DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
STUDENT HANDBOOK
AND
POLICY MANUAL

With Practical Nursing Certificate
Addendum

Revised for fall 2013 programs
# Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook and Policy Manual
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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The purpose of this handbook is to provide to students, the college community, and the general public essential information about the educational and behavioral performance requirements expected of individuals entering the health professions. In order to ensure safe practice, DHS has developed specific policies and procedures, in addition to those already established by the College, that govern student matriculation in their respective programs.

Each student is issued a copy of the Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook and Policy Manual after admission to their respective program. The content is subject to change. **It is the responsibility of the student to be familiar with and abide by the policies contained in this manual and in the College Catalog and Student Handbook and Planner.** Program specific policy amendments, supplements and requirements are contained in the program addenda. At the beginning of each course, the faculty member(s) will distribute a course syllabus. Students should refer to the course syllabus for additional policies including but not limited to: attendance, assessment instruments, make-up requirements, and criteria for successful completion.

Admission to one of the programs offered in the Division of Health Sciences (DHS) is the first step toward entering an exciting, rewarding career. In order to be successful in any Health Sciences program, engagement in the educational process is essential. Becoming a caring, competent health care professional requires a major commitment of time, energy, and focus of one’s efforts toward the needs of clients. This selfless dedication is what makes true professionals stand out. The faculty and administration in DHS are dedicated in their efforts to help students become professionals and meet their educational and career goals.

Clinical agencies, hospitals, and facilities providing education to students may have policies and procedures in addition to those in this handbook.
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
MISSION STATEMENT AND OVERVIEW

Mission
The mission of the Division of Health Sciences is to prepare graduates to provide professionally competent, safe, ethical, compassionate healthcare and become life-long learners in their field.

Philosophy
Administrators, faculty and staff within the Division of Health Sciences believe that education is a life-long endeavor where students are at the center of the learning continuum. Students ultimately become life-long learners when engaged in teaching and learning environments that help them to achieve their personal and professional goals. We believe that all students have the ability to learn. Students are encouraged to identify their preferred style of learning, determine strengths, and realize their potential. Students who develop the ability to think critically will be better equipped to learn new skills, acquire knowledge, and understand the attitudes and behaviors required to succeed in their field of study. Therefore, we believe the goal of the educational process is to teach for understanding and expand the view of the learner.

We believe that healthcare education requires a commitment to diversity, leadership, collaborative partnerships, and evidence-based practice. Accordingly, we are committed to a systematic review process to ensure programs maintain the highest standards and are reflective of current practice. All healthcare professional programs represent blend of theory and reflective clinical practice that embraces cross-cultural beliefs and values.

Graduates from the Division of Health Sciences have the ability to respond to healthcare needs within local, national, and global environments. All healthcare professionals have the responsibility to ensure that quality healthcare is provided by engaging in effective leadership and social advocacy initiatives.

Core Values
Aligned with the Core Values of the College, the Division of Health Sciences believes that:

- Quality education in all health programs is based on current standards of practice, use of technology, and application of contemporary pedagogy.
- Students have the potential for success when academic and personal support services are provided throughout the educational process.
- Communication and team work are an integral part of the learning and working environment.
- Appreciation of diversity becomes the foundation for understanding and embracing the richness of differences in opinion, ethnicity, culture, and lifestyle.
- Change is embraced by a willingness to accept new ideas.
- Education becomes a pathway that fosters lifelong learning.
Division of Health Science Goals:

1. Prepare students for employment in a specific health career field.
2. Maintain external accreditation/approval of individual health science programs.
3. Establish academic benchmarks that assess student learning.
4. Promote engagement in community service activities.
5. Utilize a systematic evaluation process to maintain the highest current standard of practice.

September 9, 2009; revised October 16, 2009; revised November 13, 2009; revised January 27, 2010, March 24, 2010; revised May 3, 2013

MassBay Community College does not discriminate on the basis of sex, religion, color, race, sexual orientation, age, national origin or disability in all of its educational programs, activities or employment policies, as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments and other federal and state anti-discrimination laws. MassBay makes a serious effort to represent a diverse group of students, faculty and staff, and to promote a climate of acceptance for minority groups.

If you have any questions about compliance with the Title IX, please contact the MassBay Community College Affirmative Action Officer in the Human Resources office at the Wellesley Hills Campus.
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
PROGRAM ACCREDITING AGENCIES

Associate Degree Nursing
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
www.acenursing.org
Phone: 404-975-5000

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Approved)
239 Causeway Street, 5th Floor, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn
Phone: 1-800-414-0168 or 617-973-0900

Radiologic Technology
The Joint Review Committee On Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)
20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606-3182
www.jrcert.org
Phone: 312-704-5300

Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedicine
The Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)
99 Chauncy Street, 11th Floor
Boston, MA 02111
http://www.mass.gov/dph/oems
Phone: 617-753-7300

Surgical Technology
Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA®)
W. Dry Creek Circle, Suite #110
Littleton, CO 80120
www.arcstsa.org
Phone: 303-694-9262

The Commission for Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
www.caahep.org Phone: 727-210-2350

Practical Nursing
Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (Approved)
239 Causeway Street, 5th Floor, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn; Phone: 1-800-414-0168 or 617-973-0900
SECTION II: Division of Health Sciences Policies

SECTION A: ACADEMIC POLICIES

A.1.0 Attendance

It is important to your academic success that you attend all classes in which you are enrolled and make up any work due to absences. For each course, your instructor will establish policies regarding class, clinical, and/or laboratory absences, and make-ups (if any), and will include these policies in the course syllabus. Your course instructor has full and final authority to allow make-up work and/or absences. If you miss more than five (5) class hours, your instructor has the right to withdraw you from the course by notifying the Registrar. Frequent tardiness and absenteeism is not tolerated in the health care professions or by the DHS faculty.

As a student in a Health Sciences program at MassBay, you must follow policies that have been developed to meet the requirements of the appropriate accrediting agencies. To ensure your successful completion of the program and accreditation requirements, attendance in all health programs is mandatory for classes, laboratory sessions, and clinical rotations.

If you have clinical clock hour requirements, you should speak with your instructors about class and clinical attendance policies. Absences may be cause for program withdrawal. Students who demonstrate a pattern of tardiness or absence will receive a counseling notice regarding the attendance policy.

NOTE: When taking courses in other Academic Divisions you are to follow the attendance policy set forth by that Division’s faculty.

A.2.0 Student Progress

Students are advised that it is important to purchase the required textbooks and read all assigned chapters to be successful. Textbooks contain copy written material, and photocopying it is illegal.

To be considered in “good standing” within any of the DHS programs, students are required to achieve a minimum grade of 73 (C) in each Health Sciences Program course, except for the EMT and Paramedicine courses where the passing course grade is 77 % (C+). In science courses with a BI or CH prefix the passing grade is 73 (C). Students must pass all segments of courses (theory, laboratory, and/or clinical) in order to be successful in that specific health course. Students whose grade is below a 77 for Paramedicine and EMT and 73 for all other health science courses in theory, clinical or laboratory courses at mid semester will receive a midterm warning consistent with the College’s policy. Students who receive a midterm warning are required to make an appointment with the faculty responsible for the course to develop a learning remediation plan.

Students must successfully complete all required prerequisite and co-requisite courses to continue in a Health Sciences program. It is the professional responsibility of each student to
insure adequate preparation for all program, course, lab, practicum and/or clinical requirements.

**Incomplete Grades:** Should a student not complete all course requirements within the last two weeks of the semester but provides evidence of making significant progress toward such completion, he or she may submit a written request to the Health Sciences instructor to receive an incomplete (I) grade. In each case in which an Incomplete is requested, the circumstances must be compelling and beyond the control of the student. The Incomplete will not be awarded in cases of neglect on the part of the student nor will it be given as a substitute for a failing grade. At the instructor’s discretion, the “I” grade may or may not be awarded.

