatics and technology to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes.
- 5) Collaborate with healthcare professionals, consumers, and other stakeholders to influence health policy and health promotion/disease prevention endeavors at the local, state, federal, and/or international levels that improve patient and population health outcomes.

### **TECHNICAL STANDARDS AT THE DNP LEVEL**

Each student must be able to meet the basic technical standards of performance necessary for the practice of nursing (provided at the time of application).

The program curriculum is designed to provide the education necessary for nurses to assume a role as advanced practice clinical leaders or executive leaders. Students in the degree program are expected to fulfill the following technical standards:

- 1) Acquire information from demonstrations and experiences in the basic and applied sciences, including but not limited to information conveyed through lecture, group seminar, small group

- activities and physical demonstrations.
- 2) Acquire information from written documents and computer-information systems (including literature searches and data retrieval), and identify information presented in images from paper, video, transparencies and slides.
  - 3) Synthesize information, problem solve and think critically to judge which theory and/or strategy of assessment and intervention is most appropriate.
  - 4) Exercise proper judgment, and accurately complete responsibilities attendant to the advanced practice role in a timely manner.
  - 5) Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with clients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals under all circumstances.
  - 6) Communicate effectively and efficiently with faculty, colleagues, preceptors and all members of the health care team during practicum and other learning experiences.
  - 7) Function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments inherent in the classroom and practice setting.
    - Upon admission, a candidate in any nursing program who discloses a disability and requests accommodation will be referred to the Director of Disability Services, Student Success Center (SSC), on the B-level of the W.L. Lyons Brown Library; office B05 A. (502) 272-8490. More information is provided at the website <http://www.bellarmine.edu/studentaffairs/disabilityservices/> The University will provide reasonable accommodations, but is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of a program or provide auxiliary aids that present an undue burden to the University. To matriculate or continue in the curriculum, the candidate must be able to perform all the essential functions outlined in the Technical Standards either with or without accommodation.

### **DNP PROJECT**

The final DNP project produces a tangible and deliverable academic product that is derived from the practice immersion experience and is reviewed and evaluated by an academic committee. The final product documents outcomes of the student's educational experiences provide a measurable medium for evaluating the immersion experience and summarizes the student's growth in knowledge and expertise. The final DNP product should be defined by the academic unit and utilize a form that best incorporates the requirements of the specialty and the institution that is awarding the degree. Whatever form the final product takes, it will serve as a foundation for future scholarly practice. (P 20 of the ESSENTIALS DNP, 2004 document)

### **THE DNP PROJECT TEAM**

The DNP Project team is made up of the student, the doctorally prepared faculty advisor who serves as the Project Team Leader, another doctorally prepared university faculty or staff member, and a clinical mentor. The advisor and advisee are expected to work together in establishing the Project Team, which should be appointed by the end of the advisee's first year into the program of study and must be appointed no later than the semester that precedes the first practice Immersion.

#### **Faculty Advisor**

The Faculty Advisor should be identified by the end of the student's second semester in the program. The faculty advisor provides academic guidance and mentoring. The student should meet regularly with the advisor for assistance with clinical, scholarly and professional development as related to the DNP program. Faculty advisors do not need to be experts in the advisee's area of interest. Rather, they serve as facilitators and guide the advisee's progress in the program.

#### **Faculty Team Member**

The faculty team member is an appointed member of the University faculty or staff who has practice, content or methodology interest/expertise in the advisee's area of interest and in particular in the student's project focus. It is preferred that the team member have previous experience in graduate education. The team member assists the advisor and advisee on matters related to the student's project. Within the structure of the DNP Project Team, the team member also provides insight on matters that pertain to the project during the student's course work.

### Project Clinical Mentor

Clinical mentors are external to the University. They are individuals in advanced clinical practice or administrative roles who are experts in the student's focus area, willing to assist in clinical coaching and agree to collaborate on the Project Team. Clinical mentors serve in the role of consultant or may actually guide select work of the student in clinical experiences of the program. They have an ongoing relationship with the student throughout the program, **contributing especially to the student's** development as a leader in the student's area of practice or executive management. Clinical mentors may be selected from among a variety of disciplines, thereby building upon the DNP program objective to enhance the student's interdisciplinary experience. Clinical mentors should be doctorally prepared in their discipline and, whenever possible, identified experts in the field.

### Time Line

In regard to formation of the DNP Project Team, the following time line should be followed:

- The Faculty Advisor should be identified no later than the end of the student's second semester in the program.
- The remaining Team members should be identified by the end of the student's first year in the program. The "Appointment of the DNP Project Team Approval" form should be completed and submitted to the Office of Graduate Nursing at this time (see Forms Section).
- Team approval of the student's project topic should be obtained no later than the start of the student's second year in the program.

## **FINAL PROJECT**

The DNP project provides tangible evidence of the student's academic growth, derived from the immersion experience, and represents an opportunity for the student to demonstrate the ability to systematically analyze current evidence, develop or support a project, evaluate outcomes, and disseminate information. The project is based on the individual student's interest area, as approved by the DNP Project Team. The project focus is on the scholarship of practice, with an emphasis on internal validity rather than external generalizability

Projects may vary, depending on the student's area of interest. Types of projects include, but are not limited to:

- quality improvement
- policy design and analysis, using databases
- design and evaluation of new care delivery models
- translation of research into practice
- design and evaluation of programs for patient or community-based populations
- implementation and evaluation of evidence based practice guidelines
- implementation and evaluation of innovative uses of technology in clinical practice
- comparison of various aspects of care delivery models (e.g., cost, consumer satisfaction, quality of care)

