

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE OF
NURSING

Student Handbook

Undergraduate On-Campus Programs

Bachelor of Science

2025-2026

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I. Introduction

This College of Nursing Student Handbook is provided as a guide for students enrolled in the undergraduate baccalaureate nursing program at URI, and is intended to provide undergraduate nursing students with: (1) an overview of the College of Nursing and its history, vision, mission, values; (2) a description of the competencies baccalaureate students are expected to achieve prior to graduation (“expected program outcomes”); (3) a full description of the College’s academic and professional policies applicable to undergraduate nursing students; and (4) a full description of the clinical policies applicable to undergraduate nursing students.

This Handbook does not describe specific program courses and graduation requirements. A description of those academic and course requirements can be found in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) and on the [College of Nursing webpage](#).

This Handbook is also meant to supplement other University policy, program description and guidance documents including the [University Manual](#), [URI Student Handbook](#) and [University Catalog](#).

Each undergraduate nursing student assumes responsibility to become familiar with the information contained in this Handbook. Furthermore, students are expected to always comply with all policies and requirements set forth in this handbook.

The College reserves the right to add, delete, revise, or change the information, including all policies and procedures set forth in this Handbook. All students are expected to review the Handbook at the start of the academic year and as necessary throughout the academic year.

The Handbook may be accessed electronically on the [College of Nursing website](#). This location will contain the most up-to-date version of the Handbook and supersedes all other versions.

History of the College of Nursing

In September 1945, the University began its first nursing program with nine students in the School of Home Economics. In 1947, a Division of Nursing was established and Miss Louisa White, Associate Professor, was appointed Director. In 1970, the College began offering a Master's in Nursing and in 1985 a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. A Doctor in Nurse Practice (DNP) began in 2010.

Until 1968, nursing students lived in Providence during the clinical portion of the program and the majority of the faculty had offices at Rhode Island Hospital. In 1963, Fogarty Hall was dedicated, and office space was provided for the Dean, several faculty and two secretaries. Finally, a new building was completed which was designed specifically for the College of Nursing. White Hall, named in honor of the first director of the nursing program, was dedicated on September 23, 1977.

In 2017 the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center (RINEC) opened in Providence, RI. This shared space is approximately 133,000 square feet and boasts simulation suites, skills labs, classrooms and URI faculty offices.

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing/ master's degree program in nursing/Doctor of Nursing Practice program and/or post-graduate APRN certificate program at The University of Rhode Island is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccneaccreditation.org>).

Vision

The University of Rhode Island College of Nursing is a dynamic catalyst for improving health and transforming healthcare through innovation and excellence in education, knowledge development, discovery, and professional practice to meet the needs of a global society.

Mission

To prepare nurses to excel as outstanding and compassionate clinicians, scholars and leaders who will enhance the health and health care of individuals, families, communities, and populations both locally and globally.

Values

- Social justice, diversity, inclusivity, & civic engagement
- Respectful, ethical, humanistic, & compassionate care

- Intellectual curiosity, innovation, & scholarly inquiry
- Leadership, lifelong learning, & excellence in practice

II. Technical Standards

Nursing is a rigorous program of study and professional practice. Students are expected to demonstrate (with or without any pre-approved reasonable accommodations [see “Accommodations for Qualified Students with Disabilities” section below, p. 19]) the ability to exercise all of the technical skills and to meet all the technical demands of the program --- including academic, cognitive, emotional, and psycho-motor skills and abilities --- in order to succeed.

Below are the technical standards that the college deems essential for training and practice in the profession of nursing to deliver safe and effective patient care.

Observational Ability: The student must demonstrate the ability to make and accurately interpret visual observations in all areas of patient care delivery, both in clinical facilities and simulation education.

Communication: Students must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively both verbally and non-verbally to elicit information and to translate information to others. The student must possess oral and written communication skills that permit effective communication with faculty, students, patients, families, and all members of the health care team in both clinical and classroom environments.

Motor Ability: The student must possess motor functions such that they are able to execute movements required to provide necessary care and treatment to all patients in clinical care settings. The student must possess skills that span fine motor and gross motor muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of all senses.

Intellectual – Conceptual Ability: The student must be able to demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This includes the ability to measure, calculate, reason, prioritize, analyze, integrate, synthesize information and act with integrity and judgment, often in a time urgent environment. The student is expected to listen, speak, read, write, reason, and perform mathematical functions at a level which allows comprehension of materials both written and oral throughout the program.

Behavioral and emotional: The student must be able to withstand the psychological and physical rigors of nursing education and practice. The student must be able to maintain mature,

sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, students, faculty, staff, and other professionals under all circumstances, including highly stressful situations. Compassion, integrity, motivation, effective interpersonal skills, and concern for others are personal attributes required of those in the nursing program. The student is expected to have the emotional stability to fully utilize his or her intellectual abilities, exercise good judgment, and promptly complete all patient care responsibilities. Students must have the ability to meet these demands under stress and adapt to an environment that may change rapidly without warning and/or in unpredictable ways.

III. Bachelor of Science Program Outcomes

Below are the core competencies (also referred to as program outcomes) that Bachelor of Science students are expected to achieve by the end of the nursing program. Students demonstrate competency in these outcomes by meeting course objectives outlined in each course syllabus.

- 1. Knowledge for Nursing Practice:** Integrate and apply nursing knowledge supported by knowledge from liberal arts and sciences to enrich nursing practice
- 2. Person-Centered Care:** Implement holistic, just, compassionate, person-centered, evidence-based nursing care to individuals and families across the lifespan and spheres of care.
- 3. Population Health:** Use principles of social justice, advocacy, and collaboration to promote equitable care for individuals, families, communities, and populations, from prevention to disease management, through partnerships that address social determinants of health and improve population health outcomes.
- 4. Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline:** Engage in scholarly inquiry and critically appraise research as the foundation to deliver evidence-based nursing practice.
- 5. Quality and Safety:** Use principles of quality and safety as core values of nursing to enhance practice and minimize risk of harm to patients and providers.
- 6. Interprofessional Partnerships:** Engage with individuals, families, communities, health care professionals, and other colleagues to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience, and improve outcomes.
- 7. Systems-Based Practice:** Coordinate and utilize resources in healthcare settings to provide safe, quality, equitable, and value-based care to diverse populations.
- 8. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies:** Use healthcare technology to gather and interpret data, form information to support clinical judgment, provide care, and improve

interprofessional communication that enhances healthcare delivery in accordance with best practice and professional and regulatory standards.