Incomplete grades may be given only in the following circumstances:
- The student must be in good academic standing in class, laboratory, and clinical;
- Attendance has been satisfactory;
- Illness, accident, or other extenuating circumstances prevent the completion of required work;
- Documentation has been provided by the faculty;
- Required work may reasonably be completed in an agreed-upon time frame, no later than the beginning of the next semester.

**Instruction to Students:**
To request an Incomplete grade, complete section I of the “Request form” and submit it, along with forwarding documentation, to your instructor. A copy of this form is included on page 34.

The instructor will specify the terms and conditions for making up the coursework in section II of the request form. Signed forms will be sent to the Dean for approval. The Dean will forward all approved forms to the Registrar for processing. When the coursework is completed and with the Dean’s approval, the instructor will submit a “Change of Grade Form” to the Registrar’s Office.

If the “I” grade is granted, conditions for completion of course requirements will be stipulated in a written agreement to be signed by the instructor, the student, and Dean of the Division prior to the start of the next course in the program sequence. Students who do not resolve their incomplete grade will receive an ‘F’ and will not progress in the program.

**A. 3. 0 Testing Policy**
The specific testing policy for courses is found in the syllabus for each course. Any appeal of score/grade on an examination must be submitted in writing to the instructor within one week of the administration of the test. If a student must leave the room during the test, all test materials must be returned by the student to the testing proctor prior to leaving the testing room. Failure to comply with this stipulation may result in a failing grade for the test.
Test Review
Tests or exams may be considered “Secured” and will not be given to the student to keep after the exam is completed. These tests will be kept on file in the appropriate program office. Specific Health Sciences programs have test review policies. If a test review is permitted, it will be monitored by course faculty.

Make-up Exams
Students are expected to be present for all exams. The faculty recognizes that illness and emergencies occur and may, at their discretion, allow the student to take a make-up test / exam. Students must notify the faculty prior to the exam time and provide reasons and documentation for the absence. The student must contact the primary course instructor on the day he/she returns to request a makeup exam and, if approved, arrange for an exam date. Faculty have the right to ask for documentation verifying the illness or emergency as part of their decision process to allow or deny a retest. A different examination will be administered.

During exams, the following rules apply:
1. All books, purses, tote bags, cell phones and other electronic devices, etc., will be placed in a designated area and remain there during the exam.
2. Dictionaries of any kind may not be used during an examination.
3. The student’s name must be recorded on all test materials and Scantron forms as appropriate.
4. If a Scantron form is used, any erasures must be thorough for accurate scanning.
5. If a test review is offered, exam papers must be returned to faculty afterwards.

A. 4.0 Performance Notification Process
Students who are not performing satisfactory in any laboratory or clinical setting will receive a performance notification. The performance notification form can be found on page 35 of this handbook. The instructor will use the clinical objectives or competencies to determine the areas of weakness and what remediation is needed to become compliant in meeting student learning outcomes. Repeated performance notification may lead to a failing grade. Students are expected to complete all learning outcomes by the end of the course. Infractions of the policies, performance codes or inadequate levels of academic/clinical performance may be communicated to the student through the written warning. Record of such written warning shall be entered into the student’s file.

A. 5.0 Student Grievance Procedure
The student grievance procedure is described in the current MassBay Community College Student Handbook.
A.  6.0  Grade Appeals
The first step in the grade appeal process is to contact the faculty member in writing, within 30 days after the grades are posted stating, that you would like a review of course grades. Grade appeals are to determine if there are any mathematical errors in computing the final course grade.

The student grade appeal process is described in the current MassBay Community College Student Handbook.
SECTION B: READERMISSION AND APPEAL OF DISMISSAL POLICIES

B. 1.0 Readmission Policy
Students who have been dismissed or who have withdrawn from any program within the Division of Health Sciences at MassBay Community College will be considered only once for readmission to the same program. Students who have not been successful in one health science program can apply for admission to a different health program if they have an overall College GPA of 2.0 or better. Students who have been dismissed or withdrawn from a program for reasons of “clinically unsafe practice/behavior” as defined in the DHS Student Handbook and Policy Manual (see E.14.0) or who violate the College’s Student Code of Conduct are not eligible for admission/ readmission to any DHS program. See program addendums for specific requirements for admission/readmission.

Application for readmission must be made within 12 months of withdrawal or dismissal from the original program. Readmission application deadlines are February 1 for the fall semester and June 1 for the spring semester. Qualified candidates will be selected from a readmission pool and based on the seat availability for that course and/or program.

Based on specific course/program requirements and accreditation standards, students may be required to retake courses, take competency exams or skill testing prior to readmission, even if courses have been completed successfully. Should the student not attain a passing grade on skill or competency testing, they will be required to retake course(s) in its entirety.

B. 2.0 Medical Leave Policy
Students who leave a course mid-semester with verified medical or family illness documentation will be withdrawn from the course but not the restricted health science program. Students who are granted a medical or family leave will be accommodated in the subsequent offering of that course, after first providing medical documentation approving their participation. Students will have 12 months to be re-instated in the withdrawn course for medical reasons. If additional time is required, the student will be withdrawn from the health science program and if eligible, provided the process for readmission. Students coming back from medical leave will be required to pay tuition for all enrolled courses. Students are only eligible for medical leave during a semester. Medical leaves will not be granted once the course is completed and/or grades have been issued.

B. 3.0 Grounds for Immediate Dismissal without the Option for Readmission to Any Health Program.
Demonstration of any of the following actions or behavior will result in immediate dismissal from a Division of Health Sciences program without the option for readmission:

1. Behavior that threatens the health and safety of clients, students, faculty, or college staff.
2. Academic dishonesty or plagiarism.
3. Impairment due to alcohol or drugs.
4. Behavior or actions that engage in or condone discrimination on the basis of race, gender, age, citizenship, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.
5. Violation(s) of client (HIPPA policies), student confidentiality (FERPA policies) or sharing any information that relates in any way to the proprietary interests of a clinical
agency (e.g. photographs, videos, audio recording, policies, financial, security or general operational information/procedures).

6. Behavior that is incompatible with legal and ethical standards established by the discipline or profession the program represents.


If the cause for dismissal in one of the categories listed above is also a violation of the College’s Code of Conduct, the student name will be sent forward to the Code of Conduct Officer (CCO) in the Office of the Dean of Students.

B. 4.0 Appeal of Dismissal from Division of Health Sciences Programs

A student has the right to appeal a dismissal from an Allied Health or Nursing program related to academic or affective domain infractions as outlined in the Division of Health Science Student Handbook, appropriate program addendum, and/or course syllabus should the student believe they were unfairly dismissed.

The following information outlines the appeal process accordingly.

Students have ten (10) days from the date on the dismissal letter to appeal the decision.

Step 1
The student must submit, in writing, reason(s) why he or she believes the decision was unfair, reason(s) why the student should be reinstated, and any additional information or documentation that would support the appeal. The information will be sent to the Dean, Division of Health Sciences.

Step 2
A committee of designated College representatives will meet to determine the merits of the student’s request to overturn the dismissal and for reinstatement into the appropriate Allied Health or Nursing program.

Step 3
A letter will be sent to the student in question regarding the decision. The decision of the committee is final.

The Appeals Committee will include three Division of Health Sciences faculty members, and the Dean of Health Sciences. Alternate members may be added as appropriate.
SECTION C: PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

C. Division of Health Sciences Code of Student Conduct:
Professional Integrity / Behavior Policy & Affective Domain Standards

C. 1.0 Affective Domain Standards

The Division of Health Sciences Faculty has identified criteria for professional performance under the standards of affective domain. Faculty has a legal and ethical obligation to inform students of behaviors that are inconsistent with these standards and to take action to ensure that any inconsistency is acknowledged and corrected by the student. Students are responsible for integrating an understanding of professional and ethical standards associated with their discipline in order to meet the criteria identified below (see standard 7 below). Faculty have the right and the responsibility to apply reasonable judgment to determine if a standard has or has not been met.