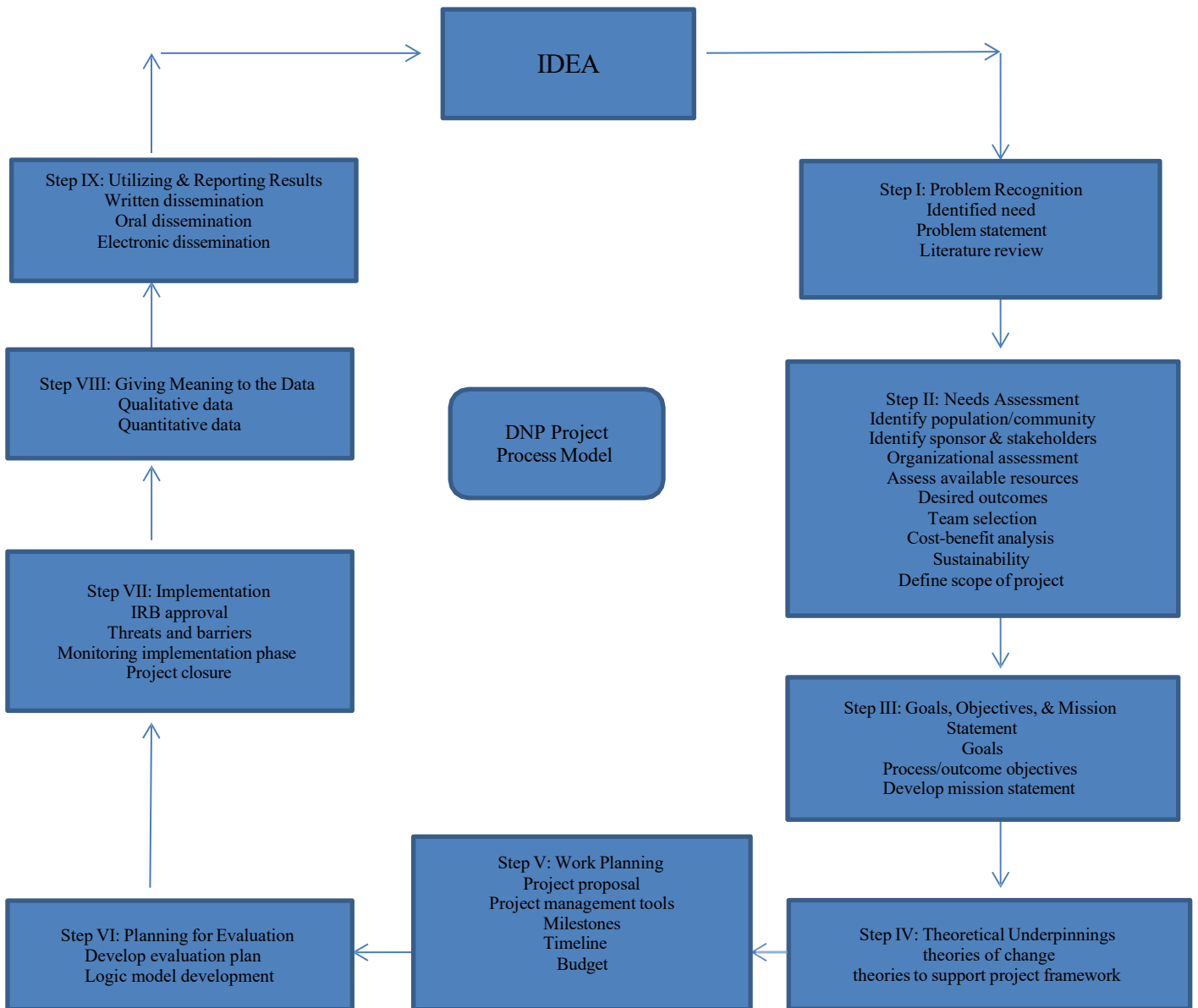
However, all DNP projects should:

- Focus on a change that impacts healthcare outcomes either through direct or indirect care.
- Have a systems (micro-, meso-, or macro-level) or population/aggregate focus.
- Demonstrate implementation in the appropriate arena or area of practice.
- Include a plan for sustainability (e.g., financial, systems or political realities, not only theoretical abstractions).
- Include an evaluation of processes and/or outcomes (formative or summative). DNP Projects should be designed so that processes and/or outcomes will be evaluated to guide practice and policy.
- Provide a foundation for future practice scholarship.

