

Bradley University
College of Education and Health Sciences
Department of Nursing (DON)

Policy: Graduate Clinical Requirements Policy

Purpose: The Department of Nursing graduate faculty believes that all students enrolled in the graduate nursing program should be expected to achieve certain outcomes, including the ability to complete program requirements, sit for national certification, and obtain licensure in their state of residence. Students whose background may prevent them from being able to safely or effectively attain these outcomes should be identified early in the program.

Policy Requirements:

All graduate nursing students offered admission are required to have a criminal background check (misdemeanor/felony; national sex offender list, etc.), multi-panel drug screen, immunization record, and physical exam completed through the background requirements platform by no later than mid-term of their first semester. Students will receive the appropriate information to complete this requirement once admitted. Prior background checks and drug screening may not be used. Students are responsible for any fees associated with these or any additional requirements throughout the program.

Violations:

Urine Drug Screen- Failure to complete the urine drug screen. Presence of substances that are illegal at either the state or federal level without medical review officer (MRO) justification; Prescription drugs/ metabolites without a valid prescription; Diluted samples/ evidence of tampering

Criminal Background Check- Failure to complete the background check. Any misdemeanor, apart from minor traffic violations, or felony convictions and/or national sex offender search alerts, and/or federal exclusion lists, and/or health care fraud and abuse scan, etc.

Vaccinations- Failure to complete and upload documentation requirements for current vaccinations or historical vaccinations (anything greater than 12 months) that can be utilized with a declination form, when appropriate

Physical examination- Failure to complete and upload the documentation requirements for a current physical exam within the last 12 months

Health and hospitalization insurance- Failure to complete and upload the documentation requirements for active health and hospitalization insurance.

Actions:

The Department of Nursing in collaboration with the clinical coordinator will evaluate the results of each student's criminal background check, drug screen, vaccine documentation, physical examination, and health and hospitalization insurance, and initiate any subsequent actions, (e.g. requests for additional drug screens), up to and including dismissal from the graduate nursing program. Referrals to any relevant university disciplinary bodies will be made as needed on a case-by-case basis. Factors considered include but are not limited to, the nature and timing of any infraction, potential safety risk, and/or the likelihood of successful program completion. Please be advised that the DON may be required to report certain issues that could pose a risk to the public to the relevant state board of nursing.

Additionally, clinical agencies may deny a student's participation in a practicum rotation at their own discretion for multiple reasons, including a felony or misdemeanor conviction, positive drug screen, and/or inadequate vaccination history. As participation in clinical experiences is a required part of the curriculum and a requirement for graduation, denial of participation by a clinical site may result in the inability to complete a course, delay of graduation, or the inability to graduate from the nursing program.

Clinical agencies and state boards of nursing may have additional requirements. The student is responsible for contacting each state board of nursing and clinical site regarding potential barriers to clinical participation and/or licensure.

Failure to Comply:

Failure to comply with this requirement, or any subsequent requests, within 24 hours of the initial notification email regarding missing, incomplete, or unsatisfactory requirements, as well as any subsequent communications or requests (e.g. additional drug screening) may result in consequences ranging from a delay in the student's progression in the program due to inability to register for the next semester up to, and including, dismissal from the graduate nursing program. Students may grieve the outcome of the non-academic disciplinary decision. Procedures are outlined in the university graduate catalog.