Standard 1: Accountability

_Students demonstrating accountability exhibit a willingness to accept responsibility for one’s own actions and the consequences of their behavior._

Rationale: Within the health care disciplines, standards and expectations are defined by professional organizations and governing bodies. The burden of adhering to these standards lies with the individual who has opted to pursue a career in the health care field. As learners and novice practitioners, students do not have the authority or expertise to challenge standards, expect that their own interpretations will be considered or determine what is important and what is not.

The student is expected to satisfactory complete all assigned duties within the time frame established by faculty, staff and administrators. This includes showing up for class, lab, clinical and meetings on time, following instructions and directives and being cognizant of variables that may require a shift in behavior or attitudes. When faculty provides feedback or institutes corrective action for failure to meet expectations or adhere to standards, the student is expected to accept the consequences of the behavior and take constructive, corrective action.

Students who shift blame, split faculty or college staff (go from one faculty to the next in an effort to elicit a desirable response), rely on others to meet all of their needs, refuse to acknowledge or accept their responsibilities as a student or healthcare professional and/or consistently demonstrate a lack of awareness of what is expected of them they have violated the standard for accountability and will be issued an affective domain warning.
Standard 2: Adaptability/Flexibility

*The student demonstrates the ready capacity to adapt to new, different or changing requirements or circumstances positively and constructively.*

Rationale: Health care systems require professionals who are prepared for change and ambiguity and are able to manage the shifting demands positively and constructively. Variables that drive change include the need for continuous improvement, advances in science and technology, economic and political factors, sociocultural factors, and the limitations of educational and healthcare systems.

Students who fail to manage change, engage in repeated patterns of seeking assignments and schedules that meet their individual or group needs and/or engage in negativity or the inability to adapt and adjust to shifting demands have violated the standard for adaptability and flexibility and will be issued an affective domain.

Standard 2: Assertiveness/Effective Communication

*The student integrates an understanding of respect and accountability to express concerns and needs effectively.*

Rationale: Assertiveness and effective communication is necessarily to function effectively in the context of healthcare teams. Quality care depends on healthcare professionals who can undertake careful analysis of priority needs, convey those needs clearly and directly, work toward mutual understanding and participate in appropriate action.

Assertiveness should not be confused with aggressive communication in which individuals attempt to exert power over or intimidate others through words and gestures. It is also not consistent with passive-aggressive communication where the individual attempts to assert their needs or rights indirectly through covert or manipulative behaviors. Students who engage in aggressive, nonproductive or destructive communication or who demonstrate a persistent pattern of conveying needs inappropriately will receive an affective domain warning for this standard.

Standard 3: Compassion and Empathy

*The student who demonstrates compassion and empathy views situations from the perspective of the other person and takes appropriate actions to preserve the dignity and worth of others.*

Rationale: Healthcare requires committed individuals who are willing to step out of the confines of their own needs and experiences. The primary outcome of all actions is the provision of safe, effective care. Faculty, staff and administrators are focused on educational practices that ensure the preparation of individuals who will ultimately serve to meet patient needs. The individual needs of the health student are secondary to these essential legal and ethical obligations.

Student behaviors that may result in the student receiving an affective domain for failure to
demonstrate compassion and empathy and include but are not limited to persistent attempts to put the needs of oneself above others, failure to recognize and respond to vulnerability, pain and suffering, failure to recognize resource limitations, failure to acknowledge or respect personal or professional boundaries and the inability to make the necessary sacrifices required to carry out caring behaviors.

**Standard 4: Diligence and Dependability**

_Individuals demonstrating diligence and dependability demonstrate a strong work ethic, persistence toward positive outcomes and consistency in the performance of all duties and responsibilities._

Rationale: Goal orientation and reliability is essential in quality healthcare systems. Diligent and dependable healthcare professionals must maintain focus on proficiency and system effectiveness in order to meet patient needs.

Students who are repeatedly tardy or absent, fail to carry through with assigned duties and responsibilities (class, lab, clinical and other college obligations) and/or shift the burden of their problems or shortcomings onto others or engage in any other behaviors that suggest they are not dependable or diligent will receive an affective domain warning for this standard.

**Standard 5: Honesty and Integrity**

_Individuals demonstrating honesty and integrity demonstrate truthfulness and accuracy in all actions, conduct themselves in a fair and ethical manner, and work to continuously uphold the values of the profession and/or the discipline they are affiliated with._

Rational: Failure to maintain honesty and integrity in all actions can significantly impact the individual’s ability to provide safe, effective care. Public trust in the honesty and integrity of persons providing healthcare services is paramount. Patterns of dishonesty and lack of integrity that are observed outside of the clinical setting alert faculty to the risk that these behaviors and attitudes will continue in patient care domains.

Students who engage in any dishonest or fraudulent actions, or who act in a manner that undermines public trust in the profession or the educational system that prepares them, have violated the standard for honesty and integrity. Even if the student does not personally engage in dishonest behavior, they may be accountable for withholding information that compromises the safety or reputation of anyone in the college or clinical setting. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to, taking credit for another person’s actions, falsifying documentation, failure to admit when they do not know something, carrying out actions that exceed the student’s knowledge or ability, carrying out interventions without the supervision of a clinical instructor or preceptor, spreading rumors, falsely representing others and/or acting in a manner that diminishes or threatens to diminish the reputation of others. Nothing in this standard negates the policy for academic dishonesty, which will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
Standard 6: Respect

*Individuals who meet this standard exhibit esteem and deference to other persons or entities that reflects awareness of accepted cultural and social norms.*

Rationale: Respect is essential to the development and maintenance of the essential partnerships required to provide safe effective care to individuals across healthcare settings. Respectful behavior relates to all other standards identified within this domain.

Individuals who do not meet this standard engage in a variety of behaviors that are inconsistent with membership in academic and healthcare communities. Examples include but are not limited to expecting others to adopt your own values, culture or beliefs onto others, failure to defer to persons in authority, failure to address others properly, failure to maintain the privacy of others, entitlement, failure to adhere to the chain of command, disruptive behavior in class, clinical, lab and meetings with faculty, challenging behavior, the use of nonverbal gestures or mannerisms that convey disrespect (e.g. tone, volume, violating personal space, eye rolling) and/or any image or representation of self or others that lacks awareness of social and cultural norms appropriate to the situation.

Standard 7: Other Standards Specific to the Discipline

In addition to all of the standards outlined above, students are responsible for adhering to the codes of ethics/conduct maintained by the profession or discipline they are preparing to enter. Please refer to the addendum specific to your program to find information on where to access these standards. Faculty will exercise best judgment in determining if these violations will result in a warning or constitute egregious actions that necessitate withdrawal from the program.

Each program will assess individual students for any or all of those behaviors listed above. If a student does not demonstrate these behaviors at appropriate levels in all domains it may negatively affect his or her grade and/or ability to complete the program.

C 1.1 Affective Domain Standards of Performance Violation Policies

Should faculty determine that a student’s behavior violates one or more of the affective domain standards, an affective domain warning will be issued to the student. Upon discovery of the violation, faculty has up to one week to determine the best process for issuing the warning and notifying the student. In certain instances, the student may be withheld from clinical until the process is carried out and the student completes corrective action. Once a student is notified that they will be receiving an affective domain, the student has 48 hours to meet with the faculty.

The student will meet with faculty and be provided with the opportunity to review a written summary explaining the nature of the violation, any remedial action that is required and the implications for the student. Limited time will be provided for the student to address their
concerns. A copy of the affective domain will go to the chair and will become part of the student’s permanent record. Any affective domain violation may impact the student’s ability to seek readmission, serve as a student representative or receive a favorable recommendation for professional or educational purposes.