9. Professionalism: Cultivate a professional identity and conduct grounded in nursing core values of compassionate caring, a collaborative disposition, civility, accountability, ethics and social justice for exemplary practice.

10. Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development: Engage in wellness by participating in activities and self-reflection that fosters personal health, resilience, and well-being; contributes to lifelong learning; and supports the acquisition of nursing expertise and leadership.

IV. Academic Policies

Should any policy be added or modified, the updated information will be located on the student resources section on the [College of Nursing webpage](#)

Scholastic Standing/Academic Review

The academic records of all nursing students are reviewed by the College of Nursing Scholastic Standing Committee. This Committee is responsible for enforcing the academic policies set forth in the [University Manual](#) and the College of Nursing. The committee is composed of College of Nursing faculty and the Associate and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs are ex officio members of the Committee.

Academic Progression & Dismissal Policy

Entry and Progression Policy for Students in University College for Academic Success

1. Entry into the College of Nursing is competitive, and seats are limited. Students are required to have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a grade of “C” or better in all prerequisite courses to be considered. Entrance into the College of Nursing and clinical course sequence is not guaranteed once meeting these requirements. Placement is competitively granted based on success in prerequisite criteria. Those who meet the minimum criteria but do not achieve a seat will be considered the following year, in the same competitive manner. The College of Nursing and clinical course sequence is determined at the close of the spring and fall semesters.
2. Students who have not met the pre-requisite criteria for transfer to the College of Nursing and the clinical course sequence by the end of two years or sixty credits will be required to choose a different major at the University.

Progression Policy for Students in the College of Nursing

1. Students are expected to achieve a minimum grade of C in all NUR courses and a C in all non-nursing prerequisite courses and to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.20 to progress in the College of Nursing. Students must complete all NUR courses in the appropriate sequence as outlined on the College of Nursing curriculum sheets.
2. If a student receives a C- or less in a single NUR course, the College of Nursing Scholastic Standing Committee will review the student’s academic record. Students who achieve less than a grade of C must repeat the course, obtaining a C grade or higher, before progressing in the nursing curriculum. Permission to retake the course

will be granted on a space-available basis only. Even if successfully repeated, the initial grade remains on record as the first unsuccessful attempt. There are no further allowances for repeating a NUR course, and any subsequent NUR coursework of C- or below will result in dismissal. If the student should achieve a C- or less in two NUR courses in a single semester, they will be immediately dismissed from the College of Nursing.

Dismissal Appeal Procedure & Policy, and Submission Deadlines

Students who are academically dismissed as outlined in the Academic Progression & Dismissal Policy above have the option to appeal.

1. Notification of Dismissal:
 - a. Students will receive a letter from the Scholastic Standing Committee stating they have been academically dismissed from the College of Nursing. This will include the appeal process and submission deadlines.
2. Grounds for Appeal:
 - a. A student who has **extenuating** circumstances that affected his/her/their academic performance may submit an appeal letter.
3. Appeal Submission Requirements:
 - a. A formal letter requesting a waiver of dismissal
 - b. An explanation of what contributed to poor academic success and any strategies used to try and overcome his/her/their dismissal.
 - c. A plan of intention describing what the student will do differently if allowed to continue in the nursing program.
 - d. Optional
 - i. Supporting documentation (i.e. doctor's note)
 - ii. Letters of support
4. Deadlines for appeal submission:
 - a. all appeal letters and documentation must be submitted to the Scholastic Standing Committee by the deadline identified in the official dismissal notification letter, typically within 5 calendar days. This letter will be emailed within two business days after grades are due (date located on the URI Official calendar).
 - b. Appeals received after the deadline will not be accepted. All appeals must be submitted via email to the Assistant Dean.
 - c. Extenuating circumstances that prevent the student from meeting the deadline will be considered on a case-by-case basis (i.e. injury, death, hospitalization).
5. Reinstatement Conditions:

- a. If a student is granted reinstatement following an appeal, the student will progress in the nursing program on a space available basis only.
- b. A student may appeal once during their undergraduate career.
- c. Earning below a C in a subsequent required NUR course will result in automatic dismissal from the College of Nursing with no appeal.

Curricular Modifications or Exceptions

Student Requests for Curricular Modifications or Exceptions (other than Request for Reasonable Accommodations based on a qualified student's disability, which shall follow the procedures outlined by the URI Office of Disability, Access and Inclusion.)

Undergraduate students seeking exceptions to any University rule pertaining to their academic circumstances, including degree requirements and courses of study, shall do so by written petitions submitted to the College of Nursing Assistant Dean. Students should follow the procedure below:

1. Complete all sections of the "Substitution or Waiver (PDF)" form, located on the [College of Nursing webpage](#).
2. Attach additional supporting information or documentation, if necessary.
3. Submit to the College of Nursing Assistant Dean for review by the Scholastic Standing Committee.
4. A written response from the Committee will be sent to the student within 10 business days.

Grading

The following grade chart is used for undergraduate NURSING courses:

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	60-66%
F	below 60%

Grade Appeal Procedures

If the student thinks that a grade received in a particular course is incorrect, the student has the right to appeal the grade in the following procedure. [Note: The student must commence the appeal process within 5 calendar days of the posting of the grade, and if the appeal is taken to steps 2, 3 or 4, the student must commence each next step within two calendar days after the conclusion of the prior step]:

1. The student shall first discuss the grade with the Instructor.
2. If unresolved, the student shall discuss concerns with the Assistant Dean, who will discuss the matter with the Instructor.
3. If still unresolved, the student may submit a written appeal to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, who will discuss the matter with the Instructor. If the Associate Dean believes the grade should be changed, and the instructor does not agree to the change, the Associate Dean shall issue a written decision to the student and the instructor which includes the Associate Dean's recommended grade change, and their reasons for recommending the change. If the Associate Dean does not believe the grade should be changed, they shall issue a written decision to the student and instructor stating their conclusions and reasons.
4. If still unresolved, the student may make a second written appeal to the College of Nursing Scholastic Standing Committee. The Committee will provide the Instructor the opportunity to respond to the appeal, following which, unless the Instructor voluntarily agrees to make a grade change acceptable to the student, The Committee will issue a final decision on the matter, stating its conclusions and reasons. If the Committee decides that the grade should be changed over the objection of the Instructor, the grade shall be changed in the manner specified in the University Manual.

