



# **Student Handbook**

## **2025-2026**

## Disclaimers

This handbook contains information, policies and procedures specific for Temple College Associate Degree Nursing students. The information within is subject to change by the department as necessary. Students will be notified in writing of any departmental changes and asked to sign that they have received them.

This handbook contains policies, regulations, and procedures in effect at the time this publication was printed. Temple College reserves the right to make changes at any time to reflect current Board policies, administrative regulations and procedures, and applicable state and federal regulations.

## Temple College EEO/AA Statement

Temple College is committed to nondiscrimination practices based upon race, gender, gender identity and expression, disability, age, religion, national origin, genetic information, or veteran status. Our commitment is to provide equal opportunities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and subsequent amendments, the Vietnam Era Veterans Assistance Act of 1974; the Equal Pay act of 1963 and subsequent amendments, the Americans with Disabilities Act and subsequent amendments, Texas Statute 6252-14-V.T.C.S., Executive Orders 11246 and 11758, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 to students, employees, programs, activities, and applicants. Temple College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution.

## Course Disruption

Due to circumstances beyond our control, for example COVID 19 pandemic, understand that class/labs/clinical could potentially be converted from face-to-face to remote learning or be disrupted, and result in an Incomplete for the course that was disrupted or possible delay in graduation. In that event, when courses can resume, the days and times to make up the content may be different from originally designated. All effort will be given to provide adequate notice of any possible day/time changes, and the learner understands that they are required to attend those adjusted days/ times to complete the requirements of the curricula.

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## Organization

### Associate Degree Nursing Department Faculty and Staff

**Dean, Health Professions II**

**Department Chair, Nursing**

Tracey D. Cooper, MSN, RN, CNE

**Full Time Faculty**

Amy Avila MSN, RN

Rosemary Berumen MSN, RN, MS-BC

Paula Eubanks MSN, RN

Janelle Gil MSN, APRN, AGCNS

Angela Gutierrez MSN, RN

Melissa Michalewicz MSN, RN

Jean Montgomery PhD, RN, CNE, CNEcl, MS-BC

Glenda Moore MSN, RN

Ellisha Robinson MSN, RN, NE-BC

Megan Strmiska MSN, RN

Yanira Vazquez MSN, RN

Jewelle Welleh DNP, RN

## Organizational Chart

### **Dean, Health Professions I**

#### **Department Chair, EMS**

Jeff Fritz M.Ed., LP, NRP

### **Dean, Health Professions II**

#### **Department Chair, Nursing**

Tracey D. Cooper MSN, RN, CNE

### **Lead Instructors**

VN Program

Audra Xenakis DNP, RN

### **Coordinators**

Clinical Coordinator &

Nursing Success Coordinator

Erica Perrine MSN, RN

Simulation Coordinator

Nancy Eaton MSN, RN, CNE

### **Administrative Assistant II**

Kerry Tilley

### **Administrative Assistant I**

Elena Tavai

## Temple College Nursing Department Mission Statement

The Nursing Department's mission is to educate students in the practice of high-quality, compassionate care within the scope of Associate Degree and Vocational Nursing, effectively serving our diverse community by preparing students for professional licensure, success in entry-level nursing practice, and lifelong learning.

We uphold Temple College's values of Excellence, Integrity, Community, and Respect, ensuring our practices embody these principles and standards.

Revised 2025

### Program Outcomes

1. Sixty percent or greater of admitted students will complete the program in four semesters for the 2-year track and 3 semesters for the Bridging track.
2. Eighty Percent or greater of graduates will pass the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt.
3. Eighty Percent or greater of graduates will be gainfully employed within 1 year of graduation.

Revised 4/2025



## History of the ADN Program

Temple College began its Associate Degree Nursing Program in the fall of 1993. It received full approval from the Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas. The program was accredited by the National League for Nursing in 1996. This accreditation was renewed in 2000 and 2009 by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The program was most recently accredited in 2017 by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. The program was recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as an exemplary program. Full approval status has been awarded each year by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON), including frequent commendations for the program's excellent pass rate on the licensure exam.

The nursing education building underwent renovations in 2005 and became the Dell Martin Nursing Education Center. New classroom and student spaces were added, as well as a large computer lab and a simulation/skills lab. The simulation/skills lab was remodeled again in 2015 to accommodate new simulation technology.

In 2021 a bond package was passed that will fund multiple projects across campus including an addition and renovations to the Health Sciences Center which will provide a new Nursing Simulation Center and classroom space to accommodate the current need and future growth.

At the completion of the Associate Degree Nursing program, the graduate receives an Associate of Applied Science degree. This degree represents two years of college credit. In addition, the graduate is eligible to apply to the Texas Board of Nursing to take the licensing and jurisprudence exams to become a registered nurse. The Temple College Associate Degree Nursing Program has maintained an outstanding reputation for preparing its graduates to practice as licensed professional nurses.

## Admission Requirements

### Admission to the 2-Year ADN Program

#### Step 1 – Apply for Admission to Temple College

##### Admission Requirements:

- 1) Apply for admission to Temple College by clicking the gold “Apply Now” button the TC home page. (You must meet all TSI requirements in order to apply for nursing.)
- 2) Submit official transcripts from ALL colleges attended to TC Admissions & Records.
- 3) Complete prerequisite courses below with a minimum grade of “C” or better. Must have a 2.8 or higher GPA in all prerequisite and corequisite courses in the ADN degree plan in order to apply  
BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I (All Biology courses must be within 10 years of application)  
ENGL 1301 Composition I  
PSYC 2301 General Psychology

- 4) Take the HESI Admission Assessment (A2). A minimum score of 80 is required in each of the following subject areas: Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary & Knowledge, and Math.
- 5) Applicants must be 18 years old by the first day of class.

## Step 2 - Apply to the Temple College Associate Degree Nursing Program

To submit the online Associate Degree Nursing Application during the application window

Go to the Temple College [Associate Degree Nursing](#) webpage.

- Before applying, read the following documents located under the Application Procedure tab:
- Application Instructions
- Immunizations, CPR & Drug Screening
- Core Performance Standards
- Texas Board of Nursing Background Check Process
- Transcripts and Transfer Information

Click on the Apply to Nursing button on that page to start a NEW nursing application.

**Students seeking admission to the ADN program are admitted on the basis of the following criteria, with maximum point totals awarded as indicated:**

Points*	GPA	HESI A2 Composite Score	# of Co-Reqs Completed	Service Area Resident
1	2.8-3.0	85-88	1	Yes
2	3.01-3.26	89-92	2	
3	3.27-3.52	93-96	3	
4	3.53-3.78	97-100		
5	3.79-4.0			

- \*Any one nursing course failure within the last 10 years in an RN or VN program will result in a deduction of an admission point.
- If there is a nursing course failure in any program during the three years prior to admission, the applicant will receive **one attempt only to complete the Temple College ADN Program**. See Withdrawal/Dismissal and Returning Student Policy.
- The applicant is ineligible for admission/readmission if there are two or more nursing course failures in any program during the three years prior to admission.
- **A nursing course failure is any grade below a "C"**

Admission to the nursing program is determined during the summer for the fall semester and fall for the spring semester.

Admission to Temple College does not constitute automatic acceptance into the nursing program. In the event the application is rejected, the applicant may request a review by the Nursing Department.

Applicants will be notified by email of whether or not they are conditionally accepted into the program. If conditionally accepted into the program, the following must be completed:

- 1) An acknowledgment that you are able to meet the Core Performance Standards for Nursing will be required.

- 2) Immunizations required by our clinical partners (these must be kept current throughout the program):
  - a. Tetanus (Tdap) - documented vaccination less than 10 years old
  - b. MMR – a documented series of two vaccinations or a positive titer
  - c. Varicella – two vaccinations (or positive titer) OR “history of disease” on letterhead reported by physician
  - d. COVID-19 - Documented series of two vaccinations (Pfizer or Moderna) or one vaccination (Johnson & Johnson) received prior to September 2, 2022 or one updated/bivalent vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) received after September 2, 2022. A booster shot is not required at this time but is HIGHLY recommended.
  - e. Influenza – You will be required to get the flu vaccination each year in Fall. After you are accepted into the program you will be given instructions on when to get your yearly flu shot.
  - f. Tuberculosis (TB) Screening– Must have been done within one year of classes starting, and no older.
  - g. Hepatitis B Vaccination – Must show proof of a complete Hepatitis B series or a positive titer. There is a 3-dose series and a 2-dose series. Please take note of which series you are taking. If you have not started your Hepatitis B series at the time of application you MUST receive the 2-dose series OR an accelerated 3-dose series in order to be completed on time and be eligible to attend clinicals.
- 3) A **drug screen** also will be required. (Specific instructions will be given).
- 4) A satisfactory **background check** (specific instructions will be given). The Texas Board of Nursing will conduct the background check. **The student must be cleared by the Board of Nursing before being allowed to register for nursing courses.** Failure to be cleared by the Board of Nursing by the designated date will prevent admission. Any healthcare facility associated with Temple College may also require background checks. Permission to perform the background check must be given by the student. Failure to give permission will result in dismissal from the program. It may be necessary to deny admission or dismiss students from a program if they are barred from practicing at any healthcare facility.
- 5) Written documentation of successful completion of an American Heart Association **CPR course** designed for health care providers (e.g., **Basic Cardiac Life Support for Health Care Providers.**) No student will be permitted in the clinical setting without current documentation on file (must remain current throughout the ADN program). On-line only CPR courses are not acceptable; all courses must include a hands-on skill portion.

### Advanced Placement

Advanced placement is defined by the Board of Nursing as a mechanism by which students with relevant prior education and/or experience may be offered course credit by meeting certain other requirements. Currently, advanced placement may be granted through the Bridging track. In this track, Licensed Vocational Nurses or Licensed Paramedics receive ten hours of credit at the completion of the program that is applied to the ADN curriculum/AAS degree. These credits are only granted with successful completion of the ADN program.

## Admission to the Bridging Track

Students desiring admission to the Bridging track must follow the admission steps listed above and provide proof of:

- **Graduation** from a VN program or Paramedic/Medic program
- A valid **Texas VN license** in good standing, without disciplinary action or stipulations. (Not just Compact License) Paramedics/Medics must have a **current Texas Paramedic license or Medic/Corpsman certificate**. The license must remain current throughout the program.

Students seeking admission to the Bridging track are admitted to the program on the basis of the following criteria, with maximum point totals awarded as indicated.

Points*	GPA	HESI A2	# of Co-Reqs Completed	TC Graduate or Service Area Resident
1	2.8-3.0	85-88	1	Yes
2	3.01-3.26	89-92	2	
3	3.27-3.52	93-96		
4	3.53-3.78	97-100		
5	3.79-4.0			

- \*Any one nursing course failure within the last 10 years in an RN or VN program will result in a deduction of an admission point.
- If there is a nursing course failure in any program during the three years prior to admission, the applicant will receive **one attempt only to complete the Temple College ADN Program**. See Withdrawal/Dismissal and Returning Student Policy.
- The applicant is ineligible for admission if there are two or more nursing course failures in any program during the three years prior to admission.
- **A nursing course failure is any grade below a "C"**

Admission to the Bridging track is determined during the early spring for the summer semester. Admission to Temple College does not constitute automatic acceptance into the nursing program. In the event the application is not accepted for admission to the nursing program, the applicant may request a review by the Department Chair Nursing.

## Transfer to the TC ADN Program from another Nursing Program

Transfer students must apply and meet all ADN Department requirements for admission. Bridging courses are not eligible for transfer. Transfer students who have more than one nursing course failure within three years of transfer will not be considered for transfer. Students who have been dismissed from a nursing program for unsafe or unprofessional conduct will be required to provide information regarding the circumstances and be subject to a review to determine eligibility to be enrolled.

All nursing courses must be completed within one (1) year prior to program start date in order to be eligible for transfer. Any nursing course work outside of this time frame will not be accepted for transfer. All policies specified by Temple College for accepting transfer students will apply (see the College Catalog).

Required non-nursing courses will be evaluated for transferability by Admissions and Records. The student must have all official transcripts sent directly to the Admissions and Records office. In addition, course syllabi may be necessary; the student will be responsible for providing a copy of the appropriate course syllabi prior to the final determination. An official copy of all transcripts should also be sent to the Nursing Department office.