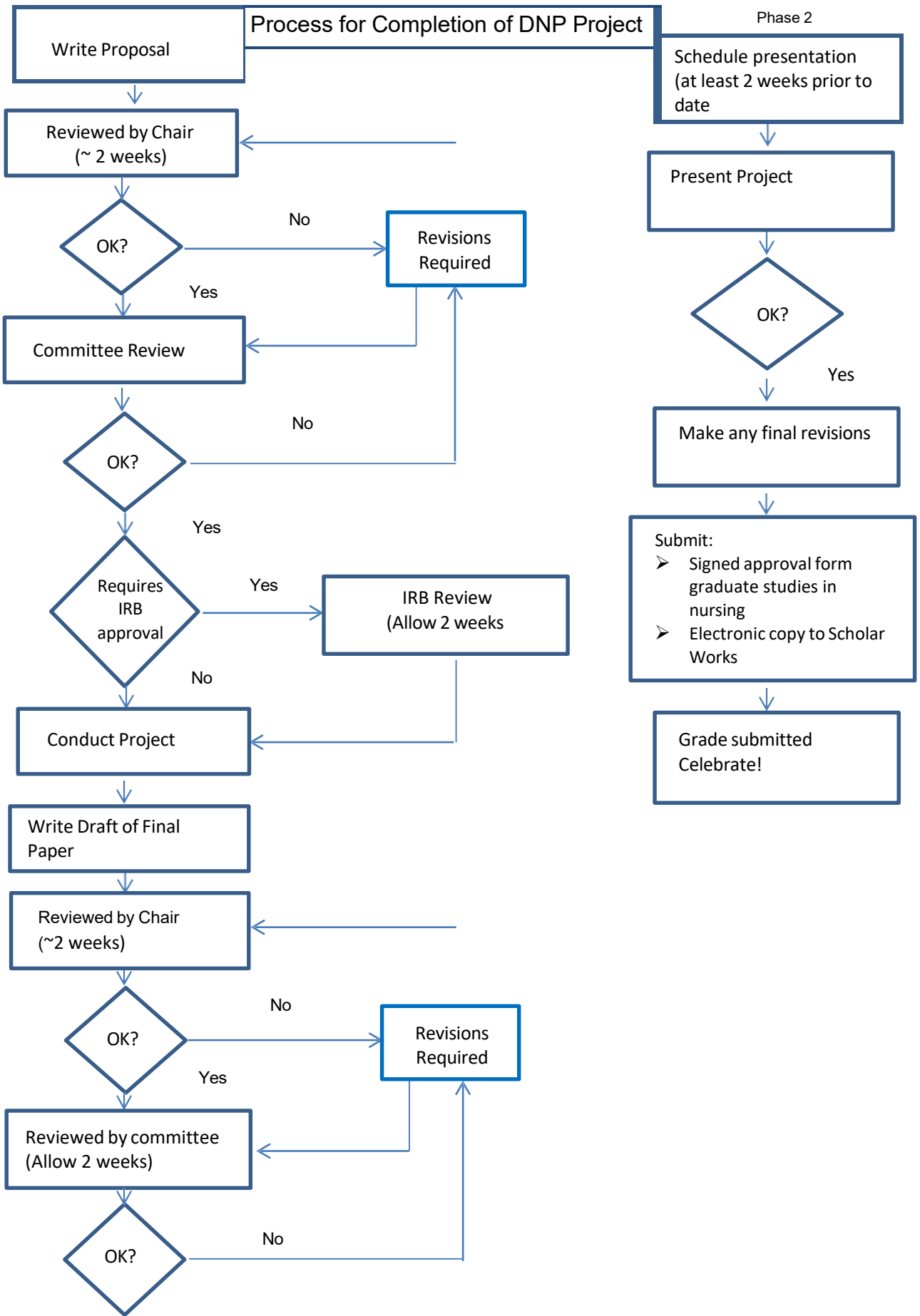
When formulating a project idea, students should consider the following criteria to ensure that the final project will make a difference in practice:

- Entails engagement in partnerships/collaboration, either intra- or inter-professional
- Involves the translation/use of evidence in practice
- Informs (educates) and influences healthcare
- Enhances health outcomes, either at the direct (patient-centered) or indirect (organization/system) level

The process for developing and completing the project is depicted on the following pages. A checklist to help students track the required steps is available in the Forms Section.



From Zaccagnini, M.E., & White, K.W. (2011). *The Doctor of Nursing Practice essentials: A new model for advanced practice nursing*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett.



Continue to Phase 2



## THE DNP PROJECT (PROCESS)



### Project Proposal

**Proposal should be 15-25 pages excluding appendices and references and be written in APA Style.**

The following outline is designed to provide a framework for the project deliverables, but format details will be finalized in collaboration with the student's faculty advisor (see also Proposal Rubric in Forms Section)

- 1) Background and Significance (description of the phenomena, its importance to health care and affected stakeholders, epidemiological and political perspectives, etc.)
- 2) Purpose Statement (clear, concise summary of the specific goal (or outcome) of this project)
- 3) Literature Review (brief, integrated summary of the state of the science)
- 4) Conceptual and/or Theoretical Framework/EBP Model
- 5) Methods and Procedures
  - Participants/population/Sampling
    - Inclusion/exclusion criteria
  - Setting
  - Intervention (if applicable), including who will be responsible for implementing
  - Evaluation plan: For each objective/research question, indicate:
    - Instruments/indicators to be used for measurement
    - Detailed data collection plan, including timeline
    - Plan for data analysis
  - Ethical considerations
    - Potential risks to participants
  - Potential barriers to project implementation and sustainability
    - Plan for addressing barriers
- 6) Significance and/or Potential Implications
- 7) References
- 8) Appendices (as appropriate):
  - Results of needs assessment
  - Literature matrix
  - Tools to measure variables
  - Participant invitation letter
  - Key personnel listing
  - Stakeholders - notification
  - Proposed implementation timeline
  - Anticipated resources needed and estimated costs
  - Required approvals needed for implementation

Following successful presentation and approval of the project proposal, the student should submit a signed copy of the "DNP Project Proposal Approval Form" (See Forms Section) to the Office of the Chair of Graduate Nursing Studies.

Once approved by the DNP Project Team, the proposal is used to guide development of the IRB application, when applicable. (See information regarding the Human Subjects Review Process, located in the general policies section of this Handbook)

### DNP Project Report

Students are required to complete two manuscripts, which comprise the project report.

The two interrelated scholarly manuscripts pertain to the DNP project, with one reporting a description of the project and the evaluative component, including results and outcomes. The specific nature of the second paper will be determined in conjunction with the student's Advisor and Project Team; typically,

an integrative review of literature or a report that focuses on a specific aspect of the project is appropriate.