Kaplan Policy

Students in the College of Nursing will be required to take standardized achievement tests from Kaplan as part of course requirements. The use of Kaplan Integrated Exams will begin at the start of the Sophomore year, after admission to the College of Nursing. These exams provide an evaluation of the knowledge of subject matter and provide a benchmark for student progression toward program outcomes.

The exam is administered one time during the semester in designated courses.

- In all nursing courses that have a Kaplan Integrated Exam, except the secure predictor which is administered in NUR 415 Transition to Professional Nursing Practice:

- Total possible points allocated for the exam = 10 (up to 5 points based on the exam score and 5 points for complete, purposeful, effective remediation of all correct and incorrect questions)
 - a) Complete, purposeful, effective remediation consists of a minimum of 1 minute review of each question
 - b) Test score for all Integrated Exams, except the Secure Predictor, is compared to the national percentile ranking: up to 5 points
 - a. 60th percentile rank and higher on Integrated test = 5 points
 - b. 50th – 59th percentile rank on Integrated test = 3 points
 - c. 40th – 49th percentile rank on Integrated test = 1 point
 - d. Below 40th percentile rank on Integrated test = 0 points
- Total possible points for the Secure Predictor = 15 points.
 - Complete, purposeful, effective remediation of all correct and incorrect questions: 5 points
 - Test score for the Secure Predictor is based on the Probability to Pass NCLEX.
 - a. **≥ 95% probability to pass = 10 points**
 - b. 90%-94.99% probability to pass = 8 points
 - c. 80%-89.99% probability to = 6 points
 - d. 70% - 79.99% probability to pass = 5 points
 - e. < 70% probability to pass = 0 points

University Withdrawal (voluntary)

Students may withdraw from College of Nursing and URI at any time. Students who wish to withdraw from the University and College of Nursing must complete the “Withdrawal Form (PDF)” found on the Enrollment Services website. Students must apply for readmission to the College of Nursing through the Undergraduate Admission Office. Readmission is not guaranteed.

Leave of Absence

Students may apply for a Leave of Absence from the College of Nursing and URI. Students must complete the Leave of Absence form found on the Enrollment Services webpage and are required to meet with the Assistant Dean for discussion and approval. Placement in nursing courses may not occur immediately upon return and the student’s enrollment in specific classes will be provided as soon as reasonably possible, on a space available basis. Depending on the length of time away from URI, students may be required to take an exam and complete a skills check to ensure readiness to return to the CON and care for patients in a safe manner. If a student does not show competence in knowledge and skills, they may be required to repeat a NUR course(s) before progressing in the curriculum.

V. Academic Conduct, Integrity & Professionalism

General Principles

Life in the academic community must be one of integrity, honesty, acceptance of responsibility, and a willingness to clearly and accurately represent oneself, one's work, and one's activities. The College of Nursing believes that professional conduct is critical to the practice of nursing, and fully supports the University's policies. Students are expected to observe the standards of professional conduct and ethics in the clinical setting, including respect for patient's rights to: considerate and respectful care, information, informed consent, privacy, confidential communication, and continuity of care. Students are expected to conduct themselves as representatives of the profession, the College of Nursing, and the University.

Failure to meet these standards will be treated as a failure to accept responsibility as a student and may make one subject to suspension or dismissal from the College of Nursing.

Incidents of academic dishonesty (including cheating and plagiarism), collusion (the assisting of another student in an act of dishonesty), and misrepresentation are prohibited.

The commission of illegal or unprofessional actions, such as violations of HIPPA or privacy regulations, illegal drug sale, possession or use, chemical impairment, violation of other state or federal laws, and sexual assault or sexual harassment, are also prohibited.

Students who violate the University's student conduct policies may be reported to the Office of Student Life, as indicated in the URI Student Handbook.

Please refer to the URI Student Handbook - <https://web.uri.edu/studentconduct/conduct-system/>, the University Manual (8.27.10-8.27.20) - <https://web.uri.edu/manual/chapter-8/chapter-8-2/>, and the University Catalog - <http://web.uri.edu/catalog/> for the complete policy.

Involuntary Class or Clinical Withdrawals

Breach of professionalism is a serious offense which will be dealt with firmly. The College of Nursing reserves the right to remove (involuntarily withdraw) a student from a class or clinical for a minimum of one day or up to the remainder of the semester in the event it is determined that a student's behavior, attitudes or actions violate essential program or professional

standards or requirements, threaten harm to self or others, and/or indicate that the student is not fit to continue. In this event, students will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

The student will be required to attend a mandatory meeting with a College administrator to discuss the incident or problematic behavior.

Non-Academic Suspension or Dismissal from a Program

In the event it is determined that a student's behavior, attitudes, or actions violate essential program or professional standards or requirements and/or indicate that the student is not fit to continue in the program, the College may suspend or dismiss a student from their program. The College will normally provide notification to the student of the reasons for the contemplated suspension or dismissal and give the student an opportunity to address those reasons before the College deliberates and makes a final decision to suspend or dismiss the student. The nature of the opportunity provided to the student (e.g. a less formal meeting with a College administrator, or a more formal hearing before multiple College officials or a panel, etc.) will depend on the nature and duration of the sanction and the reasons for the contemplated suspension or dismissal and other relevant factors, provided however, that the College reserves the right to immediately suspend the student in the event that the student's immediate continuation in the program constitutes an imminent risk to the student or to other students in the program, or for other compelling reasons.

Formal Complaint Policy

This policy defines formal complaints submitted to the College of Nursing and establishes a procedure regarding the role of the student, college, and university in the review and resolution of such complaints. The College of Nursing adheres to all University policies.

A "formal complaint" under this policy is defined as any signed, written claim submitted to the College of Nursing by a student alleging discriminatory, improper, or arbitrary treatment.

No retaliation or adverse action shall be taken against any student for initiating, participating in, or refusing to participate in, a formal complaint.

Procedure

1. Formal complaints involving an issue of Academic Integrity will fall under College of Nursing Procedures as outlined in this handbook.
2. Complaints involving any other issue will be subject to other established university policies and the official procedure established by the applicable university policy. Such policies include, but are not limited to:
 - University of Rhode Island *Sexual Misconduct and Relationship Violence Complaint and Adjudication Process* (Student Handbook) and URI Policy #01.001.1 *Sexual Misconduct*
 - University of Rhode Island *Complaint Procedures for Reporting Discrimination and/or Harassment*
 - University of Rhode Island *Student Conduct System and Academic Honesty Procedures* and other related policies as listed in the University of Rhode Island *Student Handbook*, *Graduate Manual*, and *University Manual*

Upon receipt of a formal complaint that is subject to another university policy, the College of Nursing will either advise the student who submitted the formal complaint of the applicable university policy or refer the complaint directly to the appropriate university official, as it determines to be appropriate under the circumstances.