Required nursing courses will be evaluated for transferability by the Nursing Department Chair. The student must arrange for an official transcript to be sent directly to the Admissions and Records office. In addition, the student will be responsible for providing a copy of the course description, syllabus, objectives, and an official transcript to the Nursing Department. Prior to the final determination, the Nursing Department Chair may request the student to provide further information and may consult with specific faculty regarding the acceptability of potential nursing transfer courses into the Temple College curriculum. Some learning activities may be required to review and validate the student's knowledge and skills. Upon final determination of the transferability of any courses, the Nursing Department Chair will approve the curriculum plan to be followed by the transfer student.

**Any student transferring into the nursing program from another nursing program will enter Temple College ADN program with only one attempt to complete the program.**

## Promotion

Once a student is accepted into and begins the ADN program curriculum, it is expected that the student will continue to progress directly to the next semester's courses. In order to do this, the student must:

- 1) Have completed all previously required courses with a "C" grade (2.0 based on a 4.0 scale) or better,
- 2) Be concurrently enrolled in required non-nursing courses scheduled for that semester, or have previously passed these courses with a minimum grade of "C" (2.0);
- 3) Maintain good academic standing (see the College Catalog);
- 4) Meet all general Temple College requirements (be approved for registration).
- 5) **No more than one failed nursing course may be repeated during the program, and that course may be repeated only once.**

In all nursing courses, the following grading scale will be used:

<u>Numerical Value</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>
90-100	A	4.0
80-89.99	B	3.0
78-79.99	C	2.0
77.99 and below	F	0

There is no rounding of grades in the ADN Program. In all courses, both nursing and non-nursing that count toward graduation, the minimum passing grade is a "C" or 2.0 on the 4.0 scale. Further grading criteria can be found in each course outline.

## Withdrawal/Dismissal from the ADN Program

A student who intends to withdraw from the ADN program should schedule an appointment with the Nursing Department Chair **prior to making a final decision to withdraw** from the program. The Nursing Department Chair will discuss options and provide a form that will need to be presented to Advising in order to withdraw from the course(s).

A student may be dismissed from the ADN program for:

- 1) Failure to achieve minimum acceptable grades in more than one required course;
- 2) Failure to pass all required skills
- 3) Unsatisfactory clinical performance that endangers others or is potential danger for others, as determined by the clinical instructor;
- 4) Failure to meet Essential Requirements of Core Performance Measures;
- 5) Failure to meet attendance requirements;
- 6) Violation of ADN program or Temple College Policies;
- 7) Failure to follow instructions from an instructor, and/or Director.

## Returning Students

If a student is unsuccessful in one course, the student must return within one academic year. A student is allowed to withdraw from courses one semester only and the student must return within one academic year. Upon returning, the student must be successful in all remaining coursework throughout the program. If the student does not return within that time frame, they must reapply to the program as a new student and repeat all nursing coursework.

Students that are returning must sign a contract for readmission and complete an Academic Success Plan in order to remain in the ADN Program.

## Readmission to the ADN Program

If a student is unsuccessful in two or more courses, or withdraws from any course as a returning student, then they will be dismissed from the program. The student must wait three years to reapply. At that time, they will be required to apply as a new student and repeat any previous nursing courses. All policies specified by Temple College for readmitting students will apply (see the College Catalog). Students who were dismissed from the nursing program for **unsafe practice or for unprofessional conduct are not eligible for admittance to either Temple College ADN or VN programs.**

# Curriculum Requirements

## Student Learning Outcomes

- 1) Utilize clinical judgment as a basis for professional practice.
- 2) Provide and advocate for the safety of self and others.
- 3) Act as an advocate in providing quality holistic, patient-centered care to a diverse population.
- 4) Collaborate with the patient and interdisciplinary healthcare team to facilitate quality patient-centered care.
- 5) Communicate effectively in performance of professional roles.
- 6) Practice nursing within a legal-ethical framework consistent with nursing practice standards.

## Associate of Applied Science (2 Year Nursing) Curriculum

Nursing courses must be taken in the semester listed below. Completion of all courses at any level is a requirement to progress to the next level.

### **Prerequisites**

BIOL 2401	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
ENGL 1301	Composition I
PSYC 2301	General Psychology

### **1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

BIOL 2402	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
RNSG 1205	Nursing Skills I
RNSG 1309	Introduction to Nursing
RNSG 1360	Clinical-Nursing I-Registered Nurse Training

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

RNSG 1146	Legal & Ethical Issues for Nurses (1 <sup>st</sup> 8-Weeks)
RNSG 1441	Common Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG 2213	Mental Health Nursing
RNSG 2121	Professional Nursing: Leadership and Management (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8-Weeks)
RNSG 1461	Clinical-Nursing II-Registered Nurse Training

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Semester**

PSYC 2314	Lifespan Growth & Development
RNSG 1443	Complex Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG 2201	Care of Children & Families
RNSG 2460	Clinical-Nursing IV-Registered Nurse Training

### **4<sup>th</sup> Semester**

RNSG 2432	Enhanced Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG 1251	Care of the Childbearing Family
RNSG 2461	Clinical-Nursing V-Registered Nurse Training
Elective	3 credits Philosophy, Language, Culture, and Creative Arts (See College Catalog for approved courses)



## Associate of Applied Science Curriculum Bridging Track\*

Must be a Licensed Vocational Nurse or Licensed Paramedic

Nursing courses must be taken in the semester listed below:

### **Prerequisites**

BIOL 2401	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIOL 2402	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
ENGL 1301	Composition I
PSYC 2301	General Psychology

### **Summer Semester**

RNSG 1517	Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice I for Articulating Students
RNSG 2213	Mental Health Nursing
RNSG 1163	Clinical-Nursing III-Registered Nurse Training

### **Fall Semester**

PSYC 2314	Lifespan Growth & Development
RNSG 1146	Legal & Ethical Issues for Nurses (1 <sup>st</sup> 8-Weeks)
RNSG 1443	Complex Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG 2201	Care of Children & Families
RNSG 2121	Professional Nursing: Leadership and Management (2 <sup>nd</sup> 8-Weeks)
RNSG 2460	Clinical-Nursing IV-Registered Nurse Training

### **Spring Semester**

RNSG 2432	Enhanced Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG 1251	Care of the Childbearing Family
RNSG 2461	Clinical-Nursing V-Registered Nurse Training
Elective	3 credits Philosophy, Language, Culture, and Creative Arts (see College Catalog for approved courses)

\*At the completion of the last semester of the program, 10 semester credit hours will be awarded for RNSG 1309, RNSG 1360 & RNSG 1441.

## Course Descriptions

**Numbers in parentheses: (Semester credit hours: Lecture hours – lab/clinical hours)**

“R-W-M” TSI compliance is required in Reading, Writing & Math

### **RNSG 1146 Legal & Ethical Issues for Nurses (1:1-0)**

R-W-M This one-credit course requires the equivalent of one hour of class per week. Study of the laws and regulations related to the provision of safe and effective professional nursing care. Content includes confidentiality, the Nursing Practice Act, professional boundaries, ethics, and health care legislation.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the ADN Program

**Co-requisites:** None

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Identify the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in provision health care within legal/ethical parameters; recognize the impact of laws and regulations on the provision of safe and effective professional nursing care.

### **RNSG 1163 Clinical-Nursing III-Registered Nurse Training (1:0-3)**

R-W-M This one credit course requires the equivalent of 3 hours of clinical per week (weekly schedules may vary throughout the semester).

This three hour per week (equivalent) course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professionals.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the ADN Program

**Co- requisite:** RNSG 2213 and RNSG 1517.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

### **RNSG 1205 Nursing Skills I (2:1-3)**

R-W-M This two-credit course requires the equivalent of one hour of class and three hours of lab per week. Simulation fees apply

Study of the concepts and principles necessary to perform basic nursing skills for the adult patient; and demonstrate competence in the performance of nursing procedures. Content includes knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the ADN Program

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 1360.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Apply concepts and principles necessary for the performance of basic nursing skills for the adult patient and demonstrate competence/clinical reasoning in the performance of basic nursing procedures and practices.

### **RNSG 1251 Care of the Childbearing Family (2:2-0)**

R-W-M This two-credit course requires the equivalent of two hours of class per week.

Study of concepts related to the provision of perinatal nursing care for childbearing families. Content includes knowledge judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 2460.

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 2461.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Explain the roles of the professional nurse in caring for the childbearing family; utilize critical thinking skills and a systematic problem-solving process for providing care for the family during the perinatal periods.

### **RNSG 1309 Introduction to Nursing (3:3-0)**

R-W-M This three-credit course requires the equivalent of three hours of class per week.

Overview of nursing and the role of the professional nurse as provider in patient-centered care, patient safety advocate, member of health care team, and member of the profession. Content includes knowledge, judgment, skills and professional values with a legal/ethical framework.

Testing Fees apply.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: BIOL 2401, ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301.

**Co-requisites:** None

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Identify concepts for the provision of nursing care; describe the roles of the professional nurse in the delivery of comprehensive care; describe the use of a systematic problem-solving process; and utilize critical thinking skills.

### **RNSG 1360 Clinical Nursing I-Registered Nursing Training (3:0-9)**

R-W-M This three-credit course requires the equivalent of 9 hours of clinical per week (weekly schedules may vary throughout the semester). Liability insurance fee applies.

This 9 hour per week (equivalent) course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professionals.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the ADN Program

**Co- requisites:** RNSG 1205

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

### **RNSG 1441 Common Concepts of Adult Health (4:3-3)**

R-W-M This four- credit course requires the equivalent of three hours of class and three hours of lab per week. Simulation fees apply.

Basic integration of the role of the professional nurse as a provider of patient-centered care, patient safety advocate, member of the health care team, and member of the profession. Study of the common concepts of caring for adult patients and families with medical- surgical health care needs related to body systems, emphasizing knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

Emphasis is on nursing clinical judgment and concepts of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications for clients in

medical-surgical settings experiencing health problems involving perioperative, pain, respiratory, fluid and electrolyte, infection/immune, and peripheral vascular disorders.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1309, RNSG 1360.

**Co-requisite:** RNSG 1461.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Explain the roles of the professional nurse in caring for adult patients and families with medical-surgical health care needs. Utilize critical thinking skills, clinical judgment and a systematic problem-solving process in providing care for adult patients and families with common health needs. Implement pharmacotherapy concepts with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications to the care of clients experiencing medical-surgical health care needs involving perioperative, pain, respiratory, fluid and electrolyte, infection/immune, and peripheral vascular disorders.

### **RNSG 1443 Complex Concepts of Adult Health (4:3-3)**

R-W-M This four-credit course requires the equivalent of three hours of class and three hours of lab per week. Simulation and testing fees apply.

Integration of previous knowledge and skills related to common adult health needs into the continued development of the professional nurse as a provider of patient-centered care, patient safety advocate, member of health care team, and member of the profession in the care of adult patients and families with complex medical-surgical health care needs associated with body systems. Emphasis on complex knowledge, judgments, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

Emphasis is on nursing clinical judgment and concepts of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications for clients in medical-surgical settings experiencing health problems involving gastrointestinal, endocrine and metabolic, reproductive and sexual, musculoskeletal, eye-ear-nose-throat, and integumentary disorders.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1441 and RNSG 1461, or RNSG 1517 and RNSG 1163.

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 2460

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Integrate the roles of the professional nurse in the provision of care of adult patients and families with complex health care needs. Utilize critical thinking skills, clinical judgment, and a systematic problem-solving process in providing care for adult patients and families with complex health needs. Implement pharmacotherapy concepts with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications to the care of clients experiencing complex health care needs involving gastrointestinal, endocrine and metabolic, reproductive and sexual, musculoskeletal, eye-ear-nose-throat, and integumentary disorders.

### **RNSG 1461 Clinical-Nursing II-Registered Nurse Training (4:0-12)**

R-W-M This four-credit course requires the equivalent of 12 hours of clinical per week (weekly schedules may vary throughout the semester). This 12 hour per week (equivalent) course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professionals.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1360

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 1441, RNSG 2213

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

**RNSG 1517 Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice I for Articulating Students (5:4-3)**

R-W-M This five-credit course requires the equivalent of 4 hours of class and 3 hours of lab per week. Provides the articulating student the opportunity to examine the role of the professional nurse; application of a systematic problem-solving process and critical thinking skills related to patient care; and competency in knowledge, judgment, skill, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. Simulation fees apply.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301

**Co-requisite:** RNSG 1163

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Describe the roles of the professional nurse as provider of patient-centered care, patient safety advocate, member of healthcare team, and member of profession describe critical thinking in a systematic problem-solving process in the application of knowledge to the adult patient; and identify ethical and legal principles in professional nursing practice.