Criteria for evaluation of the project report include:

- 1) The papers relate to advanced nursing practice and/or nursing administration and focus on an issue affecting a group, population or community.
  - 2) The project is conducted according to ethical principles.
  - 3) A critical review of existing evidence supports the need for the project.
  - 4) A systematic approach is used to collect data using reliable and valid methods.
  - 5) Outcomes are clearly defined, measured and evaluated.
  - 6) The project is presented to the community in a public forum.
- (See also DNP Project Rubric in Forms Section)

#### DNP Project Presentation

The public forum is intended to include the university community of faculty, students and staff, as well as guests of the student who is presenting the project to the Project Team. Students are asked to work with the Project Team and Chair of Graduate Studies in Nursing when scheduling their project presentation. At least two weeks prior to the scheduled date, the "Announcement of DNP Project Presentation" form (See Forms Section) must be submitted to the Office of the Chair of Graduate Nursing Studies.

The process to be followed for the presentation should be as follows:

- 1) The Project Advisor will introduce the Team members, the doctoral student, and the project title
- 2) The student will present the completed project (20 – 30 minutes). **Please refer to the suggested project presentation outline for guidance (Forms Section)**
- 3) Questions are taken from the audience and Team members (15 minutes)
- 4) The audience is excused and the Team continues to meet with the student, asking for any further clarification and/or any additional questions (15 minutes)
- 5) The student is then excused and the Team deliberates on the student's project (10 – 15 minutes)
- 6) The Project Advisor informs the student of the Team's decision.

Following successful presentation and approval of the project, the student should submit a signed copy of the "DNP Project Approval Form" (See Forms Section) to the Office of the Chair of Graduate Nursing Studies.

#### ScholarWorks@Bellarmine Electronic Thesis, Dissertation and Capstone Submission

ScholarWorks@Bellarmine (<http://scholarworks.bellarmino.edu/>) Electronic Thesis, Dissertation and Capstone Submission (ETD) promotes the discovery, distribution and preservation of the scholarly and creative works of the faculty, staff and students of Bellarmine University. Administered by the W.L. Lyons Brown Library, ScholarWorks@Bellarmine is created to collect, organize, preserve and increase the impact of the scholarship of the Bellarmine University community. The DNP project is an important work of scholarship, which the University believes, should be distributed and preserved as part of our educational mission. The Graduate Nursing Department requires that all projects be deposited and made available through the University's ETD archive. The final project version approved by the student's Project Team must be deposited.

Information regarding submission requirements is available at <http://libguides.bellarmino.edu/scholarworks> to assist you with the process.

#### DNP Project Completion

Students who do not complete all scholarly project requirements by the end of Nurs 895, Residency, must register for Nurs 896, Residency Extension, and continue to register for this course until they are finished. Students will receive a grade of "X" for Nurs 895 and Nurs 896 [if enrolled more than once], so the grades will not automatically convert to an F after the following semester. Once the student successfully completes the project, all "X" grades will be changed to Pass. An Incomplete grade may be granted for Nurs 895 only with permission of the Department Chair.

## DNP PROGRAM PRACTICE EXPERIENCES

DNP education requires 1000 academically supervised practice hours at the post-entry level (AACN, 2006). Incoming students must have documentation of the total number of clinical hours secured in their master's program. Enrolled students are responsible for tracking clinical hours earned during the program and reporting them to the faculty advisor (See Clinical Hours Tracking Log in Forms Section).

The DNP program at Bellarmine University includes 400 clinical hours as part of the DNP project requirements. To meet the required 1000 academically supervised hours of practice, students who enter the program with less than 500 hours from their master's program take *Nurs 841, Selected Topics in Advanced Nursing*, which includes required practice hours. Additionally, some courses have designated practice hours incorporated in the credit hour base for that course, along with optional clinical experiences.

The faculty member will specify what practice behaviors/activities constitute a passing level in meeting the course objectives. Students will work with their course faculty member and academic advisor to identify appropriate practice sites where these objectives can be met. In addition, a clinical liaison may be necessary to facilitate the student's activities at the practice site. A clinical liaison is defined as a person employed at the site who can facilitate the student's entry and progress toward meeting clinical objectives. The clinical liaison should be the most qualified person available and is not required to be doctorally prepared.

### What constitutes practice hours

#### Direct care or practice contact hours

- Practice experiences that are outside of the job description and responsibilities of the student. The practice experience must have goals and learning outcomes completed during a mentored relationship with a clinical expert and/or faculty member.

#### Practice experiences may include, but are not limited to:

- In depth work with clinical experts, including an interdisciplinary team
- Meaningful engagement in the practice environment
- Programmatic efforts to address a clinical practice issue
- Mobilizing interdisciplinary teams to solve complex clinical problems
- Significant meetings that related directly to the outcomes
- Discussions with preceptor/mentor and others who can add to the outcome
- Data collection and analysis
- Organizational assessment of current standard of care and then to facilitate translation of evidence based findings as needed into practice

#### Note:

Travel, library and research hours, and reading time do not count as practice experience hours.

### Tracking Practice Hours

Practice hours completed throughout the program should be documented in the "Log of Supervised Practice Hours". This document, available in the DNP Student Class Notebook, allows students to track their practice experiences, including the date of the experience, a description of the experience, the *DNP Essentials* addressed through the experience, and the cumulative number of hours completed.

### Practice Hours Associated with NURS 841, Selected Topics

Students who did not have an administrative focus in their MSN program will complete a leadership portfolio as part of the course requirements and may be expected to spend a portion of the clinical hours in leadership experiences. Students should work with their faculty advisor to design this experience.

