

Indiana State University College of Nursing, Health and Human Services Undergraduate Distance Student Nurse (LPN-BS, RN-BS) Health Policy

The health policies for the nursing programs are in accord with the health policies of the University and major clinical agencies utilized for clinical laboratory learning experiences.

Students must submit verification that they have met all health requirements at time of application to a nursing program. The Nursing Program-Immunization Record form may be located at <http://www.indstate.edu/nursing/pdfs/handbook-docs/immunization-record.pdf> . Continuing students must maintain current health requirements and provide appropriate documentation prior to the start of each semester in which enrolled in a nursing course. Tuberculin (Tb) testing and tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccination that is due any time during the course of a semester must be completed prior to the start of that semester. Continuing students who do not meet this criterion must drop the nursing course(s) or will fail the nursing course(s). The continuing student may register for the dropped course(s) in the subsequent semester once the requirements have been satisfied.

Health requirements for admission and progression in the nursing major include:

- A negative tuberculin skin test and repeat testing annually. Two-step testing must be used for the initial skin testing. A positive tuberculin skin test requires a medical exam and chest xray. For individuals who are known positive tuberculin skin testers, annual Quantiferon Tb-Gold blood test is to be used in place of skin testing.
- Verification of current immunization status:
 - Tetanus & Diphtheria (Td) – Basic series and booster every ten years.
 - Pertussis – Students must receive a one-time dose of Tdap (substitute for 1 Td booster dose) prior to admission or for continuation in the nursing program even if the prior Td booster was received less than 10 years prior.
 - Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) – Must fulfill one of the following:
 - Immunization with two doses MMR vaccine given after the first birthday and at least 28 days apart.
 - Health practitioner-diagnosed measles, mumps or rubella disease. Note: Verbal history of disease is not acceptable.
 - Serologic evidence of immunity that specifies date of titer.
 - Varicella (Chickenpox) – Must fulfill one of the following:
 - Immunization with two doses of vaccine at least 28 days apart.
 - Health practitioner-diagnosed varicella disease or herpes zoster (shingles). Note: Verbal history of disease is not acceptable.
 - Serologic evidence of immunity that specifies date of titer.
 - Hepatitis B – Three dose series (first two doses 30 days apart and the third five months after the second dose) with initial dose obtained prior to admission to nursing major.
 - Influenza – Required annually during influenza season.
- Documentation as appropriate for non-compliance with immunization requirements:

- Written verification from a health care provider for any contraindications to vaccination indicating the nature and probable duration of a medical condition or circumstances, including pregnancy. If the student's condition or circumstances subsequently permit immunization, the exemptions granted will terminate; and
- Signed declination of vaccination statement submitted with application for admission and for subsequent changes in medical condition or circumstances. Form available on the nursing website*
 - *Distance Students- Signed for each clinical agency to be utilized for the semester and required in subsequent semesters for each new agency to which assigned. Declination statement forms are provided by each clinical agency. Each agency reserves the right to refuse a declination statement.

During enrollment in a nursing program, students are expected to demonstrate appropriate health practices through regular health care and personal health behavior. Students are responsible for all personal health-related expenses. Health insurance coverage is recommended by the nursing programs. Information about student accident and sickness insurance through Associated Insurance Plans International, Inc. can be located at <http://www.aipinternational.com/ISU/plan.html> .

In determining a student's ability to participate in the clinical setting *for any clinical nursing course* the faculty member/preceptor will consider the student's compliance with the health policy contained in this document, and with CPR and bloodborne pathogen training.

In determining a student's ability to participate in the clinical setting *after any significant illness and/or injury*, the faculty member/preceptor will consider the following:

- Health care provider's statement of health status and recommendations, if any.
- Faculty member/preceptor's evaluation of the student's ability to function in the clinical setting. (Even though the health practitioner may state that the student may participate the class and/or the clinical laboratory setting, *it is the faculty member's decision to determine if the student is safe to provide patient care.*)
- Student's ability to complete all requirements for the course's learning experiences.

Approved by SAC, April 18, 2000

Approved by Nursing Council, April 18, 2000

Approved by Exec, February 24, 2004

Revised by SAC April 16, 2008

Approved by Nursing Council April 22, 2008

Edited by Nursing Program Department Chairs, October 13, 2010

Approved by BND February 7, 2011 and BNCD, February 8, 2011

Revised by Department of Baccalaureate Nursing, September 26, 2011

Approved by Department of Baccalaureate Nursing Completion, October 11, 2011

Amended BNC October 18, 2011