Students may receive a maximum of two affective domain violations. A third affective domain violation constitutes grounds for dismissal from a Health Sciences program. Exceptions include instances where the student refuses to take corrective action, when the warning identifies multiple violations of standards and/or when the precipitating behavior or response is egregious (e.g. reckless, threatening, abusive or illegal). If in any case the violation may result in the dismissal of the student, a faculty committee will convene to review the situation.

Students always have the right to appeal any disciplinary action through the grievance process outlined in the college catalog and student handbook.

C. 2.0 Cell Phone Policy
In keeping with the “respect” affective domain above (Standard 6), the Division of Health Sciences adheres to the following policy regarding usage of cell phones during class time:

- Cell phones will be off during all class and lab time.
- Students and instructors will not make or receive cell phone calls during class and lab time.
- Students and instructors will not send or receive text messages during class and lab time.

In the case of an emergency where it is vital that the student or instructor keep a cell phone turned on, it should be in vibrate mode, and should be answered outside of the classroom or lab. *It is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor before the start of class that an emergency call is due and that the student’s cell phone will be on. It is the instructor’s responsibility to notify the students of this situation before the start of class that an emergency call is due and that the instructor’s cell phone will be on.*

Texting, sexting, gaming, or use of a cell phone for any purpose during a class or lab other than for an emergency situation as stated above, will result in the student being asked to leave the class or lab for the remainder of class/lab time. The student is responsible for the material missed as well as for making up the time missed in class/lab. In addition, the student will receive a written warning indicating that the affective domain competency was not met.
C. 3.0 Social Media/ Electronic Communication Policy

For the purposes of this policy, social media/ electronic communication is defined as the use of email, electronic images, blogs, networking sites, applications, chat rooms, forums, video sites and other platforms. This policy applies to information posted in private or protected sites that can be accessed or shared by other users.

Faculty recognize that the use of social media as a means to communicate has become commonplace. The implications for healthcare providers and healthcare students are serious. The accessibility and efficiency of technology makes it easy to post content or images without considering the proprietary, confidential or professional implications of such behavior.

The DHS holds the health science student to the highest standards for the responsible use of social media and electronic communication. Standards have been established that are aligned with the professional and ethical codes of each discipline.

The following behaviors are considered grounds for dismissal:

- The use of social media to make disparaging remarks about other students, faculty, staff or patients, the division, individual departments or clinical affiliates/partners and associated individuals and communities- even if nicknames or codes are used and/or identifying information appears to have been removed.

- The posting, distribution or dissemination of patient, student, facility, laboratory or classroom images or associated content (please note: taking pictures, videos or audio recordings in the classroom or clinical agency is strictly prohibited without the permission of all parties involved).

- The posting of any content or images that could in any way compromise the safety, reputation and/or professional image of the Health Sciences Department, staff, faculty or students.

- The posting of any content or images that could in any way compromise the safety, reputation and/or professional image of clinical affiliates, partners, communities or individuals associated with the Division of Health Sciences or its departments.

- Posting inappropriate, suggestive, abusive, violent, potentially threatening, derogatory or discriminatory content in networks, forums or platforms while identifying oneself as a student within the Health Sciences Division. Note: Identification as a Division of Health Sciences student can be established by both statements and images used in electronic and social media sites (e.g. wearing a uniform or posting a college, division or department logo).
• The use of any electronic communication or applications for the purpose of distributing or disseminating information that could be used to commit acts of academic dishonesty or fraud.

• The use of any electronic communication or applications to share or distribute proprietary academic or facility information including, but not limited to, policies, procedures or patient care tools.

Students are encouraged to view the following sites for tips for the responsible use of social media by healthcare professionals. Please note that nothing in these documents negates the policies established by the Division of Health Sciences.


https://www.ncsbn.org/2930.htm

C. 4.0 Snow/Weather Emergency Policy

If the College closes due to inclement weather or for any other reasons, all classes, clinical, and laboratory classes are cancelled. The student handbook and the College website (www.massbay.edu) provide information regarding the various communications methods used by the College to notify everyone about the closure of the College and course cancellations.

Students are expected to attend their regularly scheduled classes, clinical and practicum when the College is open and no official announcement has been made to close the College or cancel classes.

Students who believe that conditions are unsafe for travel to class or clinical/practicum must call their instructor and the clinical agency to explain why they are not able to attend the regularly scheduled class or clinical/practicum.

If a student and faculty member arrive at a clinical site before the school closing is announced, students and faculty will remain at the clinical site until the closing is announced. Students will be expected to leave the agency, as soon as it is feasible to do so, after the closing announcement is made. Any student who is in a preceptor clinical experience will be notified of the College closure by each program Clinical Coordinator and/or Department Chair.

If the closing announcement occurs while students are reroute to classes and arrive as the College is closing, students will be expected to return home without attending any classes. Cancellations that occur while classes are in session, students and faculty will be expected to leave the campus as soon as possible after the announcement.

Make-up classes and clinical may occur at the discretion of each specific program within the Division of Health Sciences if the College had to close.
SECTION D: HEALTH AND IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Complete immunization and other required documentation are necessary for participation in a Health Sciences program. Failure to submit all of the forms below on time and in the proper format will jeopardize the student’s place in his/her program. As of the Summer 2013 semester, all immunization and CPR documentation will be managed by Certified Background, a secure, web-based platform. Students will receive instructions on how create a personal profile on www.certifiedbackground.com and upload their immunization and CPR documentation. Certified Background will send the student email “alerts” when documentation is missing, incomplete, or in need of updating. The Division of Health Sciences faculty will refer to Certified Background data to determine whether a student is cleared for clinical. The following items are required by your selected program’s due date (see Division of Health Sciences Program Grid on page 42).

**Immunizations:**

**Hepatitis-B** – One of the following is required: EITHER 3 vaccinations (0, one month, and five months) AND positive antibody titer (lab report or physician verification of results required) OR a positive antibody titer (lab report or physician verification of results required) OR documentation from a Healthcare Professional stating that you are a 'Non-Responder' to the vaccine. If series is in process, submit your 3 vaccines and a new alert will be created for you to complete the titer. If the titer is negative or equivocal, new alerts will be created for you to receive 1 booster shot and provide a 2nd titer. If the 2nd titer results are negative or equivocal, you will be prompted to finish the series started with your booster shot and provide a 3rd Titer Result. If the 3rd titer result is negative or equivocal, you will be listed as a 'Non-Responder' to the Hepatitis B Vaccine. You must allow a minimum of 6 months to complete the series.

**2-Step TB/PPD Skin Test or Chest X-Ray** - An initial 2-Step TB screening or negative Chest X-Ray is due by the published deadline for your program. This process for the 2-Step TB must be followed to meet medical compliance:

- **Step I:** PPD (Purified Protein Derivative) “implant” is injected into the forearm. In 2 - 3 days, this implant must then be “read” as negative and documented by a clinician.
- **Step II:** Within 3 weeks of completing Step I, students are required to return to the clinician’s office for a second “implant.” Again, the student is required to return in 2 - 3 days to have this implant read and documented as negative by the provider.

Once students have completed Steps I and II, only a single TB implant is required annually and must be updated each year to meet medical compliance.

If you have a positive TB/PPD result, submit documentation of a clear (negative) Chest X-ray A negative symptom review check by a health care provider is required annually thereafter.

**Tetanus & Diphtheria (Td) or Tetanus/Diphtheria/acellular Pertussis (Tdap)** - Documentation of a Tdap within the past 10 years or a Td booster within the past 2 years is required.

**Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) 2-Dose Vaccine or Titers** - There must be documentation of either a positive antibody titer for all 3 components OR documentation of each vaccination. If
Varicella 2-Dose Vaccine or Titer* - There must be documentation of either a positive antibody titer for Varicella OR documentation of vaccination. If titer is negative or equivocal, 1 booster plus a new titer is required.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccine (when available) – Submit documentation of a flu shot administered during the current flu season OR a declination waiver. It is highly recommended to take the Flu vaccination as early as possible, but not later than October 31st. Students who cannot be immunized for the flu may be required to wear a mask in clinical settings.