# **FORMS SECTION (MSN)**

## BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Please read this document carefully and check the box next to each item that you accept the following conditions:

### GENERAL POLICIES

- I have read the Lansing School of Nursing & Clinical Sciences Graduate Nursing Student Handbook and agree to abide by the policies and content within the handbook. I understand that changes to this handbook may be made. I will be notified of any changes to the existing policies and agree to abide by these policies.
- I authorize the release of my non-academic records to verify compliance with the responsibilities as stated in the Clinical Facility Agreement.
- I authorize Bellarmine University, its representatives, employees or agents to contact and obtain information regarding me from all public agencies, licensing authorities and educational institutions.
- I hereby waive all rights and claims I may have regarding Bellarmine University, its representatives, employees, or agents gathering and using such information and all other persons, corporations or organizations for furnishing such information about me.
- I understand that if health care is required while participating in a program of study, the emergency/or other health care services shall be at the expense of me or my insurance carrier.
- I hereby acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Lansing School of Nursing & Clinical Sciences' ***Student Drug and Alcohol Policy*** (the "Policy") and agree that I have read, or will read, the Policy. I understand that there may be situations where I will be required to take a drug and/or alcohol test. I also understand that if I refuse to take the test, or if a test proves positive, I may be suspended or dismissed from the Lansing School of Nursing & Clinical Sciences and may be subject to additional sanctions as described in the Policy. I also understand that if I have any questions regarding the Policy, I am to contact my department Chairperson or Lansing School of Nursing & Clinical Sciences Dean.

### PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- I understand the professional responsibilities as stated in the Graduate Nursing Student Handbook. I will abide to these standards in all settings: classroom, laboratory, and clinical because as a student, I am a representative of Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences and Bellarmine University.
- I have read the Practica Requirements and understand that I must meet these requirements prior to starting any clinical experiences.

### TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- As a student in the nursing program at Bellarmine University, I have thoroughly reviewed and understand the technical standards provided to me in this document. I understand that I must be capable of performing the technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, in order to pursue my chosen area of nursing education.

MY SIGNATURE INDICATES THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND AGREE TO THE STANDARDS.

X \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return to Julie Benvie at [jbenvie@bellarmine.edu](mailto:jbenvie@bellarmine.edu)

## COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

All students in the Graduate Nursing Programs are required to show proof of having had their first COVID-19 vaccination by September 15, 2021. Students must show proof that they are fully vaccinated (2 doses of Moderna or Pfizer or 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson) by October 15, 2021. Health professions education clinical placements have many specific requirements related to vaccines (including COVID-19), screenings, criminal background checks and other prerequisites that are required for student participation. If a student does not meet these requirements (including the COVID-19 vaccination requirement), academic progression could be delayed or potentially halted, as these clinical requirements are necessary for successful completion of the curriculum and graduation. Any delay or discontinuance of a clinical placement will impact graduation, financial aid, ability to sit for professional licensure or certification, and future employment.

Although the university may allow for an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement for medical or sincerely held religious reasons, please be advised some of our clinical partners will not allow COVID-19 vaccine exempted students to participate in clinical-based activities at their facilities. Exemptions will be addressed through the immunization policy [waiver process](#) described in the student handbook. If you have an approved exemption form from your healthcare employer, please submit your approval letter/documentation with your Bellarmine exemption request.

---

### Influenza Vaccine

<b>Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences</b> <b>Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Form</b> <b>Complete this section for administration of vaccine.</b>		
NAME _____	BU ID # _____	DATE _____
<b>Documentation of Immunization</b>		
<b>INFLUENZA VACCINATION GIVEN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>INTRANASAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>INTRAMUSCULAR</b>
LOT ID # _____	EXP DATE _____	
DATE GIVEN _____	ADMINISTERED BY _____	

-----

**Tuberculosis Screening Questionnaire**  
Bellarmine University Health Services

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

Positive TB Skin Test (PPD) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Chest X-Ray Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you have had any of the following problems for three to four weeks or longer

Chronic cough (greater than three weeks)                      Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Production of Sputum:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Blood Streaked Sputum:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Unexplained Weight Loss:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Fever:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Fatigue/Tiredness:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Night Sweats:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Shortness of Breath:    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

The information I have given is true and accurate AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS OR CONTAGIUM. Applicants with negative TB skin test results or recent chest x- rays (less than one year) **do not** need the RN signed TB questionnaire.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ RN

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bellarmino University**

**Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences  
2001 Newburg Road, Miles Hall, Louisville, KY 40205**

**WAIVER FOR HEPATITS B VACCINATION**

I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. However, I decline vaccination at this time. I also understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring Hepatitis B.

Student name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Witness signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Bellarmino University**  
**Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences**  
**2001 Newburg Road, Miles Hall, Louisville, KY 40205**

**WAIVER FOR IMMUNIZATIONS OTHER THAN HEPATITIS B VACCINE**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Bellarmine ID # \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I may be exposed to TB or communicable disease in the clinical area and that I may be at risk of contracting disease. I am requesting a waiver for the following immunization requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_

Health care provider must complete this section:

Name of immunization	Reason for request for immunization waiver

Anticipated date immunizations can be administered \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Physician, Health Care Provider, or Health Department designee:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name of Physician, Health Care Provider or Health Department designee**

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_



## LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES

### Employer Verification of Practica Requirements

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The above named individual is enrolled in a graduate level-nursing program at Bellarmine University, in the Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences. Prior to beginning the clinical practicum portion of the program, the student is required to provide verification of the completion of the requirements specified below.

\_\_\_\_\_

This is to verify that our employee, \_\_\_\_\_, meets all of the following requirements:

- Current CPR certification
- Current on all health care requirements. These include:
  - Required immunizations
  - Hepatitis vaccine series (or waiver)
  - TB skin test or indicated alternative
- Holds an unrestricted registered nurse license and has undergone a satisfactory criminal background check.
- Most recent mandated drug screen was negative

This information is maintained in the employee's file and is available upon request.