**RNSG 2121 Professional Nursing: Leadership and Management (1:1-0)**

R-W-M This one-credit course requires the equivalent of one hour of class per week. Exploration of leadership and management principles applicable to the roles of the professional nurse. Includes application of knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1146

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 1461 or RNSG 2460

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Analyze the roles of the professional nurse within a health care delivery system; apply principles of leadership and management utilizing a systematic problem-solving process and critical thinking skills to plan care for patients and their families; examine the factors impacting nursing and healthcare.

**RNSG 2201 Care of Children and Families (2:2-0)**

This two-credit course requires the equivalent of two hours of class per week.

Study of concepts related to the provision of nursing care for children and their families, emphasizing judgment, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1441 or RNSG 1517

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 2460.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Explain the roles of the professional nurse in caring for children and families; utilize critical thinking skills and a systematic problem-solving process for providing care for the child and the family.

**RNSG 2213 Mental Health Nursing (2:2-0)**

R-W-M This two-credit course requires the equivalent of two hours of class per week.

Principles and concepts of mental health, psychopathology, and treatment modalities related to the nursing care of patients and their families.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the ADN Program

**Co-requisite:** RNSG 1461 or RNSG 1163.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Explain the roles of the professional nurse in caring for patients and families experiencing mental health problems; use therapeutic communication; utilize critical thinking skills and a systematic problem-solving process for providing care to patients and families experiencing mental health problems.

### **RNSG 2432 Enhanced Concepts of Adult Health (4:3-3)**

R-W-M This four-credit course requires three hours of class and three hours of lab per week. Simulation and testing fees apply.

Enhanced concepts and skills for developing professional competencies in complicated nursing care situations involving adult patients/families with multiple body system problems. Emphasizes critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and determining legal/ethical values for optimization of patient care in intermediate and acute care settings. Emphasis is on nursing clinical judgment and concepts of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications for clients in medical-surgical settings experiencing health problems involving cardiovascular, neurological, liver, biliary, pancreatic, renal / urinary, and hematology / oncology disorders.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1443, RNSG 2460.

**Co-requisite:** RNSG 2461

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** Interpret the roles of the professional nurse in the provision of care of adult patients with complicated health care needs and families in intermediate and acute care settings. Utilize critical thinking skills and a systematic problem-solving process in meeting the health care needs of adult patients/families with multiple body system problems. Implement pharmacotherapy concepts with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications to the care of clients experiencing complicated health care needs involving cardiovascular, neurological, liver, biliary, pancreatic, renal / urinary, and hematology / oncology disorders. Evaluate the care provided in intermediate and acute care settings.

### **RNSG 2460 Clinical-Nursing IV-Registered Nursing Training (4:0-12)**

R-W-M This four-credit course requires the equivalent of 12 hours of clinical per week (weekly schedules may vary throughout the semester). Liability insurance fees apply.

This 12 hour per week (equivalent) course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professionals.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 1461 or RNSG 1163.

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 1443, RNSG 2201, RNSG 2121.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

**RNSG 2461 Clinical-Nursing V-Registered Nurse Training (4:0-12)**

R-W-M This four-credit course requires the equivalent of 12 hours of clinical per week (weekly schedules may vary throughout the semester).

This 12 hour per week (equivalent) course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professionals.

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in each of the following courses: RNSG 2460.

**Co-requisites:** RNSG 2432, RNSG 1251.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes:** As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

## Essential Requirements of Candidates for ADN Admission, Progression, and Graduation

Temple College's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Nursing, signifies that the holder of that degree has been educated to competently practice the profession in all healthcare settings and to apply for licensure with the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON). **The education of a registered nurse requires assimilation of knowledge, acquisition of skills, and development of clinical judgment through patient care experiences in preparation for practice.** The practice of professional nursing is defined by the TBON as *the performance of an act that requires substantial specialized judgment and skill, the proper performance of which is based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical, and social science.* (Texas Administrative Code 301.002 Definitions). In addition, the practice of professional nursing emphasizes collaboration among health care professionals and the client.

The Temple College Associate Degree Nursing Program utilizes the following state and national standards to determine **Essential Requirements** for *admission, progression and graduation* from the program. Failure to meet the Essential Requirements may result in being denied admission or being dismissed from the program.

**TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice** (a) Each individual who seeks to practice nursing in Texas must possess current fitness to practice. This requirement includes all individuals seeking to obtain or retain a license or privilege to practice nursing in Texas and applies in all eligibility and disciplinary matters. **Each individual has a duty to self-evaluate to ensure that he/she is fit to practice before providing nursing care.**

**TBON Rule 213.27 Good Professional Character** Every individual who seeks licensure to practice professional nursing in Texas must have good professional character. The Board defines good professional character as the integrated pattern of personal, academic, and occupational behaviors, which indicate that an individual is able to consistently conform his/her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's rules and regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice. An individual must maintain good professional character to ensure that he/she is able to consistently act in the best interest of patients/clients and the public.

**Factors used to evaluate Good Professional Character include:**

- whether the individual is able to distinguish right from wrong;
- whether the individual is able to think and act rationally;
- whether the individual is able to keep promises and honor obligations;
- whether the individual is accountable for his/her own behavior and/or accepts responsibility for his/her actions;
- whether the individual is able to recognize and honor the interpersonal boundaries appropriate to any therapeutic relationship or health care setting;
- whether the individual is able to make appropriate judgments and decisions that could affect patients/clients and/or the public;
- any other behaviors bearing on the individual's honesty, accountability, trustworthiness, reliability, or integrity.

**TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to All Nurses** All registered nurses shall:



- know and conform to all rules and laws affecting professional nursing practice;
- provide for the safety of the client and others;
- know the reasons for and effects of drugs administered;
- accurately report and document client care;
- respect a client's right to privacy;
- obtain instruction and supervision as needed when performing tasks;
- maintain professional boundaries;
- not commit abuse, exploitation, or fraud;
- demonstrate knowledge, skill, judgment, and conscientiousness when performing client care;
- provide professional nursing care without discrimination;
- collaborate with the client, family, and members of the health care team to provide continuity of care;
- utilize the nursing process to provide patient centered care;
- delegate responsibility appropriately;
- and be responsible for one's own continuing competence and professional growth.

The Texas Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations may be found in their entirety at:

[https://www.bon.texas.gov/laws\\_and\\_rules\\_rules\\_and\\_regulations.asp](https://www.bon.texas.gov/laws_and_rules_rules_and_regulations.asp)

**The American Nurses Associate (ANA) Code of Ethics** establishes the ethical standard for the profession and provides a guide for nurses to use in ethical analysis and decision-making. The Code is nonnegotiable in any setting.

Provision 1 Respect for Others

Provision 2 Commitment to the Patient

Provision 3 Advocacy for the Patient

Provision 4 Accountability and Responsibility for Practice

Provision 5 Duty to Self and Duty to Others

Provision 6 Contribution to Healthcare Environments

Provision 7 Advancement of the Nursing Profession

Provision 8 Promotion of Community and World Health

Provision 9 Promotion of the Nursing Profession

### **ANA Position Statement Incivility**

ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements states that nurses are required to "create an ethical environment and culture of civility and kindness, treating colleagues, co-workers, employees, students, and others with dignity and respect." Similarly, nurses must be afforded the same level of respect and dignity as others (ANA, 2015a). Thus, the nursing profession will no longer tolerate violence of any kind from any source.

All registered nurses and employers in all settings, including practice, academia, and research must collaborate to create a culture of respect, free of incivility, bullying, and workplace violence. Best practice strategies based on evidence must be implemented to prevent and mitigate incivility, bullying, and workplace violence; to promote the health, safety, and wellness of registered nurses; and to ensure optimal outcomes across the health care continuum.

This position statement, although written specifically for registered nurses and employers, is also relevant to other health care professionals and stakeholders who collaborate to create and sustain

a safe and healthy interprofessional work environment. Stakeholders who have a relationship with the worksite have a responsibility to address incivility, bullying, and workplace violence.

<https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/nursing-excellence/official-position-statements/id/incivility-bullying-and-workplace-violence/>

### **The National League for Nursing (NLN) Outcomes and Competencies for Graduates of Associate Degree Programs in Nursing**

Graduates should be prepared:

- 1) to promote and enhance human flourishing for patients, families, communities, and themselves;
- 2) to show sound nursing judgement;
- 3) to continually develop their professional identity; and
- 4) to maintain a spirit of inquiry as they move into the world of nursing practice, and beyond.

### **Competencies for Graduates of Associate Degree Programs**

**Human Flourishing:** Advocate for patients and families in ways that promote their self-determination, integrity, and ongoing growth as human beings.

**Nursing Judgement:** Make judgements in practice, substantiated with evidence, that integrate nursing science in the provision of safe, quality care and promote the health of patients within a family and community context.

**Professional Identity:** Implement one's role as a nurse in ways that reflect integrity, responsibility, ethical practices, and an evolving identity as a nurse committed to evidence-based practice, caring, advocacy, and safe, quality care for diverse patients within a family and community context.

**Spirit of Inquiry:** Examine the evidence that underlies clinical nursing practice to challenge the status quo, question underlying assumptions, and offer new insights to improve the quality of care for patients, families, and communities.

National League for Nursing. (2010). *Outcomes and Competencies for Graduates of Practical/Vocational, Diploma, Associate Degree, Baccalaureate, Master's, Practice Doctorate, and Research Doctorate Programs in Nursing*. New York: National League for Nursing.

As illustrated, nursing is a practice discipline, with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements **for the provision of safe quality client care**. The following competencies identify **essential performance requirements** for participation in the nursing program.

**If you believe, at any time throughout the program, that you cannot meet one or more of these standards without accommodations or modifications, you may request appropriate assistance and guidance.** Accommodations and modifications requests will be evaluated on an individual basis, to determine if they can reasonably be implemented.

The **Essential Requirements** necessary to acquire or demonstrate competence in a discipline as complex as nursing and needed for successful admission, progression, and graduation by candidates for the Associate Degree in Nursing from Temple College include, but are not limited to the following Core Performance Standards:

## Core Performance Standards

Requirements	Standard	Examples of Necessary Activities
Critical Thinking	<p>Critical thinking ability for effective clinical reasoning and clinical judgement consistent with level of educational preparation. TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice</p> <p>TBON Rule 213.27 Good Professional Character TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses</p> <p>ANA Provision 4</p> <p>NLN Nursing Judgement &amp; Spirit of Inquiry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of cause/effect relationships in clinical situations.</li> <li>• Use of the nursing process in the development of patient care plans.</li> <li>• Evaluation of the effectiveness of nursing interventions implemented.</li> <li>• Solve problems and make valid rational decisions using logic, creativity, and reasoning.</li> <li>• Respond instantly to emergencies.</li> <li>• Exhibit arithmetic competence that would allow the student to read, understand, and perform calculations for computing dosages.</li> </ul>
Professional Behavior	<p>Student Nurses are expected to respect the nursing profession to which they aspire and perform and behave in a respectful, ethical and professional manner with others in class, lab and clinical.</p> <p>TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice</p> <p>TBON Rule 213.27 Good Professional Character TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses</p> <p>ANA Provision 1, Provision 2, Provision 3, Provision 4, Provision 5,</p> <p>NLN Human flourishing, Professional Identity, Nursing Judgement &amp; Spirit of Inquiry</p>	<p>Integrates ethical behavior in nursing practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performs activities safely, so as not to injure or harm others.</li> <li>• Interacts respectfully with peers, superiors, and patients.</li> <li>• Capacity to engage in successful conflict resolution.</li> <li>• Recognizes that as a student they represent the nursing profession, and must behave accordingly.</li> <li>• Respects and adheres to the policies and procedures of the College, ADN Program and clinical agencies.</li> <li>• Reflects on personal behavior and practice performance with patients, engages in self- evaluation.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refrains from disruptive behavior as described in the Temple College Student Handbook including sleeping in class, belligerent attitude, ignoring instructor's directions, talking at inappropriate times, use of unauthorized personal devices (e.g. gaming, browsing the internet, texting, listening to music, etc.)</li> </ul>
Communication	<p>Communication abilities sufficient for verbal, written and electronic format.</p> <p>TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice</p> <p>TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses</p> <p>ANA Provision 1, Provision 2, Provision 3</p> <p>NLN Human flourishing &amp; Nursing Judgement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write and speak English effectively in order to be understood by the public.</li> <li>Communicate therapeutically with clients, families, and groups in a variety of settings.</li> <li>Communicate appropriately with faculty and peers.</li> <li>Documentation and interpretation of nursing actions and patient/client responses.</li> <li>Provide health teaching information for clients, families, and/or groups based on assessed needs, available resources, age, lifestyle, and cultural considerations.</li> <li>Remember pertinent information and communicate to all interdisciplinary team members, client and family where consented.</li> </ul>
Physical Ability	<p>Physical abilities sufficient for movement from room to room and in small spaces. Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient for providing safe, effective nursing care.</p> <p>TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice</p> <p>TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Movement about patient's room, workspaces, and treatment areas.</li> <li>Administration of rescue procedures- cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</li> <li>Lift, move, position, and transport clients without causing harm, undue pain,</li> </ul>