Report of Physical Examination & Immunization Record - This requires the student’s signature authorizing the release of immunization information to clinical affiliating agencies. It also requires your physician to fill in confirmation of immunizations you’ve received and your physical exam results within the past year.

* Titers are laboratory blood tests to determine immunity to specific diseases. They are not immunizations.

Additional Notes: Students who have previously taken the required MMR, Varicella, and Hepatitis B vaccines discussed above but who are unable to produce acceptable documentation, must have titers drawn. Students who refuse to be vaccinated due to religious or medical reasons may be in jeopardy of losing their seat in the respective program, as most clinical agencies will not allow unvaccinated students to participate in direct patient care. Some clinical facilities where students will be assigned may require additional information and/or screenings prior to clinical placement.

Other Related Requirements:
CPR Certification – The CPR certifications that are acceptable for health students are the “Health Care Provider” from the American Heart Association (AHA), and the “Professional Rescuer” from the American Red Cross or the National Safety Council. Copy must be front & back of the card and it has to be signed.

Technical Standards - Students must meet certain physical demands of performance so that they can successfully progress in their course work and ultimately graduate. This form is completed & signed by the student.

Report of Medical History Form – This is completed by the student and signed.

Background Check – The student must complete the CORI and SORI forms (provided at orientation) to authorize a search of records for past criminal or sexual offenses. A national county records search is also conducted through CertifiedBackground.com.
CORI and SORI forms –The student must complete the CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) form to authorize a search of conviction and pending criminal case information under Standard Required Level I by the DCJIS (Department of Criminal Justice Information Services). As required, the student must provide the last six digits of their social security number on the CORI form and present a valid government issued ID (such as a license or passport) to verifying staff. The student must also complete the SORI (Sex Offender Registry Information) form. The CORI and SORI completion process will occur prior to the beginning of clinical/practicum experiences. If a student is late or is absent the day the CORI/SORI check is completed, it is his/her responsibility to complete and CORI and SORI request forms at the Division of Health Sciences Administrative Office. The Division of Health Sciences may conduct subsequent CORI checks within one year of the date the form was signed by the student. The Division of Health Sciences will first provide the student of written notice of the check. The student may also be required to complete subsequent CORI and SORI request forms according to clinical facility requirements. If a CORI and/or SORI Report is returned with a finding(s), it may or may not prohibit progression in a Health Sciences Program. CORI and/or SORI finding(s) will be forwarded to a College-wide Review Committee and the student will be invited to the review session. The final decision regarding the student’s progression in a Health Sciences program will be determined at that time.
SECTION E: CLINICAL/PRACTICUM POLICIES
Introduction & Definitions

The purpose of this section is to present those policies and procedures which are most relevant to the clinical/practicum component of the programs. The information contained in this handbook is subject to revision. Students will be given written notice of any amendments or revisions.

The policies and practices are in addition to those stipulated in official College publications, the didactic policies portion of this handbook, and specific program course syllabi. It is the policy of the College to reserve the right to add, withdraw, or revise any provision or requirement.

To promote understanding of the scope of this handbook, the terms clinical, clinical fieldwork, clinical affiliations, and clinical rotations are used interchangeably and refer to the required clinical experiences of each of the programs.

Terms used for the various individuals involved with clinical education in the Health Programs include:

- **Clinical Instructor:** This term refers to any person recognized by the program as having the responsibility to supervise and assess the performance of any student while on clinical. This term is used interchangeably with Clinical Supervisor, Clinical Faculty, Faculty and/or Clinical Preceptor. Either the college or the clinical site may employ the individual with this title, dependent upon the program.

- **Clinical Coordinator (CC):** This term refers to the college faculty member responsible for securing and/or assigning clinical placements, and for assessing the student’s clinical performance. Other terms used to describe this individual include: Academic Fieldwork Coordinator (AFC), and Clinical Coordinator (CC). In the case of the ADN and PN programs the CC is the Program Chair.

- **Center Coordinator for Clinical Education (CCCE):** This term refers to the person employed by the clinical site whose responsibility it is to coordinate and supervise the clinical program at each site. Other terms used to describe this individual include: Clinical Site Supervisor (CSS) and/or Clinical Instructor (CI).

- **Preceptor:** This term refers to the person on staff at clinical facility who supervises and instructs students in clinical experiences.

Individual clinical sites may use different titles for those serving in the above positions within their institution. Refer to program appendices for this information.
SECTION E: CLINICAL/PRACTICUM POLICIES

The clinical experience(s) is integrated within the overall program requirements. It provides practical experiences that augment laboratory and classroom learning and facilitates the transition from student to health care practitioner.

**E 1.0 Professionalism**
The student will adhere to all accepted standards, policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the College, DHS, the program, the clinical site, and his/her profession’s code of conduct. The student’s performance and behavior must be safe and appropriate at all times. Refer to the Professionalism and Affective Domain Standards and the program appendices for professional codes of conduct specific to each program/profession.

**E 2.0 Confidentiality**
Of equal importance to the confidentiality of student records is the unequivocal requirement to preserve the confidentiality of any and all patient/client medical information. It is the moral, ethical and legal responsibility of health professionals, and DHS students to insure that any and all medically related information is held in confidence. Client information should only be shared with appropriate clinical personnel within the context of that personnel’s need to know for delivery of quality care. Students are required to adhere to any and all such policies while in the clinical environment. All students will receive from the College patient privacy training (HIPPA) prior to clinical.

**E 3.0 Health Status**
It is the student’s responsibility to insure that completed physical exam and immunization records are submitted to and approved by Certified Background. (See Section D. Health and Immunization Requirements.) Failure to submit this information and other required documentation could affect clinical placement and ability to complete a Health Sciences program. Health forms are available on the MassBay Community College website.

Should the student’s health status change in a manner that would restrict clinical participation after he/she has health clearance and has matriculated in a DHS program, he/she MUST immediately notify the Department Chair. The student must also submit to the CC a note from his/her primary care provider indicating the nature of the restriction and the date at which the restriction(s) must be imposed. To re-enter the clinical environment, the student must submit a note from his/her primary care provider to the CC affirming the removal of restrictions and the date at which the student can resume unrestricted participation in clinical activities. If a student is unable to resume his/her participation in the program, he/she should refer to the Division of Health Sciences’ Medical Leave Policy (Section B.2).

**E 4.0 Communicable Disease Statement**
Students have an ethical and legal responsibility to maintain a high standard of health. When providing care, the student should routinely and without discrimination take all precautions against exposure and transmission of communicable diseases consistent with the policies and procedures of the clinical site. The DHS student who has a communicable disease must inform
the CC and appropriate clinical instructor. Should there be any questions as to potential restrictions or precautions relating to clinical participation, the student may be required to seek medical advice and documentation from his/her primary care provider.

**E 5.0 Emergency Care**
The College’s contractual agreement with clinical agencies states that emergency care will be provided by the clinical facility if that facility maintains an emergency room. Furthermore, the agreement stipulates that the student will assume the cost of such emergent care. Therefore, students should refer to their health insurance policy for coverage in the event of an emergency in the clinical area.

**E.6.0 Latex Sensitivity & Allergy Policy**
Latex products are common in the medical environment. Allergic responses to latex can range from irritation and allergic contact dermatitis to the possibility of life-threatening anaphylactic shock. Guidelines have been established at MassBay Community College to provide information to potential allied health and nursing program applicants/students who are sensitive to latex.