Printed name of person providing verification: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Your title within the institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Your contact information (phone and/or email): \_\_\_\_\_

**Bellarmino University**  
**Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences**  
**2001 Newburg Rd, Miles Hall, Louisville KY 40205**  
Email to [jbenvie@bellarmine.edu](mailto:jbenvie@bellarmine.edu)

## Application for Re-enrollment to the Graduate Nursing Program

This form is for students who have been admitted to Bellarmine University as a graduate nursing student but have not been enrolled in a nursing course for consecutive semesters.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SS# or Bellarmine ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, indicate **H** (ome); **C** (ell), **P** (ager), **W** (ork) number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Last attended a graduate nursing course \_\_\_\_\_  
Course name & number Semester/Yr.

Please explain your activities and involvements since leaving the program:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the Track for which you are reapplying:

<input type="checkbox"/> MSN Nursing Administration <input type="checkbox"/> MSN/MBA Program <input type="checkbox"/> Post Graduate Certificate (please indicate track)	<input type="checkbox"/> MSN Nursing Education <input type="checkbox"/> Dual Track (please indicate both) <input type="checkbox"/> FNP <input type="checkbox"/> AGACNP <input type="checkbox"/> PMHNP
DNP Advanced Practice	DNP Executive Leadership

List all colleges and universities you have attended since attending Bellarmine:

Institution	Location	Dates attended	Degree	Dismissed or suspended?
				Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

What semester do you wish to re-enroll in?                      FA\_\_\_\_\_ SP\_\_\_\_\_ SU\_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

I declare that the information provided on this form is true, correct, and complete. Bellarmine University has my permission to verify information by obtaining documents as needed. I understand that providing false information may result in Bellarmine University revoking my student status as student in good standing.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:  
 Bellarmine University  
 ATTN: Graduate Admissions  
 2001 Newburg Rd.  
 Louisville KY 40205

**Bellarmino University**  
Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences  
Graduate Nursing Program  
2001 Newburg Road, Miles Hall, Louisville KY 40205

**Application for Continuation**  
(Type or print clearly, attaching additional pages if needed)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_

BU ID#: Current email \_\_\_\_\_

I give APG permission to contact me by email:	Yes: _____	No: _____
I would like the opportunity to meet with the committee:	Yes: _____	No: _____
I request that a graduate student representative be present During the committee's deliberations:	Yes: _____	No: _____

**Student:** Clearly explain to the committee your request, including course numbers and any unique circumstances that you think would be helpful for the committee in considering your request. Also, include how, if the request is granted, how circumstances would be different or what strategies you would implement to be successful.

**Course Instructor:** Include grades on various assignments, any information the committee should consider, as well as your recommendation.

**Academic Advisor:**

**Bellarmine University**  
**Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences**  
**2001 Newburg Road, Miles Hall, Louisville, KY 40205**

**WAIVER TO POLICY**

(Type or print clearly, attaching additional pages if needed)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_ BU ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Current email: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy(s) to be waived (note course #s and semesters involved). Provide rationale for request. Attach separate documentation, if needed

**Academic Advisor:**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Chair, Graduate Nursing Programs:**

Student's GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Total hours earned \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**APG Committee Decision:**             Approved             Not approved

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Donna and Allan Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences Bellarmine University  
CLINICAL INCIDENT REPORT**

Date/Time of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Student/Faculty Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Named Policy Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Place Incident Occurred: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty/Unit Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Use back of report sheet if more room is needed.**

Student's description of incident. Include others involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Medical Treatment given; Include date and time: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Restrictions noted during medical treatment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Yes**  **No**  Student/Faculty was advised that expenses incurred in emergency treatment are his/her responsibility. These expenses are not the responsibility of the clinical facility or Bellarmine University.

Report prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of this report: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures:

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinical Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean, Lansing School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Employment Verification

This form is to be completed by a representative from your place of employment. Either a human resources representative or your clinical area supervisor will suffice. This form should be completed and submitted prior to the start of Fall semester 1, Spring semester 1, Summer semester 1. Completed forms can be scanned and emailed to [jbenvie@bellarmine.edu](mailto:jbenvie@bellarmine.edu). Pictures of the form will not be accepted, it must be a scanned document.

### **To be completed by the student:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Name of facility where you work: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Unit employed on: \_\_\_\_\_

### **To be completed by the employer:**

By signing below, I verify that the above-named individual is a registered nurse with full time employment (>32 hours per week) at the facility and unit listed above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

# **FORMS SECTION (DNP)**





**LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES**  
**APPOINTMENT OF THE DNP PROJECT TEAM APPROVAL FORM**

The DNP Project Team is made up of the student, the faculty advisor who serves as the Project Team Leader, another doctorally-prepared university faculty or staff member, and a clinical mentor. The advisor and advisee are expected to work together in establishing the Project Team, which should be appointed by the end of the advisee's first year into the program of study and must be appointed no later than the semester that precedes the first practice Immersion.