	<p>ANA Provision 4, Provision 5, NLN Professional Identity &amp; Nursing Judgement</p>	<p>or discomfort to the client or one's self.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stoop, bend, squat, and reach overhead as required to safely reach equipment and provide nursing care.</li> <li>• Correctly administer oral and parenteral medications to maintain client safety. Calibration and use of equipment.</li> <li>• Provide or assist with activities of daily living such as bed bath, hygiene, and toileting, positioning clients, making an occupied or unoccupied bed.</li> </ul>
Sensory	<p>Auditory ability sufficient for monitoring and assessing health needs. Must be able to hear without the aid of an interpreter. Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for patient care. Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. Olfactory ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for safe client care.</p> <p>TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses ANA Provision 4, Provision 5, NLN Professional Identity &amp; Nursing Judgement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to hear monitoring device alarm and other emergency signals.</li> <li>• Ability to discern auscultatory sounds and cries for help.</li> <li>• Ability to observe patient's condition and responses to treatments and recognize subtly physical changes.</li> <li>• Ability to palpate in physical examinations and various therapeutic interventions.</li> <li>• Recognize environmental odors.</li> </ul>
Emotional Stability	<p>Emotional stability sufficient to tolerate rapidly changing conditions and environmental stress.</p> <p>TBON 213.29 Fitness to Practice TBON Rule 213.27 Good Professional Character TBON Rule 217.11 Standards Applicable to Professional Nurses ANA Provision 1, Provision 4, Provision 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish therapeutic interpersonal boundaries.</li> <li>• Provide clients with emotional support.</li> <li>• Adapt to changing environment and stress while maintaining professional conduct and standards without displaying hostility, agitation, rudeness, or belligerence.</li> <li>• Poses no threat to self or others.</li> </ul>

	NLN Human flourishing, Nursing Judgement & Professional Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage and respond to multiple priorities in stressful situations.</li> </ul>
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Derived from the Southern Regional Education Board  
(The Americans with Disabilities Act Implications for Nursing Education, 2016)  
<http://www.sreb.org/publication/americans-disabilities-act>

## Differentiated Essential Competencies

The legal scope of practice for licensed nurses in Texas is dependent upon the educational preparation in vocational, professional, and graduate nursing education programs. Licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) and registered nurses (RNs) provide a wide range of nursing care through the roles of Member of the Profession, Provider of Patient-Centered Care, Patient Safety Advocate, and Member of the Health Care Team.

The Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) of Graduates of Texas Nursing Programs include 25 basic competencies within the four nursing roles and describe the required outcomes for VN and RN nursing education with progressive differentiation of competency level for each educational level [Vocational Nursing Education (VN), Associate Degree Nursing Education (ADN), and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education (BSN)]. Further delineation of the competencies is expanded through sub-competencies with accompanying required subject content (Knowledge) and expected Clinical Judgments and Behaviors. Texas-approved nursing education programs are required to operationalize the DECs in the curriculum to assure that graduates have been educated to carry out the competencies. The competencies for each educational level build upon the competencies from the previous level.

**Member of the Profession:** A licensed nurse (LVN or RN) who exhibits behaviors that reflect commitment to the growth and development of the role and function of nursing consistent with state and national regulations and with ethical and professional standards; aspires to improve the discipline of nursing and its contribution to society; and values self-assessment, self-care, and the need for lifelong learning.

1. Function within the nurse's legal scope of practice and in accordance with the policies and procedures of the employing health care institution or practice setting.
2. Assume responsibility and accountability for the quality of nursing care provided to patients and their families.
3. Participate in activities that promote the development and practice of professional nursing.
4. Demonstrate responsibility for continued competence in nursing practice, and develop insight through reflection, self-analysis, self-care, and lifelong learning.

**Provider of Patient-Centered Care:** A licensed nurse (LVN or RN) who, based on educational preparation and scope of practice, accepts responsibility for the quality of nursing care and provides safe, compassionate nursing care using a systematic process of assessment, analysis, planning, intervention, and evaluation that focuses on the needs and preferences of patients and their families. The nurse incorporates professional values and ethical principles into nursing practice. The patients for LVNs and for Diploma and ADN educated RNs include individual patients and their families; the BSN-educated RN is also prepared to provide care to populations and communities.

1. Use clinical reasoning and knowledge based on the diploma or associate degree nursing program of study and evidence-based practice outcomes as a basis for decision-making in nursing practice.
2. Determine the physical and mental health status, needs, and preferences influenced by culture, spirituality, ethnicity, identity, and social diversity of patients and their families, and the interpretation of comprehensive health assessment findings compared with evidence-based health data derived from the diploma or associate degree nursing program of study.
3. Analyze comprehensive assessment data to identify problems, formulate goals/outcomes, and develop plans of care for patients and their families using information from evidence-based practice in collaboration with patients, their families, and the interdisciplinary health care team.
4. Provide safe, compassionate, comprehensive nursing care to patients and their families through a broad array of health care services.
5. Implement the plan of care for patients and their families within legal, ethical, and regulatory parameters and in consideration of disease prevention, wellness, and promotion of healthy lifestyles.
6. Evaluate and report patient outcomes and responses to therapeutic interventions in comparison to benchmarks from evidence-based practice, and plan follow-up nursing care.
7. Develop, implement, and evaluate teaching plans for patients and their families to address health promotion, maintenance, and restoration.
8. Coordinate human, information, and physical resources in providing care for patients and their families.

**Patient Safety Advocate:** A licensed nurse (LVN or RN) who promotes safety in the patient and family environment by: following scope and standards of nursing practice; practicing within the parameters of individual knowledge, skills, and abilities; identifying and reporting actual and potential unsafe practices; and implementing measures to prevent harm. The BSN-educated RN is also prepared to be a patient safety advocate for populations and communities.

Demonstrate knowledge of the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Texas Board of Nursing Rules that emphasize safety, as well as all federal, state, and local government, and accreditation organization safety requirements, and standards.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Texas Board of Nursing Rules that emphasize safety, as well as all federal, state, and local government and accreditation organization safety requirements and standards.
2. Implement measures to promote quality and a safe environment for patients, self, and others.
3. Formulate goals and outcomes using evidence-based data to reduce patient risks.
4. Obtain instruction, supervision, or training as needed when implementing nursing procedures or practices.
5. Comply with mandatory reporting requirements of the Texas Nursing Practice Act.



6. Accept and make assignments and delegate tasks that take into consideration patient safety and organizational policy.

**Member of the Health Care Team:** A licensed nurse (LVN or RN) who provides patient-centered care by collaborating, coordinating, and/ or facilitating comprehensive care with an interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary health care team to determine and implement best practices for the patients and their families. The BSN-educated RN is also prepared to become a leader of the health care team as well as to provide care to populations and communities.

1. Coordinate, collaborate, and communicate in a timely manner with patients, their families, and the interdisciplinary health care team to plan, deliver, and evaluate patient-centered care.
2. Serve as a health care advocate in monitoring and promoting quality and access to health care for patients and their families.
3. Refer patients and their families to resources that facilitate continuity of care; health promotion, maintenance, and restoration; and ensure confidentiality.
4. Communicate and manage information using technology to support decision-making to improve patient care.
5. Assign and/or delegate nursing care to other members of the health care team based upon an analysis of patient or work place need.
6. Supervise nursing care provided by others for whom the nurse is responsible by using evidence-based nursing practice.
7. Participate with health care teams during local or global health emergencies or pandemics to promote health and safety, and prevent disease.

**See the TBON website for the detailed list of all the [DECs](#).**

## Marketable Skills for Nurses

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board 60X30TX Marketable Skills goal emphasizes the value of higher education in the workforce. Texas public two and four-year institutions must ensure that students are aware of, and graduate with marketable skills. Marketable skills include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas, are valued by employers, and are primary or complementary to a major. Marketable skills are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities. They include both technical and soft skills. The marketable skills are designed to help students market themselves to employers.

Graduates of the ADN Program will have the identified Marketable Skills listed below.

- Building Effective Relationships
- Clinical reasoning
- Communication Skills
- Computer Skills & Typing
- Conflict Management
- Creativity
- Critical Thinking
- Customer Service
- Detail-Oriented
- Documentation skills
- Dosage Calculation
- Evidence Based Practice
- Initiative
- Leadership Skills
- Listener
- Multi-Tasking
- Organizational Skills
- Planning
- Positive Disposition
- Presentation and Teaching Skills
- Prioritizing Tasks
- Problem Solving
- Quality Assurance & Control
- Team Player
- Time Management

## Standardized Testing

All students enrolled in the sophomore level of the ADN Program must complete the mid-curricular and comprehensive end-of-program exams.

The mid-curricular (MC) exam is administered during the third semester of the program.

The percentage (conversion) score provided on the exam results will be entered as the MC grade in the RNSG 1443 Complex Concepts of Adult Health course. This grade will represent a percentage of the total course grade as specified on the course outline. Remediation is highly recommended for all students who score below 850 on the MC exam.

The Comprehensive, End-of-Program Exam (CEPE) will be given during the fourth semester of the program.

The percentage (conversion) score provided on the exam results will be entered as the CEPE grade in the RNSG 2432 Enhanced Concepts of Adult Health course. This grade will represent a percentage of the total course grade as specified on the course outline.

## Graduation Requirements for Associate of Applied Science Degree (Nursing)

In order to graduate from Temple College and receive the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing, the student must meet all Temple College requirements and the following specific requirements:

- 1) Three semester hours of English: ENGL 1301.
- 2) Six semester hours in behavioral sciences: PSYC 2301 and PSYC 2314.
- 3) Three semester hours to be selected from the Temple College approved core curriculum disciplines of Language, Philosophy, Culture, or Creative Arts.
- 4) Eight semester hours of anatomy and physiology within the last 10 years: BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402.
- 5) For the 2-year track student: 60 semester hours of course credit, exclusive of developmental courses. Included in the 60 semester hours of course work must be all of the required RNSG nursing courses, or their equivalent, for a total of 40 hours of credit.
- 6) For the Bridging track student: 60 semester hours of course credit, exclusive of developmental courses. Included in the 60 semester hours of course work must be all the RNSG nursing courses required in the Bridging Track, or their equivalent, for a total of 30 hours of credit. An additional 10 hours of credit will be awarded upon completion of the last semester of the program.
- 7) For both tracks, all prescribed courses must be completed with a minimum of a C grade.
- 8) For any variation from these prescribed requirements to be counted toward graduation, a written statement to this effect, signed by the Department Chair Nursing, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs must be on file in the student's record.
- 9) Completion of at least 25 percent of the credit hours required for the degree at Temple College.
- 10) Complete the Application for Graduation by deadline date.