Latex free environments are seldom available in either clinical or academic settings. Therefore, an individual with a latex allergy/sensitivity wearing alternative vinyl or nitrile gloves is still exposed to latex residue of others working in the area or to latex present in the equipment, models and mannequins. Although latex gloves are the most prominent source of latex allergen, many other products contain latex including, but not limited to:

- Blood pressure cuffs, medication vials, syringe connectors and wound drains;
- Stethoscopes, catheters, respirators, and goggles;
- Oral and nasal airways, surgical masks, and electrode pads;
- Endotracheal tubes, syringes, IV tubing, and tourniquets.

Any student who has or develops symptoms consistent with latex allergy/sensitivity is advised to consult a qualified allergist for evaluation prior to enrollment in the Division of Health Sciences. If a student is already admitted to a Health Science program he/she must consult a qualified allergist for evaluation of latex allergies should signs and symptoms develop. All such evaluations are at the student's expense. If it is determined that a student suffers from a latex sensitivity/allergy and the student desires an academic adjustment, including auxiliary aids or service, or reasonable accommodation due to this condition, the student must contact the College’s Office of Disability Services.

As with all matters related to one’s health, the utmost precautions should be taken by the student to reduce the risk of exposure and allergic reactions. This may include the carrying of an epi-pen by the individual or other precautions as advised by the student’s health care provider. It is the responsibility of the student with a latex sensitivity to understand and acknowledge the risks associated with continued exposure to latex during a clinical education, fieldwork, and healthcare career, even when reasonable accommodations are made and to regularly consult with his/her health care provider.
In an effort to minimize the presence of latex in the Division lab facilities, MassBay Community College will provide latex-free and powder-free gloves in all College lab facilities. Should a clinical agency site NOT provide latex-free gloves, the College will provide latex-free gloves for clinical use. Additionally, the College is taking the following steps to minimize latex in its lab facilities: 1) replacement of all gloves in use by faculty and students with nitrile or vinyl gloves; 2) maintaining an inventory of products/equipment and supplies in each health science program that contain or could contain latex; and 3) future purchasing of latex-safe supplies and equipment whenever possible.

As with all students in the Division of Health Sciences programs, a student with a latex sensitivity or allergy is required to satisfactorily complete all requirements and technical standards of the program to which they have been accepted.

E. 7.0 Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Policy and Procedure

Occupational Exposure Guidelines

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the primary means of preventing occupational exposure to HIV and other blood borne pathogens is the strict adherence to infection control standards, with the assumption that the blood and other body fluids of all individuals is potentially infectious. The routine utilization of barrier precautions when anticipated contact with blood or body fluids, immediate washing of hands or other skin surfaces after contact with blood of body fluids, and careful handling/disposing of contaminated sharp instruments or other equipment during and after use is recommended.

For more information: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5409a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5409a1.htm)

Faculty & Student Responsibilities

1. Receive agency/unit orientation regarding infection control policy and post exposure management procedures.
2. Utilize appropriate barrier precautions during the administration of care to all individuals.
3. Utilize appropriate safety devices for the handling/disposing of contaminated sharp instruments or other equipment.
4. Immediately report accidental exposure to blood or body fluids.
5. Initiate immediate intervention of the management of accidental exposure to blood or body fluids.
6. Provide health education to individuals and groups regarding the prevention, transmission and treatment of HIV.

Accidental/Occupational Exposure Procedure

In the event of an accidental/occupational exposure to blood or body fluids, students and faculty should:

1. **Immediately** wash the area of exposure with soap and water.
2. **Immediately** report the incident to instructor and/or supervisory personnel.
3. Complete appropriate documentation according to agency standards and provide a copy of the report to the Division of Health Sciences department chair. Another copy will be kept in the student’s file.

4. Complete the Division of Health Sciences’ Incident Report. This form is included as an appendix in this handbook; this must be completed within 24 hours of the incident.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Decisions regarding post-exposure management, prophylaxis, and follow-up will be at the discretion of individual and his/her health care provider.
2. The injured party will be financially responsible for emergency treatment, prophylaxis and follow-up care resulting from the incident.

E 8.0 Accommodation for Disability Conditions
DHS students who request accommodations in lecture, lab, or clinical due to a documented disability must inform the College Office of Disability Resources. The Office of Disability Resources, the Department Chair and the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education will determine if the accommodations are appropriate and reasonable. This means that the accommodations do not compromise either the essential duties/student teaching responsibilities at the clinical/practicum site or the requirements of the program’s competency based educational equivalents. (See Technical Performance Standards description and form in the Health and Immunization Requirements section of this Handbook.)

E 9.0 Clinical Sequence and Placement
E.9.1 The CC or Program Chair determines the clinical placement of students. The primary consideration in arranging clinical placements is the academic integrity and value of the educational experience. A student shall not be placed at a site if he/she or an immediate relative volunteer or work in a department or unit within that site which is similar to his/her chosen field of study. When possible, advance notice will be given so that the student may make appropriate arrangements and clinical practicum sites may prepare for the student.

E.9.2 Contacting and arranging for clinical affiliate placements is the purview of the Program Chair and/or CC. Students shall not contact a present or prospective clinical site without obtaining prior approval from the CC or Department Chair.

E. 10.0 Transportation, Housing, and Parking Fees
The student is responsible for transportation to and from the clinical/student teaching sites as well as any parking fees. For programs with out-of-state clinical/student teaching sites, students are responsible for the cost of housing, transportation, meals, and other expenses unless otherwise provided.

E. 11.0 Professional Appearance - Dress Code
While each program may have specific uniform requirements, all programs have the following expectations. The student must at all times:

E.11.1. appear neat, clean, and well-groomed.
E.11.2. maintain good personal hygiene.
E.11.3 adopt a conservative approach to dressing, minimizing jewelry and cosmetic/fragrances, not wearing clogs, open-toed shoes or sandals, nor extremely loose-fitting or tight clothing.
E.11.4 wear MassBay student identification pin with name and his/her program of study.
E.11.5 remove personal pagers and/or cell phones before entering the clinical site.
E.11.6 limit body piercings to small, post-type earrings. Only one earring in each ear is permitted. No other body piercing jewelry is permitted in the clinical and laboratory settings.
E.11.7 cover visible tattoos upon request in the clinical setting.
E.11.8 keep fingernails short and clean. Clear nail polish may be worn. Artificial fingernails are not permitted.

Refer to individual program appendices for specific requirements.

E 12.0 Attendance
Attendance during the clinical affiliation is mandatory. Students are expected to report promptly consistent with the schedule of the site and clinical faculty. It is unacceptable to schedule personal appointments during clinical hours. Tardiness and early departures are also unacceptable. If a student for any reason misses more than one-quarter of the scheduled clinical/student teaching day, he/she will be considered absent for the whole day.

E.12.1 Should illness or any other reason prevent the student from reporting to the clinical facility on time, the student must notify his/her clinical instructor, CC, or appropriate College office at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the clinical day. Failure to notify either the clinical instructor or College of an absence is a serious breach of professional conduct.

E.12.2 If a student is ill and in danger of exceeding the attendance policy of his/her program, a note from his/her health care provider must be submitted to the Clinical Instructor at the affiliate and to the CC at the college. The student will not be permitted to resume the clinical experience without a note from the health care provider stating that the student is capable of resuming (without restriction) all activities associated with the clinical education component of the program.

E.12.3 Any clinical skill acquisition or experiences missed due to absence, tardiness, or early departure must be made up at the discretion of the clinical instructor, and approved by the CCCE and CC. The determination as to which alternative assignments and locations may be required to make up missed days/hours and/or substitute for any missed clinical skill acquisition or experiences will be made at the discretion of the clinical affiliate, CC, CI, and/or Dept. Chair at the College.