1. Documentation of formal complaints and their disposition will be logged in a database and shall be maintained as confidential and retained in the Office of the Dean of the College of Nursing consistent with University policies and Rhode Island State law. The log shall include:
 - The date the complaint was first formally submitted
 - The nature of the complaint
 - The steps taken to resolve the complaint
 - The School's final decision regarding the complaint
 - Any other external actions initiated by the student to resolve the complaint.

Diversity and Inclusion

The College of Nursing conceptualizes diversity as understanding that each student brings unique experiences, strengths, and ideas to our classroom. These differences can be along dimensions of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, socioeconomic status, age, ability,

religious or political beliefs, or other different ideologies. Diversity is the exploration and incorporation of these differences to enrich learning and in and out of our classrooms.

Each member of the University has the responsibility to foster an environment of acceptance, mutual respect and understanding. If you are a target or witness to a bias incident, you are encouraged to contact the URI Bias Response Team at <https://web.uri.edu/brt/>.

Tobacco & Vaping Policy

The College of Nursing (CON) is dedicated to maintaining a healthy work and learning environment. While the University already prohibits smoking inside its buildings and facilities, the CON policy prohibits smoking or use of tobacco and vaping products by students while in uniform* or at any time when representing the College of Nursing. *See Student Dress Code Policy (page 33)

Alcohol and Drug Policy

Violation of the University's drug and alcohol policies prohibiting illegal use or possession of any controlled substance without a prescription while enrolled in The College of Nursing is considered a serious offense and may result in suspension or dismissal. Many hospitals, clinical facilities, and other professional sites require students to undergo a drug test. Students who test positive for an illegal drug may be denied clinical placement at these sites. As a result, the student's progression to meet the degree requirements can be impeded.

Electronic Devices

The College of Nursing requires responsible use of mobile devices to access electronic information that can be helpful in forming plans of care for patients and for professional communication. Clinical agency policies regarding mobile devices must be followed by all students during their practicum experiences.

Social Media Policy

Social media, such as X (formerly Twitter), YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok etc. are to be used in adherence with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) The purpose of this policy is to maintain the protection of sensitive and confidential information and to uphold professionalism.

This policy applies to the use of mobile devices, social media and internet communications related to confidential information about the faculty, staff, students, classroom and clinical activities, patients, and clinical affiliates. CON students, faculty and staff must always protect

individuals' rights to privacy and confidentiality and communicate sensitive and confidential information in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies (including the policies of clinical training sites), including whenever applicable the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Members of the CON community are expected to observe the American Nurses Association's Principles for Social Networking (American Nurses Association.)

ANA's Principles for Social Networking (<https://www.nursingworld.org/social/>)

1. Be aware of your audience. Make sure that the content of your posts is appropriate for the people who will be seeing it and may share it with others.
2. Maintain your professionalism. Avoid posting anything that could be considered unprofessional or inappropriate, such as photos or videos of patients.
3. Know your social media policy. Familiarize yourself with your employer's social media policy and adhere to it across all the social media platforms that you choose to use.
4. Secure your social media profiles. Review and set-up the respective privacy settings for the social media platforms that you choose to use.
5. Share credible information only. The dissemination of credible and reliable information protects the health and well-being of the public.
6. Engage with respectful content. Do not share content that is harmful, disparaging, racist, homophobic, or derogatory.

The policy requires that all:

- Be aware of the necessity of maintaining professional boundaries while using electronic media.
- Follow applicable HIPAA regulations at all times. Identifiable information concerning patients/clinical activities must not be posted in any online forum.
- Protect confidential, sensitive, and proprietary information. Do not share or post any information related to nurse-patient contact or about the College of Nursing.
- Do not post comments on social media sites about patients, clinical facilities, employees of facilities, faculty or other students as these posts violate the individual's right to privacy and may incur liability - even if the posts do not specifically identify individuals.
- Do not make disparaging remarks about patients, employers, or co-workers, even if they are not identified
- Do not use mobile devices to take photos or videos of patients or patient information.
- Use personal electronic devices only as authorized by faculty and clinical affiliates.
- Report any breach of confidentiality or privacy to a College of Nursing administrator or faculty member.

Violations of patient privacy will be subject to applicable HIPAA policies, procedures and sanctions, and may subject the student to other sanctions imposed by the College. Students who wrongly share confidential information, or otherwise engage in unprofessional communication, may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the Nursing program.

Accommodations for Qualified Students with Disabilities

Students are expected to notify faculty if any reasonable accommodations are required in the classroom or clinical setting. If any reasonable accommodations are required, it is expected that the student will notify the faculty with the appropriate paperwork from the Disability, Access and Inclusion Office. Students are required to notify faculty of their accommodations seven days prior to quizzes and/or exams. (<http://web.uri.edu/disability/>).

Email Policy

All email communications to students by the College, or its faculty and staff, will be via the URI email system, with communications sent to the students' URI assigned email address. Students are also required to use their University of Rhode Island email account for all communications with College faculty or staff. Students are expected to frequently monitor their URI email as all URI and College of Nursing academic and clinical information is communicated in this manner.

Brightspace

The CON Undergraduate Student Resources site serves as a communication portal between undergraduate students, faculty, and administrators. Important information such as clinical schedules, events, job postings and graduation information will be shared through these sites. It is important that you become familiar with Brightspace and check the College of Nursing site frequently.

VI. Clinical Policies

Off campus clinical nursing experiences begin in the second semester of Sophomore year with NUR 234 - Practicum: Care of Adults and Older Adults Clinical experiences allow the student to apply the knowledge gained in the classroom setting to real-life situations under the direct guidance of a faculty member.

Students must meet clinical requirements and abide by all clinical policies to participate in the practicum portion of their education. Should a student have any questions about their ability to meet requirements or follow listed policies, they should contact the clinical coordinator. Failure to do so could impede the student's ability to progress through the program and meet degree requirements.

Changes to these policies may occur at any time during a student's progression through the nursing program. Should any policy be added or modified, the updated information will be located on the [College of Nursing webpage](#).