**In order to receive a degree (diploma), it is necessary to apply for graduation prior to the deadline.**

## Licensure

### Licensure

All students seeking licensure as a registered nurse must pass the NCLEX-RN administered by the Texas Board of Nursing. The Board may delay or refuse to admit persons to their examination or refuse to issue a license or certificate of registration for any of the following reasons:

**To check your eligibility for renewing your license, please review the following questions:**

1. Have you ever had any disciplinary action on a nursing license or a privilege to practice in any state, country, or province?
2. Do you have an investigation or complaint pending on a nursing license or a privilege to practice in any state, country, or province?
3. Have you, in the last 5 years\*, been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?
4. For any criminal offense\*, including those pending appeal, have you:

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations or offenses previously disclosed to the Texas Board of Nursing on an initial or renewal application.)

been arrested and have a pending criminal charge?

been convicted of a misdemeanor?

been convicted of a felony?

pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?

received deferred adjudication?

been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?

been sentenced to serve jail, prison time, or court-ordered confinement?

been granted pre-trial diversion?

been cited or charged with any violation of the law?

been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?

**NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses:** While expunged or sealed offense, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to our office with your application. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character. (See 22 TAC §213.27)

**NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure:** Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to Gov't Code chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the

subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character and fitness.

5. Have you ever had any licensing (other than a nursing license) or regulatory authority in any state, jurisdiction, country, or province revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew or otherwise discipline any other professional or occupational license, certificate, nurse aide registration or multistate privilege to practice that you held?

6. Are you currently suffering from any condition for which you are not being appropriately treated that impairs your judgment or that would otherwise adversely affect your ability to practice nursing in a competent, ethical, and professional manner?

7. \*Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?

8. \*Are you currently a participant in an alternative to discipline, diversion, or a peer assistance program? (This includes all confidential programs)

**\*NOTE:** Any positive response will remain confidential and not subject to public disclosure unless required by law.

### Background Check Process

Students are required to pass the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) background check process by a deadline to be admitted to the program in that admission period. Students must also meet Health Care facility background check standards throughout the program. Students may be dismissed from the program if barred from practicing in any clinical facility.

Students must notify the Clinical Coordinator if their employment at one of our partnering healthcare facilities is terminated, while they are in the nursing program. This could lead to an issue with the facility allowing the student to attend clinical there.

**It is the responsibility of the student to report to the Nursing Department Chair within 30 days of any offense with or without arrest, or the new diagnosis for any condition as specified in item 6 of the BON Licensure questions.** Failure to comply with this reporting requirement can result in immediate dismissal from the program. Depending on the nature of the offense, the student may be subject to immediate dismissal from the program until approval by the TBON and/or agency standards is given.

### Declaratory Orders of Eligibility for License

The Texas Board of Nursing has identified certain circumstances that may render a potential candidate ineligible for licensure as a registered nurse in Texas. All students receive the eligibility requirements upon admission. The Board provides individuals the opportunity to petition the Board for a Declaratory Order as to their eligibility in accordance with article 213.30(a) of the Nursing Practice Act. Further instructions and forms can be obtained at [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)

## Jurisprudence Examination

The Texas Board of Nursing will administer a **mandatory** jurisprudence exam, to students who apply to take the NCLEX exam. This exam must be passed prior to taking the NCLEX exam (see the TBON application process for specific details). The exam will cover the laws in the Nursing Practice Act and Board Rules that regulate the education and practice of nursing in Texas.

### Special Accommodations for the NCLEX Exam

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Texas Board of Nursing provides reasonable accommodations for candidates with disabilities that may interfere with their performance on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX- RN). Disability is defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act as a “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment.” Major life activities means “functions such as caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working.” (28CFR35.104-Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government).

### Documentation Required

Candidates requesting special accommodations must submit the following documentation to support the request:

- 1) A completed Special Accommodations Request form.
- 2) A Professional Documentation of Disability form completed by an appropriate professional within the last three years. Please see Qualifications for Diagnostician. Complete a Consent to Release Information form and together with the Qualifications for Diagnostician form give it to the diagnostician who will be completing the Professional Documentation of Disability. This will enable the Board and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. to obtain additional information or clarification from the diagnostician, if necessary, while processing the request.
- 3) A Nursing Program Verification form completed by the dean or director of the nursing program attended.

### Time Frame

Applicants for special accommodations are urged to submit their requests and supporting documentation as early in the application process as possible, preferably before submitting the registration to the testing service, to facilitate the review. If there is a need for further verification of the disability from the applicant or the professional verifying the disability and the need for modification, it is possible that the decision on granting the modification will be delayed and consequently the date when the candidate can take the examination.

Once the request is received together with all the required documentation, the Board will process the request and notify the candidate of the decision. If you have any questions, please contact the Board examination staff.

## Policies

### Temple College Policies

Nursing students are expected to abide by the policies and regulations of Temple College, as set forth in the [Temple College Catalog](#) and [TASB Board Policy Manual](#). In addition, students must abide by the policies and regulations specific to the ADN program as explained in this handbook.

### Academic Integrity

All Temple College ADN students are subject to the Temple College [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

**All assignments in this program will be individual assignments unless otherwise indicated.**

**The teaching team believes that cheating is not acceptable in a nursing program.** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Texas Board of Nursing, Texas Administrative Code, 217.27, Good Professional Character states:

- 1) *Good professional character is the integrated pattern of personal, academic and occupational behaviors which, in the judgment of the Board, indicates that an individual is able to consistently conform his or her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act, the Board's rules and regulations, and generally accepted standards of nursing practice including, but not limited to, behaviors indicating honesty, accountability, trustworthiness, reliability, and integrity.*
- 2) *A person who seeks to obtain or retain a license to practice professional or vocational nursing shall provide evidence of good professional character, which, in the judgment of the Board, is sufficient to ensure that the individual can consistently act in the best interest of patients/clients and the public in any practice setting. Such evidence shall establish that the person:*
  - a. *is able to distinguish right from wrong;*
  - b. *is able to think and act rationally;*
  - c. *is able to keep promises and honor obligations;*
  - d. *is accountable for his or her own behavior.*

### Use of Online Resources

The use of Course Hero, Quizlet, social media or similar study resource platforms to access, share, or distribute course materials, assignments, exams, or any other academic content is strictly prohibited. These platforms often contain copyrighted materials and unauthorized content that can compromise academic integrity.

#### Prohibited Activities:

- Uploading and/or sharing any course materials, assignments, exams, or other academic content to Course Hero, Quizlet, social media, or similar platforms.
- Downloading or using materials from these platforms for assignments, exams, or any other academic purposes.



**Permitted Activities:**

- Using legitimate study aids and resources provided by the nursing school or recommended by faculty.
- Online resources can be used legitimately as study aids when utilized responsibly, allowing students to access practice questions, flashcards, study guides, and other materials to reinforce their understanding of course concepts and prepare for exams; however, it's important to critically evaluate the information found on these platforms and ensure you are not simply copying answers without comprehending the material

**Professional Behavior**

Nursing students are expected to display professional, respectful behavior toward patients, peers, staff and faculty at all times. Profane, belligerent, aggressive language and/or actions in any program setting will be subject to disciplinary action. Reports of lateral violence or bullying, including intimidation, toward others will be investigated and subject to the Disciplinary Policy. Please refer to the Temple College Student Handbook Disruptive Behavior Policy for more details.

**The teaching team believes that professional behavior should be maintained in all learning environments.**

The American Nurses Association Code of Ethics states:

*Provision 5: The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.*  
(American Nurses Association, 2015)

**Student Conduct in Learning Environments**

Classroom, lab, and clinical activities are an essential part of the nursing program. Students are expected to come prepared and participate fully.

Visitors, including children, are not permitted in the classroom, lab or clinical during class activities. Unattended children are not allowed at any College location at any time.

The ADN Program abides by the Temple College Food and Drink Policy, which is found in the [TC Student Handbook](#). According to the TC Policy, professors may enforce stricter policy standards than those outlined. You must be aware of specific policies outlined in your course syllabi. Professors may revoke food and drink privileges if students fail to comply with any of the requirements.

No food or drinks are allowed in the Simulation Lab or Computer Labs at any time.

**The teaching team believes that everyone has the right to learn.** Therefore, disruptive behavior will be directly addressed. Disruptive behavior examples include: sleeping in class, entering and leaving the room during class activities, ignoring instructor's directions, displaying a belligerent attitude, eating during class, talking when the instructor is teaching, texting during

class, phones (or other electronic devices) making noise of any kind, not staying focused on the topic in any manner (focusing on the cell phone, focusing on computer sites other than those needed for class, etc.). Students may be asked to leave until the next break, or they may be asked to leave the classroom for the day with a resulting loss of attendance time. Violations will be handled through the Disciplinary or Incivility Policy.

**The teaching team believes that all students wish to achieve their maximum potential in the nursing program to become the best professional nurse possible.** We believe students want to become highly competent professional nurses. Feedback, both positive and constructive, will be provided to the student regarding performance. We believe you want this feedback to help you achieve your goal, thus we will honor you by sharing our observations. We ask that you trust the sole purpose in sharing both positive and constructive feedback is to help you achieve your goal. This feedback is designed to assist the student in making the transition to the professional nurse (RN) role. Feedback may be difficult to hear but it is provided to the student to help meet your goal of excellence.

**The teaching team believes that students need to be present and actively participate in the learning activities to achieve their goals.** Students are expected to be present and actively involved in classroom/lab/clinical activities. Students should refer to the Nursing Attendance policy.

**The teaching team believes every student can be successful.** Students need to maintain a balance between school, work, and family to achieve success. Students are encouraged to meet with faculty regarding issues and to obtain assistance with course work. If a student determines it is necessary to withdraw from a course, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the Nursing Department Chair prior to initiating the withdrawal process. Failure to properly withdraw may result in a grade of "F" for the course. Withdrawal deadlines are located in the academic calendar on the Temple College website.

## Personal Appearance

Casual clothing is appropriate for the classroom. Students should NOT wear short shorts, low cut tops, or other revealing clothes to class. Undergarments should not be visible outside of clothing and the absence of undergarments should not be conspicuous (visible) or distracting. Clothing with inappropriate text or design cannot be worn to classroom or clinical activities. Room temperatures vary so layered clothing is recommended. Hats, caps, sunglasses and any wristband (including, but not limited to smart watches, fitness bands) are not permitted during exams.

When required to attend clinical orientation, workshop/seminars, or other functions where uniforms are not required, appropriate casual professional wear is expected. Shorts, blue jeans, halter type tops, cropped tops and other revealing clothing are considered inappropriate for these occasions.

Students will wear the designated black uniform in the clinical area, except in situations where they are specifically instructed not to do so. The uniform shall be clean and neat with shoes and laces clean. **The uniform must be worn in its entirety; you may not wear a partial uniform.** (Scrub top with jeans, hair down, flip-flops, jewelry, etc.)

The Temple College student uniform includes the following:

Black scrubs with TC ADN Patch on left shoulder 2 inches down from seam.

If the optional scrub jacket is worn, it must have the TC ADN Patch on the left shoulder.

Students will be provided with the requirements for specific brand and styles of the uniform during orientation.

**Professional Nursing shoes of a solid material; (non-permeable, such as leather or vinyl); NO** mesh, canvas, or open holes on tops or sides; sling back style must have heel strap on heel, no boots. Any color is acceptable, designs are allowed as long as they could not be considered offensive. (Ex: Skull & Crossbones)

The following accessories are considered part of the uniform:

Name badge: Must be worn and visible on the upper left side of shirt/top while on campus, or on professional uniform in the clinical setting. Example on campus: **(All)** areas of TC campus, classroom, sim lab, library, computer lab). Cloth badge holders and lanyards are NOT allowed. Must wear badge extender denoting student nurse status.

**Equipment:**

Penlight

Watch (with seconds timing)

Stethoscope

Bandage Scissors

Plain black t-shirts may be worn under the scrub top. Sleeve length must not go below mid-forearm in order to allow for correct handwashing and other infection control procedures. Cloth or jeweled lanyards, or stethoscope coverings are not permitted due to infection control concerns.

Neatness and a well-groomed appearance are expected at all times during the clinical rotation. Hair must be a natural color, pulled back from face and not falling below the chin when bending forward; no elaborate or decorative hair accessories are allowed; hair accessories should be a neutral color; surgical caps and headbands may be worn, but need to be a neutral color, non-distracting, and safe for patient care; sideburns will not extend below earlobe; neatly trimmed mustaches and beards will be acceptable.

Make-up should be appropriate for professional clinical appearance. No jewelry is to be worn except for small stud earrings (no hoops or gauges) which are not to exceed one per ear, and one simple ring (no stones). No other visible body piercing jewelry is allowed. Tongue studs are considered visible. Clear plastic piercing retainers are allowed; must wear a plug for gauges.