Refer to the appendices for individual program policies and/or syllabi.
E 13.0 Evaluation of Clinical Performance
Each program develops instruments and assessments used to evaluate student clinical performance. Refer to appendices for the clinical grading policies for the respective program. The CC /CI/Dept. Chair will issue grades consistent with the policy contained in the College catalog and course syllabus. In most programs, clinical experiences are graded pass/fail. Grades Clinical grades below the programs specific minimum will result in withdrawal from the program. Refer to minimum grade chart include in section A2. Students who are having difficulty meeting the established learning objectives of the clinical experience are encouraged to seek prompt advice and/or assistance from the CCCE, CC, and /or the clinical instructor/faculty to develop a learning plan to address concerns.

E.13.1 Unsatisfactory clinical performance is defined as performance within the clinical environment which demonstrates:
   E.13.1.1 consistent pattern of weakness in one or more clinical behaviors/skills objectives
   E.13.1.2 failure to demonstrate progressive mastery of clinical behaviors and objectives
   E.13.1.3 performance requiring more guidance and instruction than that required by other students at the same level.

If a student does not comply with the academic, professional, or clinical listed in this policy manual, or the MassBay Student Handbook, a DHS administrator or faculty will issue a written warning. The student must sign the warning. NOTE: Signature on the warning does not constitute the student’s agreement with the content of the warning. Space is provided for the student to indicate his or her non-agreement and comments. The original signed copy of the written warning will be placed in the student’s record and a copy will be given to the respective program chair. Should the student refuse to sign the form, the faculty will obtain a witness signature attesting that the notice was given to the student.

E 14.0 Clinically Unsafe Behavior
The following are examples of clinically unsafe behavior:

E.14.1 Any incident in which the student’s action has or may seriously jeopardize patient care and/or safety. Examples such actions include, but are not limited to:

   E.14.1.1 errors of omission/commission in patient care;
   E.14.1.2 any pertinent intervention which places another in danger;
   E.14.1.3 failure to report changes in patient status promptly;
   E.14.1.4 acting outside of the legal and ethical role of the student as defined by professional standards;
   E.14.1.5 abusive behavior;
   E.14.1.6 not being accurate regarding any personal conditions that may jeopardize patient care or about the student’s own learning needs;
   E.14.1.7 repeated and/or consistently unsatisfactory clinical performance which compromises quality of care when the student also demonstrates one or more of the following:
E.14.1.7.1 multiple failed assignments, lab assessment scores or didactic average that falls below the acceptable standard set in the course syllabus.

When a faculty member determines that a student has been clinically unsafe,

1. the student will be immediately removed from clinical and lab settings.
2. the student will be notified immediately that they have been given an unsafe clinical grade and will not be permitted to return to clinical or lab. If the student is in another health course with a clinical component, the student will not be allowed to attend the clinical or lab unless the faculty member and department chair determine that patient safety is not at risk. Written notice by the faculty member will be given to the student documenting the reasons for the clinically unsafe determination.
3. the faculty will notify the department chair and appropriate academic administrator that a failure grade has been issued.

The grade submitted for the course where the unsafe clinical practice occurred will be an F. Any student who receives an F due to unsafe clinical practice will not be eligible for re-admittance to a health program. The student may appeal the unsafe clinical grade by following the Grade Appeal Process described in the MassBay Student Handbook.

E. 15.0 Drug Screening Policy

All current students and those admitted into a Division of Health Sciences educational program may be required to provide proof of a negative nine-panel urine drug screening in order to be eligible for placement in a clinical rotation. Drug screening must be done at an approved testing site within 30 days before the start of a clinical rotation during each clinical semester. Clinical rotation start dates vary by program. Students taking prescription or over-the-counter medications should provide the testing facility with a list of these medications at the time of testing. All cost associated with drug testing is the responsibility of the student. Some health care facilities which provide clinical sites may also have policies on random and scheduled drug-screenings of students. Students must comply with clinical facility policies. If there is a positive drug result from the clinical, students may be withdrawn from the program.

Students who do not successfully complete this drug screening within the 30 day time frame will be withdrawn from the Division of Health Sciences program in which they are enrolled. All drug screening results will be sent to the Dean of Health Sciences in a confidential manner. Students will only be notified if their screening results are positive.

Students who do not pass the drug screening test the first time have the right to request a second drug screening at an approved testing site within the 30-day period prior to their clinical rotation. The student will be notified by the Dean of Health Sciences if the second test is positive. If the second drug test is negative, the student will be placed in a clinical rotation. If the second test is positive, the student will be withdrawn from a health program. The student can appeal to the Dean of Health Sciences for a hearing regarding withdrawal from a health program due to a positive drug screening test.
Any student who is withdrawn from a Division of Health Sciences program due to a positive drug test may reapply based on current College and Division of Health Sciences readmission policies.
Division of Health Sciences

It is necessary for all Division of Health Sciences students to review and sign the following. **Please circle your program from the list below**, then sign and return as directed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>ADN</th>
<th>PN</th>
<th>PM/EMT</th>
<th>NA/HHA</th>
<th>RT</th>
<th>ST/CT/CPSM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Degree Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing Aid/Home Health Aid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phlebotomy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>ADN</th>
<th>PN</th>
<th>PM/EMT</th>
<th>NA/HHA</th>
<th>RT</th>
<th>ST/CT/CPSM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work at areas located at various positions and elevation levels for durations of at least 30 minutes at a time alternating with the need to make frequent changes in body positions</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain a standing body position for a minimum of two hours, while performing work related functions</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer and position movement dependent patients from/to various positions and surfaces, such transfer/positioning frequently requiring a minimum of a 50 lb. weight bearing load</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Move/push/pull/reach equipment and accessories of various weights and sizes from a variety of heights to a variety of heights</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perform CPR on adults, infants, and toddlers</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detect and distinguish between variations in human pulse, muscle spasm &amp; contractions, and/or bony landmarks</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safely guide patient in ambulation on level as well as inclined surfaces and stairs, often while the patient is using a variety of assistive devices. In either case, guard patient against falls or other injury</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply graded manual resistance to patient’s individual muscular actions in order to determine patient’s strength or to apply exercise techniques for stretching or strengthening</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quickly move from one site to all other areas of the health care facility</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detect and appropriately respond to verbally generated directions and acoustically generated monitor signals, call bells, and vital sign instrumentation output</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detect and discriminate between various human gestures and non-verbal responses</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detect and discriminate between large and small gradations in readings on dials, graphs, and displays, such detection made at various distances from the source.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read printed and computer screen manuscript text</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discern a patient’s physical status at distances in excess of 10 feet and in subdued lighting</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detect and discriminate between the range of image brightness values present on radiographic and computer screen images</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

33
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MANU</th>
<th>DEXTERITY &amp; FINE MOTOR SKILLS</th>
<th>Manipulate/adjust various types of switches, levers, dials, control, and/or hand-held equipment and/or in various combinations</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hold and use a writing instrument for recording patient history or pertinent information</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Apply gown, gloves, and mask for Universal Precautions when needed</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERBAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>Articulate clearly to a patient in conversational English regarding therapeutic goals and procedures</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLFACTORY</td>
<td></td>
<td>Detect changes in environmental odor and (temperature)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVIROMEN</td>
<td>TAL</td>
<td>Function within environments which may be stressful due to fast pace, need for accuracy, and distracting sights and sounds</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Recognize that the academic/clinical environment includes exposure to disease, toxic substances, bodily fluids, and/or radiation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exhibit social skills necessary to interact effectively with those of the same or different cultures with respect, politeness, and discretion</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maintain cleanliness of personal grooming consistent with close personal contact</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Function without causing harm to self or others if under the influence of prescription or over the counter medications</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Technical Performance Standards Informed Consent**

1. I have received, read and understand the meaning of MassBay Community College’s Health Professions Technical Performance Standards.

2. I understand that the Standards indicated, as applicable to my intended program of study, relate to the full array of essential performance competencies inherent to my chosen program of study.

3. I also understand that in order to successfully graduate from the program of my choice, I must be able to satisfactorily perform the tasks listed in the standards.