Adherence to Clinical Requirements

All students are expected to follow the College of Nursing clinical policies. Failure to follow clinical policies or maintain clinical requirements may affect successful completion of the clinical courses and the nursing program. Students who do not adhere to the policies or allow requirements to lapse are not allowed to attend clinical courses. Non-adherent students will lose 10 points for each clinical week missed. Students who miss 3 clinicals due to non-adherence will automatically fail the course. Permission to repeat a clinical course is on a space available basis and only granted after review by the Scholastic Standing committee.

Background screening

All students in the College of Nursing must complete a comprehensive criminal background check through CastleBranch (888-723-4263) prior to beginning clinical courses, and then every 12 months thereafter. This must be completed by the July 15th (fall semester) or December 15th (spring semester) deadlines. Instructions on how to obtain a background check will be sent in April for the fall semester and in October for the spring semester. If 12 months have passed since your last background check and you have not received an email, please contact the Clinical Coordinator.

In addition, many hospitals, clinical facilities, and other professional sites that participate in providing a clinical experience also require students to undergo a pre-rotation criminal background check which shows either a “clean” criminal record, or a criminal record which, due to the timing or nature of the criminal behavior, or the relevant circumstances, does not, in the judgment of the site preclude the student’s participation in the practicum experience at their site. Students with criminal records, therefore, should be aware that their criminal record may preclude their participation in clinical experiences, and as a result, their progression to meet the degree requirements may be impeded.

The University of Rhode Island’s College of Nursing reserves the right to contact the URI [Dean of Students Office](#) to verify that students are under no disciplinary sanction for violation of codes of student conduct and/or that students have no judicial cases pending which would invalidate their eligibility for an internship/clinical. The College of Nursing may also contact the URI Dean of Students Office in the event a student’s behavior, wellness, or mental health may be in question.

Students should also be aware of the licensing requirements set forth by the state in which they would like to become licensed, to understand if findings on a background check could preclude their ability to obtain a license in that state. If students anticipate issues arising from their criminal background check or have any questions, please contact the Clinical Coordinator. Fingerprinting may be a required part of the criminal background check process in some cases (this is frequently the case when the state police or other state law enforcement agency is involved in the background check process).

Adverse findings in a criminal background check, whether one conducted as a URI requirement or as a site’s requirement, could also have other negative implications on your academic standing and ability to continue in the program, especially when the violations found are serious, or raise concerns about your ability to satisfy applicable behavioral, academic, or professional requirements.

Drug Testing

Many hospitals, clinical facilities, and other professional sites require students to undergo a drug test. Students who test positive for an illegal drug will be denied placements at these sites. As a result, the student’s progression to meet the degree requirements can be impeded.

If your clinical practicum site requires drug testing, the Clinical Coordinator will inform you and provide instructions on obtaining the required testing. Adverse drug test results, whether one conducted as a URI requirement or as a site’s requirement, could also have other negative

implications on your standing as a student at URI. For example, it could potentially subject you to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions under the URI Student Conduct Code, or to proceedings and sanctions under applicable academic rules and procedures of the University, the Graduate School, or the College of Nursing.

Office of Inspector General (OIG) Search

The Office of Inspector General provides information to the healthcare industry, patients, and the public regarding individuals and entities currently excluded from participation in Medicare, Medicaid, and all other Federal healthcare programs. Many hospitals, clinical facilities, and other professional sites will prohibit students from clinical experiences at their institutions if found on the OIG's List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (LEIE) and the student's progression to meet the degree requirements may be impeded. If a student anticipates any issue arising from their OIG check or has any questions, please contact the Clinical Coordinator.

American Heart Association BLS Provider CPR

Students are required to be certified in professional level CPR for adults and children prior to NUR 234 for Pre-licensure students. The only accepted CPR certification is through the American Heart Association's BLS Provider course.

The course is offered by URI Health Services. There is no applicable course fee for nursing students. Instructions on how to enroll can be found on the CON Undergraduate Resources Brightspace page.

Any CPR class taken elsewhere will be the financial responsibility of the student. Proof of certification must be uploaded to CastleBranch.

Student Agreement Form

A form that signifies the student agrees to fulfill all academic obligations outlined in the course syllabus and all financial obligations incurred while participating in the URI College of Nursing Clinical Program while matriculated at the University of Rhode Island. The form must be signed prior to NUR 234 for Pre-licensure students and submitted to CastleBranch. Forms can be found on CastleBranch.

Clinical Programs Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk and Personal Responsibilities

A form that signifies that the student acknowledges assumption of risk by voluntarily participating in clinical, simulation and the skills lab. The form can be found on CastleBranch

and must be signed and uploaded.

Immunizations

Nursing students must meet specific health and immunization requirements before being allowed to begin any clinical nursing course. These requirements reflect RI Department of Health regulations, infection control, and current affiliation agreements with clinical sites. Students who are unable to meet or maintain health and immunization requirements may be denied placement by clinical affiliates. This may impede a student's ability to progress through the program and meet degree requirements. Any student who anticipates issues meeting and maintaining requirements should speak to the Clinical Coordinator.

All students are required to be current in all their immunizations, screenings, and certifications. Students are expected to maintain current records through the College of Nursing contracted agency, CastleBranch at <https://mycb.castlebranch.com>. Any questions, please email CastleBranch at servicedesk.cu@castlebranch.com or call 1-888-723-4263. Students must use this service and are responsible for any costs for immunizations, screenings, and vaccines. The professional fee covers the document tracking, not individual immunizations, screenings and vaccines. It is the responsibility of the student to keep accounts active including the timely update of contact information if any changes occur. Students must submit all the appropriate documentation through this site. **Paper copies will not be accepted by the College or individual instructors.**

All URI students may use Health Services for care, even if URI health insurance was not purchased. If you are covered by another health insurance company, URI Health Services will bill the company just as any other health care provider would. The use of URI Health Services for immunization and screening will be helpful to you in staying current and provides a single document that you can easily use in the immunization tracker. Students are also free to use their own providers.

If, for any reason, you come in contact with or acquire any infectious diseases or a medical condition which may affect your health status, your performance in clinical, or your patients' health, please inform your clinical nursing instructors and the Clinical Coordinator. Also, seek assistance from URI Health Services and/or another health care provider.

Specific health and immunization information is required for the following:

COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccination requirements for clinical placements, and any exemptions thereto, are governed by the particular clinical site. Students will be required to familiarize themselves and comply with the requirements of the clinical site. The College of Nursing is responsible for offering clinical placements for you to achieve program outcomes but is NOT responsible for assisting you with any exemption sought from a clinical site or finding you an alternative clinical placement.