**STUDENT INFORMATION**

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADMIT TERM & YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ DEGREE EMPHASIS: \_\_\_\_\_ APN: \_\_\_\_\_ EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

**TEAM COMPOSITION** – Refer to the DNP Capstone Scholarly Project guidelines for selecting a Project Team. Please print the names of the team members on the left, and have those individuals sign on the right.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM LEADER NAME (PRINTED) PROJECT TEAM LEADER SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER (PRINTED) PROJECT TEAM MEMBER SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER (PRINTER) PROJECT TEAM MEMBER SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER (PRINTER) PROJECT TEAM MEMBER SIGNATURE

**STUDENT SIGNATURE** – I understand that I must notify the chair of Graduate Nursing studies if there are any changes to this committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT SIGNATURE DATE

**ADDITIONAL REQUIRED APPROVAL SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR OF GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAMS DATE



**Appendix F**  
Lansing School of Nursing and Clinical Sciences  
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
DNP Project Checklist

Semester	Task	Documents to Submit	Date Completed
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify DNP project Faculty Advisor</li> </ul>		
III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select and confirm DNP Project Team members</li> </ul>	Appointment of DNP Project Team Approval Form	
No Later Than Semester IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain Team approval for project topic</li> </ul>		
Immersion II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain Team approval of DNP project proposal (<b>Note:</b> Required for progression to Immersion II)</li> </ul>	Contract Course Application Project Proposal Approval Form	
Immersion III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain regular contact with Faculty Advisor regarding progress. Contact Team members, as needed.</li> <li>Apply for graduation</li> </ul>	Contract Course Application Graduation Application Form	
Residency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Faculty Advisor to finalize drafts of project manuscripts</li> <li>Schedule final presentation of DNP project (<b>no later than 3 weeks before end of semester</b>). All Team members must agree and be available for the final presentation.</li> <li>Submit draft of DNP project manuscripts to Project Team members, following Faculty Advisor's approval, <b>at least 2 weeks before scheduled presentation</b></li> <li>Draft of final slide presentation should be submitted to the Faculty Advisor <b>no later than 1 week before scheduled presentation</b></li> <li>Obtain Team approval of completed project</li> <li>Submit final Project report to ScholarWorks@Bellarmine</li> </ul>	Contract Course Application Presentation Announcement  Project Approval Form Confirmation of submission to Faculty Advisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If project is not completed by end of semester, must register for Nurs 896, Residency Extension</li> </ul>	Contract Course Application	

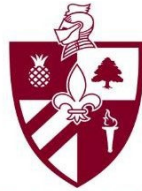
### Doctor of Nursing Practice Project Proposal Rubric

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Comments
Background & Significance	Fails to describe the phenomena, its importance to healthcare and affected stakeholders.	Describes the phenomena, its importance to healthcare and affected stakeholders.	
Purpose Statement	Fails to clearly and/or concisely state the goal of the project.	Clearly and concisely states the goal of the project.	
Review of the Literature	Provides single source summaries of the literature.	Provides an organized, integrated summary of the state of the science (with level of evidence provided).	
Conceptual/Theoretical Framework/EBP Model	Fails to provide appropriate framework.	Provides appropriate framework to guide project.	
Methods and Procedures	Does not clearly and/or concisely summarize key methods/procedures pieces.	Clearly and concisely summarizes (where applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants/population/sampling</li> <li>• Setting</li> <li>• Intervention (if applicable)</li> <li>• Evaluation plan, to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instruments</li> <li>• Data collection plan</li> <li>• Data analysis plan</li> <li>• Ethical considerations</li> <li>• Barriers to implementation and sustainability</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Plan for addressing problems</li> </ul>	
References	Missing key citations.	Current state of the science references including all appropriate disciplines (with matrix).	
Key Personnel and Stakeholders	Does not identify needed personnel Does not recognize potential impact of project	Accurately identifies individuals needed to complete project, as well as those who will be most affected by it	
Timeline	Does not provide, or provides unrealistic, timeline.	Provides realistic timeline for project implementation.	
Resources	Does not provide all required resources and/or costs.	Identifies all anticipated resources and potential costs.	
Approvals for Implementation	Does not identify required approvals.	Identifies required approvals needed for implementation (cooperating agencies, IRB, etc.)	
Clarity of Writing and Writing Technique	Writing is convoluted and/or unnecessary words are used. Misspelled words, incorrect grammar, and improper punctuation are evident.	Writing is crisp, clear, and succinct. The writer incorporates the active voice when appropriate. The use of pronouns, modifiers, parallel construction, and non-sexist language are appropriate.	
APA	APA not consistent.	Follows APA.	

## Doctor of Nursing Practice Project Rubric

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Comments
Background & Significance	Fails to describe the phenomena, its importance to healthcare and affected stakeholders.	Describes the phenomena, its importance to healthcare and affected stakeholders.	
Purpose Statement	Fails to clearly and/or concisely state the goal of the project.	Clearly and concisely states the goal of the project.	
Review of the Literature	Provides single source summaries of the literature.	Provides an organized, integrated summary of the state of the science (with level of evidence provided).	
Conceptual/Theoretical Framework/EBP Model	Fails to provide appropriate framework.	Provides appropriate framework to guide project.	
Methods and Procedures	Does not clearly and/or concisely summarize key methods/procedures pieces.	Clearly and concisely summarizes (where applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants/population/sampling</li> <li>• Setting</li> <li>• Intervention (if applicable)</li> <li>• Evaluation plan, to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instruments</li> <li>• Data collection plan</li> <li>• Data analysis plan</li> <li>• Ethical considerations</li> <li>• Barriers to implementation and sustainability</li> <li>• Plan for addressing problems</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Resources	Does not provide all required resources and/or costs.	Identifies all required resources and costs.	
Approvals for Implementation	Does not provide all letters of support.	Provides all required letters of support from cooperating agencies (as appendices).	
Results	Complete results, facilitators, barriers and/or unintended consequences not provided.	Provides results for each objective or research question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides facilitators and barriers encountered.</li> <li>• Identifies unintended consequences (both positive and negative, if appropriate) and how handled.</li> </ul>	
Recommendations	Does not adequately provide future recommendations and/or possible application of this project in other settings.	Provides future recommendations for this project/research project and possible application of this project in other settings.	