Nursing students have a responsibility for maintaining hand hygiene by adhering to specific infection control practices. Artificial fingernail enhancements contribute to nail changes that can increase the risk of colonization and transmission of pathogens to patients; and are therefore not allowed. Fingernails are to be neatly manicured and of reasonable length (1/8 inch or 3.1 mm beyond fingertip). **NO nail polish is allowed at the clinical site.** Artificial nail enhancements are not to be worn; anything applied to natural nails is considered an enhancement. This includes, but

is not limited to, artificial nails, tips, wraps, appliqués, acrylics, gels, and any additional items applied to the nail surface.

Personal hygiene should include frequent bathing as well as the use of deodorants and mouthwashes as needed. No strong odors (colognes, perfumes, smoke, etc.) are permitted.

Along with being well groomed and clean while in uniform, the student must be constantly aware of the image he/she portrays to the public. No profanity, loud talking, etc. is permitted. No smoking is allowed when you are in uniform. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed while in uniform. Chewing gum while on clinical rotations is not allowed. Visible tattoos must not be considered offensive and must follow clinical agency policies.

The clinical instructor will be responsible for determining if a requirement has been violated. Violations of the personal appearance policy requirements can result in the student being sent home and/or be reflected in the clinical grade.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students should refer to the Temple College [TASB Board Policy Manual](#) for general expectations. The following exceptions apply to students enrolled in nursing courses:

**Being successful in a nursing program is dependent on the student being actively involved in all learning activities.**

#### **Classroom:**

In the classroom, absent students do not receive the benefits of interacting with the instructor and their peers. Classroom experiences can assist the student in application of information, which is an integral component of success in a nursing program. The student's presence is essential; therefore, limits are set regarding the amount of allowable absence time.

#### **Classroom Absences:**

Classroom attendance expectations are consistent with the Temple College Attendance Policy found in the [TASB Board Policy Manual](#), which states, "A lack of regular attendance is defined as missing the equivalent of two weeks of instruction in a 16-week semester." If a class meets once a week, then missing more than two class periods may be grounds for dismissal from the class. If a class meets twice a week (class and lab), missing more than four class periods in any combination (ex. 2 classes and 2 labs or 3 labs and 1 class) may be grounds for dismissal from the class. If a class and lab meet together, (for example class meets 8-10:30 and lab meets 10:30-11:00) then it counts as one occurrence (10-week semesters are counted the same as 16-week semesters). In an 8-week semester class, missing more than one class period may be grounds for dismissal. As successful completion of all courses is required for progression, students dropped from one course for non-attendance may be required to withdraw from other nursing courses also.

#### **Arriving Late or Leaving Early from Class:**

Arriving late or leaving early are considered disruptive behaviors. As soon as a student knows they will arrive late or need to leave early from class they need to contact their instructor to notify them. Students will be expected to discuss the reasons and develop a plan to avoid these behaviors

in the future. Continuing to arrive late or leave early will be considered unprofessional behavior and the Disciplinary Action process will be initiated.

**Students should plan on arriving to class a minimum of 10-15 minutes early to ensure they are on time.**

#### **Clinical:**

The clinical experience is an essential component of the nursing program. When clinical is missed, the student cannot benefit from this learning experience. Clinical evaluations may also be impacted by absences (Student's performance can't be evaluated if they are not present). Missed clinical time cannot be made up at the clinical site. Refer to Clinical Guidelines for more information about clinical absences.

#### **Clinical Absences**

In an 8-week semester, missing more than one clinical period may be grounds for dismissal.

In a 10-week semester, missing more than two clinical periods may be grounds for dismissal.

In a 16-week semester, missing more than two clinical periods may be grounds for dismissal.

#### **Arriving Late or Leaving Early from Clinical:**

Arriving late or leaving early for clinical is not acceptable. Clinical assignments have been made and the student is responsible for care of the assigned patient from the time that clinical begins until it ends. As soon as a student knows they will arrive late or need to leave early from clinical they need to contact their clinical instructor to notify them and get further instructions. It is at the discretion of the clinical instructor to allow the student to arrive late or send them home; if the student is sent home it will be counted as an absence.

**Students should plan on arriving to clinical a minimum of 10-15 minutes early to ensure they are on time.**

#### **Weather:**

We have faculty and students from a large area drive to the campus and clinical locations. It may be extreme weather in one area and fine in another. **It is up to the student to decide if the student will be in danger due to storms, flooding, or icy road conditions. DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU BELIEVE YOU WILL BE IN DANGER.** Absences for **extreme** weather conditions may be waived at the discretion of the Department Chair Nursing.

All students should sign up for Leopard Alert so they will be notified in the case of the college cancelling or delaying class. Faculty will notify students if they need to cancel class or clinical for any reason. If the college or faculty member cancels class or clinical then the student will not be counted as absent; **however, there may be an assignment for the missed time.**

#### **Covid-19 and other Infectious Diseases**

If the student is required to isolate at home due to Covid-19 or other infectious diseases there are options to attend class live via streaming or watch a recording of the class at a later time. **These options are for special circumstances only; students must contact the course faculty for approval.**

Streaming is not available for Labs, Skills, or Clinical due to the hands-on nature of these experiences. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor ahead of time if this option is needed and to schedule any make-up tests, assignments or skills check-offs.

### Rules for Class Streaming

- Students wishing to stream a class **MUST contact the instructor** teaching the class **at least ONE HOUR prior** to the start of the class session.
- The class will stream as long as the college internet works. If the internet goes down or there are technical problems in the classroom, we will not be able to stream.
- If streaming is permitted, **the student will still be counted as being absent.**
- Students are not allowed to record, save, or copy any information presented in the class.
- Students are not allowed to share and/or post the live-streaming class with anyone else nor allow anyone else to record on their behalf.
- During the designated class time, students should be in a quiet, private section of the home or office, away from background noise and distractions to achieve best results. Students should NOT be in public places where others can view or hear the class in progress.
- Students should mute their microphone as this can be disruptive to the class. Questions should be placed in the chat function for the streamed class. Students may also “raise their hand” utilizing functions within the streaming software.
- The teaching microphone will be muted on breaks. Please do not leave the session until the class is over.

*NOTE: Not all classroom activities are compatible for streaming. In addition, the faculty cannot guarantee the quality of the session due to internet status and internet providers utilized by students.*

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### Testing Policy

Most tests are administered online but may be administered via paper and pencil throughout the program.

- 1) All books, bags, purses, drinks, as well as any cell phones and other communication devices must not be taken into the computer lab. No hats, scarves, outerwear, or gloves may be worn during testing. Smart watches or any other device able to generate electronic messaging, photographs or recordings must be removed during testing.
- 2) When testing online: If there are any technical issues during the test, you must **immediately** notify the instructor. If you wait until the end of the test then there is no recourse for assisting you.
- 3) If testing with a paper test; no writing on test, desk must be cleared with the exception of pencils and four-function calculators. All other items must be placed at the front of the classroom during tests. Cover sheets must be submitted with the test.

- 4) The student must leave the classroom/computer lab after completing the test and not return until everyone is finished.
- 5) Students that arrive after testing has begun will not be allowed to test and will be required to schedule a make-up exam.

### Make-Up Testing Policy

Students are expected to be present for all scheduled exams. If a situation arises that a student is unable to be present to take a scheduled exam, the student must contact the appropriate faculty member before the exam is given. Failure to contact the faculty may jeopardize the opportunity to take a make-up exam. Any missed module exams must be taken within the time frame as stated in the course outline. Failure to complete any make-up exams will result in a grade of "0" for that exam.

It is the responsibility of the student to contact the faculty member before the exam is given to notify them that the exam will be missed and to arrange to take a missed final exam. Any missed final exam must be completed prior to the beginning of the next semester in order to progress. Any final exam missed will result in the submission of an incomplete (I) for that course. The incomplete (I) for the course will be removed once the final exam has been administered or according to Temple College Policy. Failure to take a final exam will result in a grade of "0" for that exam and may result in failing the course.

### Policy/Procedure for Student Review of Exams

The faculty believes that exams are not only evaluation tools but also learning tools. It is the policy of this department to give students the opportunity to review module exams and provide feedback about these exams. The student must contact the faculty within 2 weeks of the exam to schedule this review.

The following guidelines will be used:

- 1) Grades for each exam will be available immediately for online tests and within two (2) weeks for paper and pencil tests.
- 2) Students who do not achieve a passing score (78%) on an exam are highly recommended to schedule a one-on-one exam review with the faculty who gave the exam.
- 3) During the session, students will have the opportunity to visually review the exam and ask questions about exam items. No note taking will be permitted during the review session. Before leaving the review session, any material containing exam questions or content will be collected.
- 4) Makeup exams and last exams of the semester may not be available for review, depending on available time. Final exams generally are not reviewed; faculty may make special arrangements as available, with individuals.

## Use of Electronic Technology

All nursing courses are supplemented with online material through D2L Brightspace. Students are required to have access to a laptop computer. A link for discounted Dell computers may be found in the New Student Orientation course.

While the Nursing Department recognizes the convenience and sense of security provided by access to and use of cell phones, headphones and ear pods it also acknowledges that personal use has no place in the context of classrooms, laboratories, and testing areas in the Nursing Education Center due to the inevitable distraction they produce. They must be turned to silent during on-campus learning activities. There should be no texting during on-campus learning activities. Computers, tablets, etc. may be used only for classroom activities. Permission to record faculty/lectures must be obtained from each instructor. Use of cell phones or personal computers in the clinical setting is described in the Clinical Guidelines for Students policy.

## Social Media

**Professionalism is expected at all times including on Social Media** Students should not post any information regarding clinical, lab, or any confidential information and are expected to follow the Texas Board of Nursing Position statement 15.29 Use of Social Media by Nurses, which can be found at the following URL:

[https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice\\_bon\\_position\\_statements\\_content.asp#15.29](https://www.bon.texas.gov/practice_bon_position_statements_content.asp#15.29)

You may not post any patient information, patient experiences or interactions, or any identifying information about the clinical site. You may not post about other professionals, faculty, or fellow students. This is considered unprofessional behavior, and will result in disciplinary action. No photos or videos may be taken in the Nursing Simulation Lab and anywhere on clinical agencies' campuses. Violations should be reported to the clinical instructor or the Department Chair, Nursing. Implications for violations of clinical agency policies will be considered. Clinical facilities may bar students from clinical practice for violations. This will result in dismissal from the program. Future employment opportunities can be seriously jeopardized with nonprofessional behavior in this area.



## Nursing Simulation Center Policies

The policies and procedures for Temple College Nursing Skills and Simulation Lab have been established for the following purposes:

- A. To provide a safe, clean and well-maintained environment.
- B. To protect and maintain costly equipment.
- C. To provide all users the best learning environment possible.

It is understood that this Policy & Procedure Manual does not cover all situations and that as need arises, new policies will need to be established. We reserve the right to revise and /or add to this document as needed.

- 1) No students are to be in the Simulation Center without a Coordinator, faculty member, or lab personnel present.
- 2) No food or drinks are allowed in the Simulation Center. There are student & faculty break rooms where food & drinks are allowed.
- 3) All students will sign in when utilizing the lab.
- 4) No children or visitors will be allowed in the lab; this allows for a safe, distraction free learning environment.
- 5) Appropriate dress to maintain safety (ex. closed toe shoes when handling sharps) is required for all activities in the nursing lab. When participating in simulation activities the TC uniform must be worn according to TC ADN/VN Handbook. Students not dressed appropriately may be asked to leave.
- 6) All users of the lab will be expected to display professional conduct at all times. This includes no use of foul language and/or remarks or behavior that could be considered offensive.
- 7) The Simulation Lab staff attempts to maintain a Latex Free environment; however, it is imperative that anyone with a latex allergy notify the Simulation Lab Coordinator and Faculty prior to any activities in the center.
- 8) Cellphones and tablets will be allowed in the Simulation lab for the sole purpose of learning and utilizing appropriate educational resources. All devices **must** be kept on silent while in the simulation lab. Any personal or non-school use of these devices while in the simulation lab, the student will be asked to leave and may result in a disciplinary action.
- 9) No equipment, computers or supplies may be removed from the Simulation Lab without prior consent of the coordinator.
- 10) Any damage to equipment or supplies should be reported immediately to Simulation Lab Coordinator.
- 11) Students may be held responsible for damaged equipment so handle it carefully!
- 12) Any malfunction of the simulation manikins or equipment must be reported immediately to the Simulation Lab Coordinator.
- 13) Any malfunction of computers should be reported immediately to the Simulation Lab Coordinator.
- 14) No markers or pens are allowed near the manikins. No betadine may be used on the manikins. These substances cannot be removed!