Students should be aware that the Rhode Island Department of Health regulations require healthcare workers be to be “up to date” with their COVID-19 vaccinations, meaning a person has received all recommended doses of COVID-19 -- including a booster when eligible -- or wear a National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH)-approved N95 mask while working in healthcare facilities during a period in which the COVID-19 prevalence rate in the State is greater than or equal to 50 cases per 100,000 people per week.

Please note that the above definition of the term “up to date” may change, as the science and public health recommendations evolve. That may be because the federal and/or state definitions of the term may change. Additionally, any particular clinical agency may have its own more expansive requirements or stricter definitions.

CON students should assume that, in order to obtain a clinical placement, the student will need to either (a) be up to date, or (b) apply for and obtain a disability/medical or religious accommodation from the facility where they will be placed. While it is conceivable, it is highly unlikely that a student would be able to obtain a clinical placement at a facility that does not need to follow, and does not follow, the RI Department of Health requirements, which are in accordance with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. In any case, students should assume that such a placement will not be available to them.

CON students wishing to obtain a disability/medical or religious accommodation for a facility will be personally responsible for obtaining one, and the College will not be able to assist in that process. Those students should also understand that any such accommodation previously granted by URI will not be binding on, or required to be accepted by, the facility. Any request for exemption will be reviewed by the hospital or agency you are assigned for clinical; they have the final determination to accept or reject such exemption.

Given the foregoing (and except in the extremely unlikely case that a student is able to obtain a placement in a facility not requiring COVID vaccinations) students will need to be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination or have obtained agency exemption before the start of their clinical rotations, July 15th for the fall semester and December 15th for the spring semester, to progress in the clinical course sequence. If an exemption is approved by the agency/facility, you must follow the requirements of unvaccinated employees that may include COVID-19 testing, and the use of higher-grade masks for routine care.

If you choose not to get vaccinated before the clinical course sequence, and the clinical facility requires COVID-19 vaccination for students, and you do not qualify for a facility exemption by the dates above, you may continue in your didactic courses for one semester. You will be unable to take part in or complete clinical courses at this time and you will be unable to continue in didactic classes in the following semester as the clinical courses are a prerequisite for upper-level didactic NUR classes. The College of Nursing is responsible for offering clinical placements for you to achieve program outcomes but is NOT responsible for finding alternative clinical placements for students who are not in compliance with clinical agency requirements for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Students who are not in compliance with COVID-19 vaccination requirements for clinical placement may apply for a Leave of Absence (LOA). Return to the program is on a space-available basis when the student is either vaccinated or clinical agencies' policies allow unvaccinated students into clinical sites.

Tuberculosis (Screening Test)

The CON accepts either the two-step PPD, or the Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) blood test to determine exposure to tuberculosis. The PPD test includes two completed tests done at least one week apart, but less than one year apart. One PPD test is acceptable for the annual requirement if it is less than one year from the initial PPD test date. Documentation of test results must be submitted to CastleBranch every year. TB testing must be obtained annually (every 12 months) to maintain adherence.

URI Health Services offers the Interferon-Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) blood test. Results will be uploaded into students' immunization records on the patient portal. If the TB screening test is positive, the student will be contacted by Health Services for additional testing and possible treatment. Students will need to upload their immunization record from the health services portal into CastleBranch.

If the TB test (PPD or IGRA) is positive a chest x-ray may be required to assess for evidence of disease. Appropriate clearance must be obtained before the first day of the semester and every 12 months thereafter.

Students who have a history of a positive test, a positive chest x-ray, or who have undergone TB treatment are required to obtain yearly evaluation from their health care provider or URI Health Services to assess for evidence of disease. Students should submit to CastleBranch documentation stating they have undergone medical evaluation, have no signs of active disease, and are able to participate in clinical practicums.

Ishihara Color Blindness Screening

The college requires proof that students have full color vision before being allowed to perform testing, such as urine dipsticks, which requires identification of colors to ensure the accuracy of findings. Results of color blindness testing (Ishihara color test) should be included with your immunization record. If a student is color blind, the clinical instructor will be informed, and the student will need to refrain from interpreting results of tests that require the individual to discern variations of color.

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)

Students should have submitted the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) immunization documentation as a part of the University admission requirements. Documentation of two doses of the MMR vaccine fulfills the requirement for these diseases. In the absence of vaccine documentation, a titer will be required. Only positive titers will be accepted.

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

If you have had the disease (after 12 months of age), physician documented confirmation is required.

If you have not had physician-confirmed history of chickenpox, you will need:

- Documentation of a positive varicella titer or
- Evidence of receiving two doses of the varicella vaccine.

NOTE: Individuals who have negative serum titers to rubella, rubeola, mumps, varicella or Hepatitis B must be vaccinated. Individuals who have low serum titers should consult with their health care provider about boosters or revaccination.

Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis

These immunizations are usually begun during childhood (the Tdap vaccine), with additional administration of tetanus boosters later in childhood and every 10 years throughout adulthood.

The CDC recommends individuals receive one dose of the Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) vaccine in place of a 10-year Td vaccine. Health Care Workers (including nursing students) are required to have documentation of having a single dose of Tdap vaccine. **Once the initial Tdap documentation is in place, only a TD vaccine is required every 10 years.**

Influenza

It is required that healthcare workers receive the influenza vaccination **yearly** to protect themselves and patients. The RI Department of Health requires the vaccination of students. Students must acquire the influenza vaccine by September 30th or earlier if required by a clinical agency policy. Students who decline the influenza vaccine for medical reasons must provide documentation from their health care provider. Students who are unable to have the influenza vaccine may be required to wear a mask at the health care agency during the flu season. However, it is up to the discretion of the hospital whether to accept a student with a declination.

Hepatitis B Vaccination

Hepatitis B immunization is required for admission to the University. You should have submitted the immunization documentation as a part of the University admission requirements. Three doses of the HBV vaccine fulfill the requirement. If students did not complete the HBV series, a serum titer may be done to verify immune status. Documentation from a health care provider is required.

Fit Testing - N95 Masks

Nursing students are required to be fit tested for the use of N95 masks. These masks are used to protect against the transmission of infectious respiratory diseases, such as COVID-19, when providing patient care. Fit testing is necessary to ensure the N95 mask provides a good seal on the user's face, and to provide education about the use of the mask. Students must follow each clinical facility's policies regarding the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), including N95 face masks.

