



UPMC SCHOOLS OF NURSING POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: Student Health Program Policy

INDEX TITLE: Administration

DATE: August 28, 2023

I. POLICY:

The Student Health Program provides the opportunity to promote and maintain student health. The goals of the program are to promote the continued physical and emotional health of students and support the concept of the student accepting responsibility for maintenance of their own health.

II. PURPOSE:

Promote the maintenance of the student's physical and mental health to meet the demands of the nursing program.

III. SCOPE:

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the UPMC Schools of Nursing.

IV. GUIDELINES:

Health Insurance

All students are encouraged to carry health insurance.

General Medical Attention

Any student needing immediate medical attention may be seen in the Emergency Department. Students assume financial responsibility for all Emergency Department visit charges. Students have limited access to health care through MyHealth@Work at each respective hospital. Students are accountable for contacting their insurance carrier and/or primary care physician to obtain the necessary authorization to seek care through MyHealth@Work.

Counseling

Students who are experiencing a personal problem such as depression, family issues, emotional difficulties, stress, grief, etc., may utilize *LifeSolutions* at LifeSolutions@upmc.edu or 1-800-647-3327. Please refer to the Non-Academic Guidance and Counseling Program Policy.

Clinical Absences

Absences related to health issues are not excused. Students experiencing a severe or long term illness should make an appointment with the Director.

V. PROCEDURE:

Students are to adhere to the following procedures. The School does not assume responsibility for the health and safety of students who fail to adhere to the procedures outlined below.

Health Alterations (Illness and Hospitalization)

- Students are required to immediately report all health alterations that would prevent them from being able to perform the duties outlined in the position description to the Director of the School of Nursing.
- A student who had surgery for any reason, was hospitalized or experienced child birth must submit a signed release from a licensed independent medical provider regardless of the time missed before returning to class and/or clinical.
- The release form must specifically state that the student may participate in clinical experiences without restrictions.
- Release forms are to be submitted upon return to school to the Director.
- Students who require an apparatus must speak the director before attending any clinical experience. The following apparatus are not permitted on clinical: cervical collar, splint, sling, any type of cast, or any type of apparatus that imposes an infection control risk. Students are not permitted to use any assistive device (crutches, cane, walker, etc.) while attending clinical.
- EMS will be contacted for any students who are experiencing a significant health crisis while attending class or lab at the school of nursing. Students will be responsible for all costs incurred.

Communicable / Infectious Disease

- Students are required to immediately report all diagnosed communicable or infectious diseases that would prevent them from being able to perform the duties outlined in the position description to the Director of the School of Nursing.
- Students will comply with UPMC policies related to communicable and infectious disease.

Accidents/ Exposures on UPMC Campus

- If an accident occurred on hospital property, the student must notify the instructor and report to MyHealth@Work during hours of operation or to the Emergency Department.
- Students are financially responsible for all care received due to accidents.
- Students who have a blood born pathogen exposure while performing patient care during a clinical experience must notify the instructor and report to MyHealth@Work during hours of operation or to the Emergency Department. UPMC assumes the cost of care of blood born pathogen exposure.

On the campus of an affiliate clinical agency:

- Students attending clinical at an affiliating agency and needing immediate medical attention due to illness or injury should follow the same procedure an employee of that affiliating agency would follow.

VI. REFERENCED AND RELATED POLICIES:

UPMC Schools of Nursing Position Description - Student Nurse Policy

UPMC Schools of Nursing Guidance and Counseling Policy

UPMC Schools of Nursing Clinical Attendance Policy

Reviewed/Revised: 01/27/2022

Originated Date:

Effective Date: 08/29/2022

Signature:  Date: 8/28/2023
Executive Director
UPMC Schools of Nursing