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Comments
APA	APA not consistent	Follows APA	
Program Outcome 1	Does not adequately address the: Use of epidemiologic and other scientific findings from nursing and other clinical disciplines, as well as organizational, political, and economic sciences, to develop practice initiatives that will improve the quality of care delivery.	Adequately addresses: Use of epidemiologic and other scientific findings from nursing and other clinical disciplines, as well as organizational, political, and economic sciences, to develop practice initiatives that will improve the quality of care delivery.	
Program Outcome 2	Does not adequately address the Provision of organizational and systems leadership to develop care delivery models that are fiscally responsible and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and patient populations.	Adequately addresses: Provision of organizational and systems leadership to develop care delivery models that are fiscally responsible and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and patient populations.	
Program Outcome 3	Does not adequately address the Engagement in clinical scholarship to evaluate the effectiveness of evidence-based efforts in the planning and practice of health care program delivery to individuals and communities.	Adequately addresses: Engagement in clinical scholarship to evaluate the effectiveness of evidence-based efforts in the planning and practice of health care program delivery to individuals and communities.	
Program Outcome 4	Does not adequately address the: Use of healthcare informatics and technology to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes.	Adequately addresses: Use of healthcare informatics and technology to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes.	
Program Outcome 5	Does not adequately address the: Collaboration with healthcare professionals, consumers, and other stakeholders to influence health policy and health promotion/disease prevention endeavors at the local, state, federal, and/or international levels that improve patient and population health outcomes.	Adequately addresses: Collaboration with healthcare professionals, consumers, and other stakeholders to influence health policy and health promotion/disease prevention endeavors at the local, state, federal, and/or international levels that improve patient and population health outcomes.	



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## LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES

### NOTICE OF DNP PROJECT PROPOSAL APPROVAL FORM

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval has been granted by the Project Team for this student to proceed with implementation of the proposed project.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM Leader

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM Leader

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

**NOTE:** You should have this sheet prepared at the time of your project **proposal presentation** and bring it to the meeting. The name and credentials of each member should be typed on the left side of the form. A copy of the form is to be filed with the Office of the Chair of Graduate Nursing Studies following approval. This serves as a contract between you and your Project Team regarding implementation of the project.



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## LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF DNP PROJECT PRESENTATION

Form must be submitted two weeks prior to project presentation date.

To: Chair, Graduate Nursing Programs

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Date

My DNP project defense will take place at \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Time Bldg., Room

The Team Leader of my Project Team is \_\_\_\_\_

The title of my DNP Project is \_\_\_\_\_

All members of my Project Team can attend the presentation on the approved date and my Team Leader and team members all agree that the Project is in acceptable draft form and ready for presentation.

---

(Student Signature) Please accept this typed signature as my own

Cc: All Project Team Members

## Project Presentation Outline

### **Project Title**

- Name

### **Background & Significance**

- Literature review and/or baseline data supporting need for change
- Purpose statement
- Objectives
  - 2 slides maximum
  - 5 minutes maximum

### **Theoretical Framework**

- 1 slide
- 1 minute maximum

### **Project Design**

- Project plan/methods
- Participants / population
- Sample/setting
- Equipment or instruments used
- Timeline
- Resources required
- Market/strategic analysis
- Key personnel/stakeholders
- Approvals required
  - 3-5 slides maximum
  - 5 minutes maximum

### **Evaluation Plan**

Project outcomes (should directly relate to your project objectives)

- How each outcome was evaluated
- Method of statistical analysis used for each outcome

### **Results**

- Results for each outcome
- Key facilitators and barriers to meeting each outcome
- Any unintended consequences (positive or negative)
  - Slide per outcome is appropriate
  - 1 minute per outcome is appropriate

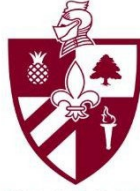
### **Discussion & Recommendations**

- Overall strength of the project
- Any gaps/limitations identified
- Application to practice
- Future recommendations for practice, research and/or policy
  - 2-3 slides
  - 5 minutes maximum

### **Some guidelines...**

- These are only recommendations – your actual presentation may vary. Work with your Team Leader for assistance.
- Presentations should last no longer than 20-25 minutes. 5-10 additional minutes for Q&A will be allowed.
- Use key words/phrases on slides – not long sentences. Good presentations only provide the “outline” of what the speaker is covering.
- Rules: A) 8-12 lines or less per slide; B) font size at least 24; C) standard font such as Arial or Times New Roman; D) DO NOT USE ALL CAPITALS IT IS DIFFICULT TO READ; E) dark backgrounds with white font is easiest for readers to see from a distance; and F) minimal use of color – it is distracting.
- Cite all sources (e.g., Smith & Jones, 2010; Wilder, Johnson & Follett, 2012).
- You can add a slide recognizing/thanking your committee members – but it is not required.





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## LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND CLINICAL SCIENCES

### DNP PROJECT APPROVAL FORM

Formal approval is hereby given to this submitted DNP project:

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM LEADER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM LEADER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

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PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PROJECT TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

**NOTE:** You should have this sheet prepared at the time of your project presentation and bring it to the meeting. The name and credentials of each member should be typed on the left side of the form. A copy of the form is to be filed with the Office of the Chair of Graduate Nursing Studies following the presentation.

Log of Supervised Practice Hours				
Date	Description	Related DNP Essential*	Total Clinical Hours	Cumulative Hours
				0
				0
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	<b>* DNP Essentials</b>			
	I Scientific Underpinnings for Practice			
	II Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking			
	III Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice			
	IV Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care			
	V Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care			
	VI Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes			
	VII Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation's Health			
	VIII Advanced Nursing Practice			