There are two parts to the fit testing process. The first part is a medical evaluation questionnaire to assess for any issues that would impact the user wearing the mask. The second part is the actual fitting of the mask on the user's face and assessment of the seal provided by the mask.

The College of Nursing offers fit testing for nursing students twice a year (January and September), in preparation for clinical rotations. Fit testing is done through URI Health Services. The Clinical Coordinator will notify students who are due for fit testing by email before the start of the semester. This email will include instructions for completing the medical evaluation

through Health Services, and making an appointment to be fit tested. Each fit testing appointment takes approximately 30 minutes, and takes place at Health Services. The College of Nursing maintains rosters of fit testing completions.

Nursing students are required to be fit tested annually. Students need to maintain this requirement by attending fit testing yearly in order to attend clinical. Students who are not fit tested annually will not be allowed to attend clinical courses until they meet this requirement.

Requests for fit testing outside of URI, such as a healthcare employer, to be considered for meeting the student requirement should be sent to the clinical coordinator with a copy of the fit testing documentation. These requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine if the outside fit testing meets the clinical site requirements.

For questions about fit testing process, forms or scheduling, please contact the Clinical Coordinator: Donna Donilon, RN; email: ddonilon@uri.edu; office phone: 401-874-4806.

Centralized Clinical Placement Online Learning/Orientation Modules

In order to be eligible to participate in clinical, all students must complete the Centralized Clinical Placement (CCP) system computer-based, clinical orientation program. The orientation consists of 4 modules: (1) Basics of Student Placements; (2) Nurse Core Competencies; (3) Infection Control and Prevention, and (4) Environment of Care. The Online Orientation program directs you to the appropriate page and/or provides links to the appropriate forms. The program is completed in 3 steps:

1. Complete the modules & post-tests.
2. Submit required contact information to the clinical placement facility.
3. Complete any facility-specific material and print your Clinical Assignment Ticket.

Directions for access are available on the CON Brightspace site. CCP modules must be completed every academic year. Modules are updated yearly on July 1st for the upcoming academic year. **Students entering the fall semester should wait until the July 1st update prior to completing modules for that upcoming semester.** Step 1 (Completion of the modules and post-test) is only required once after the July 1st update, but Step 2 and Step 3 need to be completed for every clinical placement each semester. Completed CCP tickets must be printed and brought to the first day of clinical. If a student has not completed all CCP modules by the first day of their clinical course, the student will lose 10 points for each clinical week missed. Students who miss 3 clinicals due to non-adherence will automatically fail the course. Permission to repeat a clinical course is on a space available basis and only granted after review by the Scholastic Standing committee.

Transportation to Clinical Facilities

Transportation to and from the clinical agency is the responsibility of each student. Students are expected to have car insurance as required by the State of RI. Clinical sites are located throughout Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Students are not to transport patients/clients or their families to or from appointments etc.

Clinical Attendance

Students are required to attend all clinical experiences. If the student is unable to attend clinical, students should call the clinical instructor and if applicable, the clinical preceptor at least 2 hours prior to the start of the clinical experience. A medical note is required for each absence. Absences must be made up per the direction of the clinical instructor in consultation with the lead faculty. If absences exceed the ability to achieve course objectives, students may be required to repeat the clinical course.

Clinical Course Registration and Switch Policy

Students register for clinical courses at the same time they choose their lecture courses. Students should be aware that a number of factors (numbers of students, faculty and clinical agency availability, etc.) influence the clinical course offerings and they are subject to change at any time prior to the start of the semester. While the College of Nursing makes every attempt to keep the placement, day, and time the same as was originally listed, it is not guaranteed and all three may change. Current clinical listings are immediately updated when a change occurs and can be found on the CON - Undergraduate Student Resources site. The College cannot guarantee or prearrange clinical location, days, or times for any student. Personal requests cannot be accommodated. Clinical courses are scheduled seven days a week between 7am and 11pm. Every effort is made to avoid Saturday and Sunday clinical groups, but they may occur. An exception to this is NUR 417 which requires flexibility in days and times to meet required clinical hours. Students not officially registered in a course may NOT attend any clinical experiences until they are officially registered. Students who earned an incomplete grade will be allowed to repeat a course with the permission of the Scholastic Standing Committee only.

Switching groups is not allowed unless:

1. There is an open section **AND** the clinical placements have not been processed
2. An agreeable student is found to switch **AND** the clinical placements have not been processed
3. A student has documentation from the Disability Services for Students Office (including medical excuses) related to an inability to attend a specific section of clinical versus another section.

4. The student requests the switch to allow them to participate as a URI team member at an authorized NCAA University sanctioned event.

Incident Reports in the Clinical Setting

Students who have an accident, injury, needlestick, or Blood Borne Pathogen exposure should obtain immediate medical treatment. If a student receives a contaminated needle stick or is exposed to blood or body fluids, the clinical instructor must be informed immediately. The student and faculty must follow the clinical agency's protocol for documentation of the incident, patient and student blood testing and potential follow-up. The student also must fill out a Blood Borne Pathogens Exposure form at the college to submit to Risk Management (found at link below). The student is encouraged to be seen at their healthcare provider's office or URI Health Services for follow-up. If seen at URI Health Services, the student may be referred to his/her own health care provider for long-term follow-up, when necessary. Full policy and [Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure form](#).

If a student has an accident or injury not related to a needle stick or Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure, a [Student Accident Report form](#) must be filled out and submitted to Risk Management and notify the Clinical Coordinator.

All payments for urgent medical services required during clinical hours or related to clinical incidents are the responsibility of the student.

Health Insurance

All nursing students must carry health insurance. If any student does not have their own private insurance, they are required to participate in the University offered coverage. Information regarding obtaining coverage through the University can be found [here](#). All payments for medical services required during clinical hours are the responsibility of the student.

Malpractice Insurance

All students are covered by the University liability insurance policy when they are enrolled in a course with a clinical component. This insurance covers the student only for activities directly related to the College of Nursing courses.

While the University carries basic malpractice insurance for all students officially registered at the University and engaging in nursing care as part of an educational experience, optional malpractice insurance can be obtained through national nursing organizations and private insurance carriers if desired.

Students not officially registered in a course may NOT attend any clinical experiences until they are officially registered. Students who earned an incomplete grade will be allowed to repeat a course with permission of the Scholastic Standing Committee only.