- 15) Student expectations include: be prepared for learning, bring necessary supplies for skills performance, and student's EHR login information when necessary.
- 16) Students will clean and wipe down workspace after each use and empty trash can.
- 17) Students are responsible for notifying the Simulation Lab if they are going to be tardy or are unable to keep their appointment. Failure to notify the Simulation Lab will be considered a No Call, No Show, which could lead to Disciplinary Action. Tardies and absences will be documented in attendance in the corresponding course.

### Simulation Center Scheduling Protocol

**PURPOSE:** This policy is to clarify independent study and remediation protocols involving simulation.

**Policy:** Simulation-based experiences for independent study and/or remediation purposes may be scheduled in the simulation labs.

#### **Student Responsibilities:**

- A. Learners may schedule independent study-practice time (open lab) by online reservation via scheduling program.
- B. Independent study time (open lab) is where students can schedule themselves in the lab to practice either on their own or with a classmate. It is encouraged to have a buddy to practice with. Faculty will be available for questions.
- C. Independent study or remediation activities will be accommodated based on available space, time, equipment, simulators and supplies in the simulation lab.
- D. Remediations that are related to an unsuccessful checkoff, cannot be scheduled the same day of the student's skills checkoff.
- E. Remediation is additional review and practice with faculty. This is not a check-off. The student will not be checked off at the time of remediation. Subsequent check-off's will be scheduled at a later time/date by classroom faculty.
- F. Remediation is required prior to students' subsequent checkoff(s).
- G. Students who are sent back from Clinical for remediation will contact the Sim Lab to schedule their appointment.
- H. Student expectations include: be prepared for learning, bring necessary supplies for skill performing, and EHR sign-on when indicated.
- I. If the student needs to cancel their lab appointment (independent study) prior to 24 hours of scheduled appointment, they **MUST** cancel through the online reservation scheduling program.

J. If the student needs to cancel their appointment (independent study/remediation) within 24 hours of their scheduled appointment, they **MUST** call the Simulation Center (254-298-8660), do not email.

### Performance Improvement

Students who are unsuccessful on their first attempt to check-off a skill will be required to complete a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) prior to being allowed an additional attempt to pass the skill. Students will be scheduled for the PIP with the Nursing Simulation Center and must complete it by the due date listed. Refer to your course syllabus for specific requirements regarding successful completion of skills.

### Occurrence Policy

It is our obligation at Temple College to prepare future nurses to provide “quality and safety” for patients. During a student’s simulation experience if an occurrence, i.e., wrong dose, wrong medication, near miss, safety concerns are observed by faculty, student will be required to:

- Complete an Occurrence Reporting form **by the end** of clinical day and bring occurrence report with them to the remediation.
- Contact the sim lab at 254-298-8660 to schedule and complete remediation.
- Complete recommended remediation prior to **the next** clinical day.
- Complete safety remediation as assigned prior to **the next** clinical day.

### Modular Skills Trainers

Students may check-out Modular Skills Trainers (MST) for at home practice. Students will be responsible for returning the MST in the same condition they received it. Failure to return the MST or destruction of the MST will result in the student being responsible for the cost of replacement.

## Clinical Guidelines for Students

- 1) Students are expected to provide care for assigned patients according to the Texas Board of Nursing, Texas Administrative Code, 217. 11, Standards of Nursing Practice. The Standard states: *(L) Provide, without discrimination, nursing services regardless of the age, disability, economic status, gender, national origin, race, religion, health problems, or sexual orientation of the client served.*
- 2) Students are expected to prepare for clinical. Clinical preparedness includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Arriving on time
  - b. Student is in full uniform with professional appearance
  - c. Prep work is completed, as assigned.
  - d. Prepared & rehearsed for assigned skills, (assessments, medication administration, and team lead)
  - e. Prepared and assertive to engage & apply knowledge in clinical nursing activities at clinical start time
  - f. Equipped with required pre-printed clinical documentation
  - g. Has required computer sign-in codes
  - h. Remains focused on client care (Refrains from including personal issues in the clinical experience)
  - i. The student is well rested, nourished, and in state of health which allows for them to provide appropriate care to patients.
- 3) Students who will be late or absent from the clinical experience must notify the instructor no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Individual faculty will provide instructions for notifications. Refer to the Nursing Attendance Policy for details.
- 4) Students are not allowed to smoke/vape while in uniform.
- 5) Students are not to receive personal phone calls while on the clinical unit and are not to answer the business phones. No personal visitors are to be received by the student during clinical hours.
- 6) Students may not leave or return to the clinical agency without prior approval of the clinical instructor.
- 7) Personal belongings taken to the clinical unit are the responsibility of each individual. It is recommended that personal belongings not needed to carry out clinical assignments be secured in the trunks of students' cars. Approved textbooks may be taken to the clinical area as space on the clinical unit allows.
- 8) Problems of a personal nature are not to be discussed with the hospital staff or patients.
- 9) Conflicts between hospital staff and students will be resolved by the instructor. The student should notify the instructor immediately if a conflict of this nature seems to be developing.
- 10) Students are not permitted to witness any permits or similar legal documents.
- 11) Cell phones, smart watches and computers may only be used with prior approval from clinical faculty and in accordance with the agency policy for clinical purposes only. Student cell phones must be turned to the silent mode at all times.
- 12) No photos, videos, or audio recordings may be taken in any clinical setting. Refer to the use of Electronic Technology policy for additional information.

- 13) Patient medical records may not be photocopied, faxed, e-mailed or transmitted in any format electronic, digital or hard copy.
- 14) Students must park in designated student parking areas at the clinical facilities during clinical rotations. (See Campus and Clinical Parking policy).
- 15) A satisfactory background check was completed on admission to the program. Any healthcare facility associated with Temple College may also require background checks. Permission to perform the background check must be given by the student. It may be necessary to dismiss students from a program if they are barred from practicing at any healthcare facility. Refer to the Nursing Admissions Policy.
- 16) A satisfactory drug screen was completed on admission to the program. See the Health, Safety, and Welfare and Student Substance Abuse Prevention policies for additional information.
- 17) Students are not allowed to eat or drink in any work area, such as the nurse's station or report room, or in any patient care area.
- 18) Students must comply with any special badge policy of an agency. Any fees associated with the replacement of a lost or damaged badge must be paid promptly. Depending on the agency's policy, a student may not be allowed on clinical until restitution has been made, with loss of absence time. In all cases, an incomplete grade for the clinical course will be given until all fees associated with the use of an agency's badge are paid, or the incomplete grade reverts to an F grade, according to Temple College policy.
- 19) Students are expected to perform clinical activities and procedures under the supervision of the clinical instructor. Students are expected to arrange with the instructor to obtain approval prior to performing any invasive procedures, within the scope of practice, with the staff nurse or preceptor. Medication administration is considered an invasive procedure.
- 20) If students are assigned to an "Observation Only" site, then they may not have any direct patient contact.
- 21) Post Conference is a part of the clinical day therefore students are expected to remain in uniform and maintain a professional appearance.
- 22) Following completion of the clinical day, students must change out of the student uniform before visiting anyone in a health care facility or remove their nametag to denote off duty status. Students may not visit acquaintances during clinical.
- 23) The clinical instructor will be responsible for determining if a guideline/policy has been violated.
- 24) Students must have all immunizations, TB, and CPR current in Document Management System in order to attend clinical. Students must also have completed all required clinical orientation in order to attend clinical. Absences due to NOT meeting these requirements will be reflected in the Clinical Evaluation Tool.
- 25) **Students that are absent more than the allowed weeks (see below) will be required to purchase a virtual simulation (VSim) and complete it by the deadline specified by the clinical instructor. Estimated price \$100.**
  - Semesters with 10 or more weeks of clinical (not including frontloading) may only miss two weeks.**
  - Semesters with less than 10 weeks of clinical (not including frontloading) may only miss one week.**

## Medication Administration Policy

### Medication Administration Requirements

Students may administer medication after successfully completing the dosage calculation exam and passing medication administration skills in the Simulation Lab.

Students that are unable to discuss medications comprehensively will not be allowed to administer the medications in the clinical setting. Students that are not able to administer medications competently will be sent to the Simulation Lab for remediation.

- 1) Students may give medications to the patients they are caring for, provided clinical faculty (or preceptor for ADN semesters 3 & 4) supervises all dosage calculations, preparation, administration, patient education and documentation of medications.
- 2) **No medications will be administered by the students without faculty supervision and approval.**
- 3) Prior to administering medications, the student must be aware of the site-specific policies and procedures, i.e. Pyxis, med cart, medication records, etc.
- 4) No student may accept or initiate telephone or verbal orders including for medication administration.

#### Preparation

- 5) Students will be required to discuss medication information with the faculty prior to beginning medication preparation or administration. Conversations must be limited when anyone (student or staff nurse) is preparing or administering medications to avoid potential errors.
- 6) Nursing students will be able to retrieve, prepare and administer medications under the direct supervision of their clinical faculty, preceptor or a professional staff nurse (ADN semesters 3 & 4). Student competency is determined by clinical faculty.

#### Administration

- 7) The Nursing student is responsible for administering only those medications which they have prepared to give according to the school and agency guidelines.

#### Nursing Students are not permitted to administer the following:

- a. Medications that require an override in the electronic medication administration record
- b. Chemotherapy medications
- c. Epidural medications
- d. Moderate sedation medications
- e. Oxytocin for laboring patients
- f. PCA medications
- g. Opioids

- h. Other medications as indicated by the clinical site facility or the faculty
- i. Blood or blood products

## **Documentation**

The student will document the administration of the medication on the administration chart which includes the dose, route, time and any additional information per facility policy. The student must sign the documentation according to facility policy.

### **1st semester ADN students**

May administer medications by the routes listed:

topical, oral, eye, ear, nose, per gastric tube (NGT, gastrostomy), rectal, IM, SC & inhalation

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester ADN Students**

May administer all of the above and IVPB medications (via peripheral IV lines only)

### **3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> semester ADN students**

May administer all medications as listed for the first-year students and IV medications (peripheral and central line)

**Under no circumstances will students administer medications without supervision and approval of the faculty. Failure to follow these requirements are grounds for dismissal from the program based on safety considerations.**

## **Liability Insurance**

All nursing students are required to carry malpractice liability insurance that will cover their clinical practice during school activities. This will be included in the course registration fees. Other malpractice liability insurance that the student may carry is optional. The school policy does not cover any nursing activity beyond required school clinical rotations.

## **Campus and Clinical Parking**

Students must follow all policies for parking on campus (see TC Student Handbook) and at all clinical locations. This includes parking in designated student parking and not parking in visitor or staff parking at any time.

## **Student Organization**

The Associate Degree Nursing Student Organization (ADNSO) participates in service and education activities during the fall and spring semesters. Membership is open to all nursing students. Officers are elected each fall semester.

## Student Participation on Department Committees

Student representatives serve on faculty committees to provide feedback from the student perspective. The Admissions and Policies, and Curriculum Committees will include student representatives from each cohort. Students are selected at the beginning of the semester for each cohort. A student will be selected to serve on the Nursing Advisory Council, which meets once a year.

## Student Complaints

The College District encourages students to discuss their concerns with the appropriate instructor or other campus administrator who has the authority to address the concerns.

Concerns should be expressed as soon as possible to allow early resolution at the lowest possible administrative level.

Informal resolution shall be encouraged but shall not extend any deadlines in this policy, except by mutual written consent. An example of an informal resolution is the student takes a concern to the faculty member and it is addressed.

A student may initiate the formal process described in the [Student Complaints Policy](#) found in the online [TASB Board Policy Manual](#). If a student chooses to file a formal complaint, the Level-One administrator is the Nursing Department Chair. The student must start the complaint process within 15 days of the alleged occurrence.

Even after initiating the formal complaint process, students are encouraged to seek informal resolution of their concerns. A student whose concerns are resolved may withdraw a formal complaint at any time.

## Student Disciplinary Policy

Nursing students are subject to the same disciplinary procedures as are all TC students. The Student Discipline statement in the [TASB Board Policy Manual](#) should be referred to for details. In addition, Nursing students are subject to the Nursing Student Disciplinary Policy.

A student will be subject to the Nursing Department disciplinary procedure for the following conditions:

- 1) Displaying a disruptive behavior such as described in the TC Student Handbook Disruptive Behavior Policy. Incidents may occur in clinical, lab, classroom, or community settings.
- 2) Displaying behavior that is inconsistent with safe nursing practice or policies of the nursing program or any clinical affiliates.
- 3) Failure to comply with the Essential Requirements of Candidates for ADN Admission, Progression, and Graduation.



## PROCEDURE

- 1) If a student is beginning to display a behavior or practice that is inconsistent with safe nursing practice or policies of the program, it is at the faculty member's discretion to discuss the behavior and corrective actions with the student prior to initiating the formal disciplinary procedure, this can be either verbal or written.
- 2) When the Nursing Disciplinary Policy is initiated, the faculty member will immediately bring the problem to the attention of the student and a Disciplinary Action Form will be completed as soon as possible detailing the actions necessary to remain in the program.
- 3) All Disciplinary Action Forms will be reviewed with and signed by the student and copies will be distributed to the student and the Department Chair Nursing to place in the student's file. Other faculty may receive copies of the Disciplinary Action Form, if indicated.

If the student has a second incident of the same type of behavior (ex. A second safety violation, or second disruptive behavior) or violates the conditions on the form then the student will be dismissed from the program. Refer to the Withdrawal/Dismissal from the nursing program for additional information.

### Student Resources for Non-Academic Needs

The Circle of Support program is a partnership between Temple College and the Temple community to make sure no student drops out of college because of barriers such as emergency expenses, child care, transportation, housing and food.

Students who need referrals for assistance with non-academic issues can stop by the Circle of Support Resource Center in Room 803 of the Arnold Student Union or complete the intake form on the website. Referrals are also available for Medical, Legal, Counseling and Mental Health services. <https://www.templejc.edu/resources/circle-of-support/>

### Accommodations

Students needing accommodations can seek assistance with accommodations from the Temple College Coordinator for Student Accommodations, Misty Reid at [misty.reid@templejc.edu](mailto:misty.reid@templejc.edu) or (254) 298-8335.

### Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of Temple College that sexual harassment of students or employees at Temple College is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The [TASB Board Policy Manual](#) should be referred to for policy and procedure statements addressing sexual harassment concerns and issues. If you are the victim of or witness sexual harassment please report it immediately. Notify a faculty member or use this link to file the report. <https://www.templecollege.edu/resources/safety/title-ix/title-ix-and-sexual-violence.html#undefined2>

## Incivility

*A range of rude or disruptive behaviors or failing to take action when action is warranted; these behaviors and inactions may result in psychological or physiological distress for the people involved--and if left unaddressed, may progress into threatening situations (or result in temporary or permanent illness or injury).* (Clark, C. M. & Kenski, D., 2017).

Temple College prohibits bullying/incivility. The [TASB Board Policy Manual](#) should be referred to for policy and procedure statements addressing bullying concerns and issues. If you are the victim of or witness bullying/incivility please report it immediately. Notify a faculty member or use this link to file the report. <https://www.templecollege.edu/resources/safety/title-ix/title-ix-and-sexual-violence.html#undefined2>

## Health, Safety, and Welfare

Temple College is concerned about the general health, safety, and welfare of all its students, employees, and visitors. Several policies addressing safety and emergency information can be found on the [TC Safety Webpage](#).

ADN students are required to sign that they are able to comply with the Essential Requirements of Candidates for ADN Admission, Progression, and Graduation. If at any point throughout the duration of the program a student is no longer able to comply then the Change in Health Condition Policy must be followed.

A satisfactory drug screen is required of all nursing students before beginning clinical rotations. Nursing students who are suspected or found to be involved in illegal, indiscriminate, or inappropriate use of drugs, including alcohol, will be subject to the procedures as outlined in the Student Substance Abuse Prevention Policy.

In addition, the student who is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs while in the clinical area is subject to the policies and procedures of that specific facility, which may include mandatory drug testing.

Temple College and affiliated agencies have no responsibility for providing health care services in case of illness or injury. It is strongly recommended that students carry health insurance since they are responsible for their own health care costs. In addition, students may be requested to acknowledge and sign liability release forms since area clinical facilities are not liable for injuries or communicable diseases. It is the student's responsibility to follow all infection control and safety procedures.

## Change in Health Condition

If a student has any significant change in health or a health condition that may affect or be affected by school performance, he/she will be required to obtain a Health Care Provider (to include physicians, nurse practitioners and physician's assistants) release. The release must specify that the student is able ***to return to classroom and clinical activities without restrictions***. Examples of these conditions include but are not limited to infectious diseases, physical injuries, and after childbirth. **This request may be made at the discretion of the instructor or Department Chair, Nursing.** In some cases, clinical agencies may be consulted regarding restrictions placed on students who provide direct patient care, especially related to providing for patient safety.

## COVID-19

Temple College follows the Center for Disease Control Guidelines for COVID-19. You may review the guidelines at this link <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>. If a learner is diagnosed with, has symptoms similar to, or has been in contact with anyone with COVID-19, they MUST stay home, isolate, and contact the faculty according to the Attendance Policy. The COVID-19 Vaccine is required by most of our clinical partners; COVID testing may also be required by any clinical partner.

## Title IX Pregnancy Policy

Temple College does not discriminate against any student based on pregnancy or related conditions. Absences due to medical conditions relating to pregnancy will be excused for as long as deemed medically necessary by a student's doctor and students will be given the opportunity to make up missed work. Students who are requesting services related to pregnancy must disclose their need to their respective instructor and submit a signed diagnostic statement to the Temple College Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Pregnancy Services prior to or immediately upon learning of medical need. See [TASB Board Policy Manual](#) for more information.

The Temple College Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Pregnancy Services is Misty Reid (254) 298-8335, One College Centre. [Misty.Reid@templecollege.edu](mailto:Misty.Reid@templecollege.edu)

If you are approved for Title IX services, and you anticipate missing any clinical rotations during the semester; you need to reach out to the Clinical Coordinator [Erica.Perrine@templecollege.edu](mailto:Erica.Perrine@templecollege.edu) to determine if your clinical rotations need to be adjusted in order for you to meet the minimum requirements for the Board of Nursing attendance. You also need to contact your faculty to make-up any missed classwork. Students that are qualified for Title IX services must present a note from their physician for any Title IX related absences. You may email the note to the Nursing Department Chair [Tracey.Cooper@templecollege.edu](mailto:Tracey.Cooper@templecollege.edu) or bring it to the nursing office. Post-delivery, and prior to attending a clinical experience, students are required to present a medical clearance from their provider that states they may return to clinical with no restrictions.

## Infection Control Policy

During the performance of clinical laboratory duties, nursing students shall comply with standard precautions for preventing the spread of infection to clients, themselves, and others. The following measures shall be employed:

- 1) Hands should always be washed before and after contact with patients, even when gloves have been worn. If hands are exposed to blood, body fluid, human tissue, or contaminated surfaces, they should be washed immediately with soap and water.
- 2) Gloves should be worn when contact with blood, body fluid, tissues, or contaminated surfaces is anticipated.
- 3) Gowns or plastic aprons are indicated if splattering with blood or other potentially infectious materials is likely.
- 4) Masks and goggles should be worn if aerosolization or splattering is likely to occur, such as in certain oral and surgical procedures, wound irrigations, suctioning, and bronchoscopy.
- 5) Sharp objects should be handled in such a manner to prevent accidental cuts or punctures. Used needles should not be bent, broken, reinserted into their original sheath, or unnecessarily handled. They should be discarded intact immediately after use into an impervious needle-disposal box.
- 6) Blood spills should be cleaned up promptly according to agency policy.
- 7) Blood specimens should be considered biohazardous and be so labeled.
- 8) At the start of each new clinical rotation, students need to locate emergency equipment.

These measures are recommended by the Center for Disease Control. All needle-stick accidents, mucosal splashes, contamination of open wounds, or other possible infection control accidents must be reported immediately to the instructor.

## Student Substance Abuse Prevention Policy

Temple College is committed to a policy of prevention of the use of any controlled substance by students while they are engaged in College and College-sponsored activities.

### Alcohol and Drugs

The possession, use, distribution or sale of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs or controlled substances (Art. 4476-15 or U.S.C.S. 812), except on bona fide prescription, on the campus, or at any college activity is cause for disciplinary action. This is also true of a student who comes on campus or to a college activity while under the influence of any of these items. Violations will result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension, and/or criminal prosecution.

### Expectations of Student Performance

All students at Temple College are expected to conform to this policy, and to refrain from any substance abuse. Refer to the [Alcohol and Drugs](#) section of the webpage for further information about Temple College Policy.

- 1) Students are not to use, possess, sell, or transfer any alcoholic beverage or any illegal, illicit, or designer drugs on the campus or while engaged in any college instructional program. Further, students are not to engage in any substance abuse.
- 2) Because students in nursing and allied health programs are preparing themselves for a career in health care, this student substance abuse prevention policy carries special importance:
  - a. Health care providers are expected to know the major differences between reasonable practices related to personal health care and practices which are detrimental to personal health care;
  - b. Health care providers have an obligation to present themselves at a work site prepared to undertake their respective assignments. As such, they have an obligation to not use any substance prior to arrival at the work site, or while at the work site, which may impair their job performance.
- 3) Given the importance to Temple College that its students in nursing program conduct themselves as future health care providers, the College mandates that those students certify, in writing, that they are not engaging in any substance abuse behaviors. Further, their signature will acknowledge that, in "for cause" situations, they will be asked to submit to drug testing when their performance, conduct, or other actions indicate possible substance abuse. Note: "for cause" means indicators of impaired behavior such as erratic movement; dilated eyes; slurred speech pattern; loud, abusive, or uncharacteristic speaking; or the presence of an alcohol or marijuana odor.
- 4) The refusal of a nursing student to sign the accompanying acknowledgment will result in the said student being denied enrollment in any of Temple College's nursing programs. Refusal

to submit to "for cause" drug testing may lead to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the Temple College program. Should the student be dismissed from the program, the student will have access to the College's appeals process.

- 5) In "for cause" situations, testing will be conducted at a state certified drug testing facility, and results, will be reported to the Department Chair, Nursing. Note: any sample taken for conducting a drug test will remain in the custody of the facility, which accepts the responsibility of undertaking the test. Results reported to the Department Chair, Nursing will be discussed with the student. Positive results will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Services. All positive test results are also reported to the Texas BON per mandatory reporting requirements. A student who tests positive may be denied continued access to Temple College education opportunities. Such action will only be taken after the student is provided an opportunity to appeal the decision. Should such a student enter a professionally directed rehabilitation program, Temple College will consider reinstatement of the student upon receipt of proof that the student successfully completed that program.

### **Accident and/or Incident Reports**

The school holds no liability for accidents that occur to students during scheduled school hours.

In the event of unusual occurrences involving student, employee of the clinical facility, and/or patient, an institutional incident/accident report should be completed. The student will notify the instructor immediately of any unusual occurrences. Examples of these include such incidents as a medication error, patient injury witnessed by the student, and/or student injury.

In the event that a student is injured on clinical and requires medical treatment, the Medical Treatment Policy will be implemented.

### **Medical Treatment Policy**

Due to non-coverage of immediate medical care by the clinical site, a "Medical Treatment Policy" has been developed. This is to be instituted with options for the student in the event of a clinical incident requiring medical treatment.

The clinical instructor will strongly encourage the student to seek medical care. The option of immediate care at the clinical site should be presented with the understanding by the student that he/she will assume all costs for the treatment.

The student may also elect to seek his/her own private medical care elsewhere and assume all costs of the treatment. Neither the clinical facility or Temple College will assume responsibility for any costs associated with treatment.

A final option will be decline of total medical treatment.

In such an event, the instructor may dismiss the student from the clinical site and require medical release before the student may return to class or clinical. The clinical instructor will contact the Clinical Coordinator to report the incident and complete any needed documentation.