HIPAA and Privacy Policy – (see also Social Media policy)

All students must comply with the applicable requirements of The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) when accessing, using, or disclosing “protected health information” (“PHI”) relating to the individual patients or clients of a HIPAA covered healthcare provider (e.g. a hospital or other clinical provider organization where the student is receiving clinical training). <http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/index.html>

During clinical rotations, students will be considered “trainees” who are “members of the workforce” of the clinical organization for purposes of HIPAA and shall follow all of the clinical organization’s policies and procedures relating to HIPAA, as well as its other health information privacy and security policies, if any.

For reasons of privacy, students also shall not intentionally be assigned to provide care for any client with whom they are personally acquainted, including members of the University of Rhode Island community (i.e., faculty, fellow students, or staff). Should students become aware that they have inadvertently been given such an assignment, they are to notify the instructor or preceptor immediately.

Students are expected to provide dignified care for and uphold patient’s right to privacy and confidentiality as referenced in the CCP learning modules.

Clinical Remediation Process

If at any time a student’s performance in the clinical is considered to be unsatisfactory, the student will be notified with a written warning notice from the clinical instructor. Students may receive one of the following:

Clinical Action Plan (CAP)

When a student’s performance does not meet expectations and/or learning outcomes, a Clinical Action Plan (CAP) is prepared by the clinical instructor or preceptor, in collaboration with the clinical instructor. The plan is time-limited and designed to assist the student to meet course objectives.

The CAP will include the course objective(s) that is not being met and evidence that supports this decision. This is signed by the student and the clinical instructor or preceptor. The Lead Teacher is notified that a CAP is being implemented.

A collaborative plan for improvement is then developed by the lead teacher, clinical instructor or preceptor and the student. It should include what the student will do and what support will be provided by the faculty (lead teacher, clinical instructor or preceptor, and/or tutor). The plan will include a due date and is signed by the clinical instructor or preceptor and the student. At the due date, the lead teacher and clinical instructor or preceptor will decide if the objective is now being met, or if the student will be placed on clinical warning. A copy of the CAP is placed in the student's academic file.

Clinical Warning

A student will receive a clinical warning when the student fails to meet the requirements of the CAP or commits a single serious occurrence. A student may receive a clinical warning at any time during the semester. The recommendation for clinical warning is made by the clinical instructor or preceptor and the lead teacher. The student will be advised of his/her status in writing including a statement of the course objective(s) which the student performed unsatisfactorily or inconsistently, including supporting information/observations.

A time-limited action plan will be developed by the lead teacher, clinical instructor or preceptor, and the student. A student receiving a clinical warning must meet the clinical objectives by the end of the semester in order to satisfactorily pass the course and progress to the next nursing course. A student cannot progress to the next clinical course while a clinical warning is still in place.

Exceptions to the Clinical Warning Policy may occur if, in the professional judgment of the academic dean, lead teacher, and clinical instructor or preceptor, a student demonstrates inappropriate, unethical, or unsafe behaviors or places a client in imminent danger during a clinical course. Should this situation occur, the student may be dismissed from the clinical area and/or the nursing program without a prior clinical warning.

Student Skill Lab Referral

When students are having difficulty with assessment, the nursing process, specific skills, or are not performing at an expected level, the clinical instructor can request use of the skills lab to perform a remediation session. This is a mechanism to help the student be successful in the course. It is a formative process and does not impact negatively on the student's grade, as long as remediation leads to the student successfully meeting the course objectives.

Dress Code and Uniform Policy

Complying with the uniform policies in clinical courses is an important demonstration of the professional role of the student nurse in the College of Nursing. This includes clinical courses conducted in clinical agencies and in the College laboratories. Students who are non-compliant will be sent home from clinical/lab and will receive the appropriate reduction in course grade.

Professional Attire for Clinical College Laboratory Experiences

All on campus laboratory experiences (e.g. Simulation Days and clinical skill learning days), require students to wear the uniform described under “Professional Attire for other in-patient and Simulation/lab Settings” including the hair, tattoo, jewelry and nail requirements below.

Students must wear their lab coats and URI scrubs and follow the hair, tattoo, jewelry and nail requirements below during NUR 203 labs and Open Lab hours.

Professional Attire for Community Settings and Behavioral Health Settings:

- URI College of Nursing navy blue polo shirt – must be tucked in
- Khaki loose fitting professional pants (no jeans/lowriders/hip-huggers)
- Clean sneakers, or shoes that fully cover the whole foot (no open back clogs, platforms, sandals, or mesh top sneakers). Shoes must protect your feet from spills, needle drop/stick, heavy equipment, etc.
- Name pin

Professional Attire for Other In-patient and Simulation/Lab Settings

- Lab Coat – Cherokee Women’s 33” Embroidered Lab coat
- Lab Coat – Cherokee Men’s 30” Embroidered Consultation Lab coat
- Uniform V-Neck Scrub Top with 2 pockets in Royal Blue Embroidered, Cherokee Uniform pant:
 - Option 1: Cherokee Royal Blue Drawstring Scrub Pant.
 - Option 2: Cherokee Royal blue Elastic Waist Cargo pocket.
- Polo – Navy Blue Embroidered 50/50 blend Gildan Polo Shirt
- All clothing items above will be embroidered with URI College of Nursing
- Clean sneakers, or shoes that fully cover the whole foot (no open back clogs, platforms, sandals, or mesh top sneakers). Shoes must protect your feet from spills, needle drop/stick, heavy equipment, etc.
- Name Pin

All uniforms can be purchased through [Alexander Uniforms](#) using password: myURLuniforms

Professional Appearance Guidelines – requirements for all experiential learning

- Beards and mustaches must be short, clean, and trimmed.
- Smoking and vaping are prohibited while in uniform or while representing the College of Nursing.
- Hair for both men and women must be clean and away from the face.
- Hair color must be of a naturally occurring shade. Extreme colors are not allowed. Any hair styling or color that may cause distraction to patient care or detracts from a professional appearance is not appropriate.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Fingernails must be short and unpolished. NO acrylic or gel nails! They trap bacteria and are a potential danger for patients.
- No jewelry (except for one pair of stud earrings) is allowed. No facial jewelry is acceptable. Wedding bands are allowed.
- Tattoos must be covered to not distract from patient care.
- Subtle makeup is allowed.
- No fragrances are allowed in clinical areas.

Student Laboratory Requirements

Student expectations for attending Skills and Simulation labs are the same as a clinical experience.

For full policies and procedures see the [Nursing Skills and Simulation Lab Policy Manual](#).