4. It is my responsibility to submit a request to the College’s Disability Resources Office should I wish to receive a determination of reasonable accommodation in performing any of the stated standards.

5. Lastly, I understand that there may be instances where a reasonable accommodation for a method of satisfying the required performance tasks may not be possible.

Student Name (print):_________________________ ID#:_________ OR SS#:____________

Student Signature:_________________________ Date:______________________
MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
PERFORMANCE NOTIFICATION

Student’s Name

__________________________________________________________

Faculty / Administrator’s Name

__________________________________________________________

Date

__________________________________________________________

It has come to the attention of the faculty member / administrator named above that your performance has fallen below acceptable standards or your behavior has violated one or more of the policies of the program, division, college and/or clinical affiliate. The specific lapse in performance level / policy infraction is as follows:

If appropriate corrective action is possible, you must satisfy the following expectancies by any dates / time frames specified:

Should you fail to effect the above requirements as stipulated by the dates / time frames stipulated, the following consequence will occur:

FACULTY / ADMINISTRATOR SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE __________________

Student Comments:
I agree with the above described assessment and prescribed action: [ ] yes [ ] no

STUDENT SIGNATURE:____________________________ DATE:
(NOTE: Student signature indicates only that the student was given this notification, not that the student agrees with the content of the notification.)

WITNESS SIGNATURE:____________________________ DATE:
(NOTE: Witness signature verifies that this notification was given to the student, but the student refused to sign as required)

35
Date:_____________

Student:_______________________________ Student ID#: ____________________________

Faculty/Staff/Advisor Name:__________________________________________________________

Program:_______________________________ Course:_______________________________

Present at Meeting:_______________________________________________________________

Discussion:

Student Comments:

Recommendation(s):

Referral(s) to College Services? yes no

Faculty/Staff/Advisor Signature:________________________ Date:____________________

Student Signature:____________________________________ Date:____________________

4/15/10 kcc
MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
AFFECTIVE DOMAIN STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE WARNING FORM

Date:______ Student:_____________________________ Student ID #:______________

Faculty/Advisor Name:________________________________________________________________

Program:______________________________Course:______________________________

Notice of Affective Domain Violation (Check One):  #1____ #2____ #3____

Nature of Violation:

Affective Domain Standard(s) Violated:

Remediation Plan (Violation #1 & #2):

Student Comments:

Faculty/ Signature:_________________________ Date:___________________________

Student Signature:____________________________ Date:___________________________

Copy of Document Sent to Program Chair and Advisor:

Program Chair________________ Date Copy of Document Sent________

Advisor________________________ Date Copy of Document Sent________

4/21/10 kcc
Student Name ______________________________  Course ____________________________  Instructor ______________________________

The Division of Health Sciences faculty wants to provide you with the assistance you need to succeed in your program. We are concerned about your progress and urge you to take the step(s) indicated below immediately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Concern</th>
<th>Attendance / Clinical Concern / Professionalism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ The grade you earned on Quiz/exam__________ was unsatisfactory</td>
<td>□ You have had one class/lab/clinical absence on ________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date: _____________________________</td>
<td>□ WARNING: You are in danger of being administratively withdrawn (AW) due to excessive absences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade _____________________________</td>
<td>□ Your clinical performance on ________ was unsatisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ WARNING: Your current test grade average indicates you are in danger of not progressing to the next level. Current test average ______________________</td>
<td>□ You have violated the Affective Domain Standards of Performance in the classroom/lab/clinical setting on ________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended Activity:

□ See me in my office after class or during office hours by (date) ______  Office # ______  Phone: __________________________

□ Complete the prescribed remediation lab ____________________________ by (date) ______________________

□ Attend open lab for review ___________________________________________ skills by (date) _____________

□ See the Academic Tutor for content including math review by (date) ____________________________

□ Utilize appropriate college resources (counseling/disability) __________________________________________

Instructor Signature: __________________________________________ Date: __________________

Comments:

Did the student come for help by the date indicated?  □ YES  □ NO

Comments:

Students Signatures:

Comments:
MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
REPORT OF EXPOSURE, INJURY, OR INCIDENT
To be completed by the clinical supervisor and student

Name of Individual involved:__________________________________________________

Immediate Faculty/Preceptor:_________________________________________________

Clinical facility where exposure occurred:_______________________________________

Date/Time of Exposure: ____________ Type: Needle Stick:____ Splash:_________
Mucous Membrane______ Other:____

Describe how the incident occurred:_______________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Personal Protective Equipment Being Used_______________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Actions taken (decontamination, clean-up, reporting, counseling, etc.) _________________

________________________________________________________________________

Date and Time Incident was reported to Infection Control/Occupational Health: ___________

Name/Title of Individual to whom the incident was reported: _______________________

☑ CHECK LIST

☐ Student was provided with the Division of Health Sciences Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Policy and Procedure

I have received and read the Division of Health Sciences Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Policy and Procedure guidelines. I understand that I have been advised to contact my health care provider for care that is needed as a result of the exposure that has occurred.

________________________________________
Student Name (Printed) and Signature

_________________________
Date
MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Incomplete Grade Request Form

Section I and II (to be completed by the Student)

Student Name: _______________________  Major: ______________________________
Student ID Number: ___________________  Semester and Year: ___________________
Instructor: ___________________________  Course Name and Number:____________________
Reason(s) for not completing the course work before the end of term: ☐ Health  ☐ Other
Brief description (submit all supporting documentation):
Student Signature: __________________________________________________

Section III (to be completed by the Instructor)

Instructor’s Name: ______________________________
Assignments and/or exams needed to complete this course:
1. _____________________________________  3. _____________________________________
2. _____________________________________  4. _____________________________________
Instructor’s signature: _______________________
Completion Deadline: _____________________
Student’s signature indicating acceptance of the terms: _______________________

Section IV (to be completed by the Dean)

Dean: _________________________________  ☐ Approved  ☐ Not Approved

Section V

Date Received by Registrar: _______________________
Cc. Division Office
   Student, Instructor

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REPORT OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION & IMMUNIZATION RECORD

Last Name ___________________________ First Name ___________________________ (Middle Initial) ___________________________ Date of Birth ___________________________

Student Authorization for Release of Medical Information: I hereby authorize MassBay Community College to release my immunization records to the clinical affiliating agency for the Division of Health Sciences Program:

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Student Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

To be completed by the student’s health care provider

Physical Exam (must be no more than 6 months prior to enrollment in a health program)

BP / ___________________________ Height _____ inches  Weight _____ lbs.

Corrected Vision Color Blindness ___________________________ Overweight_____ Underweight ________ Normal weight_______

Right 20/  Left 20/ ___________________________

Urinalysis Are there abnormalities of the following systems? Describe fully.

Sugar _______________ 1. Head, Ears, Nose, or Throat ___________________________

Albumin _______________ 2. Respiratory _______________ 7. Musculoskeletal _______________

Micro. _______________ 3. Cardiovascular _______________ 8. Metabolic/Endocrine _______________


Is this student presently on medication(s)? List below: 5. Eyes _______________ 10. Skin _______________

____________________________________________________________________________

6. Genitourinary _______________

Is there loss or seriously impaired function of any paired organ? Yes ____ No ____

Recommendation for physical activity: Unlimited _____ Limited _____ Explain: ___________________________

Do you have any recommendations regarding the care of this student? Yes ____ No ____

Is the student now under treatment for any medical or emotional condition? Yes ______ No ____

Describe: __________________________

Immunizations Required For All Division of Health Sciences Students

2-Step Tuberculin Test, Mantoux  Date #1: _____ Result ______  Date #2_______ Result ______(within last six months prior to admission). If Mantoux test is positive, a chest x-ray is required: Date ______________ Result ______________

Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (TDAP) (every 10 years) Date _____________

Measles Date #1 _____ Date #2 ______  MMRI Date _________ Seasonal Influenza vaccine: Date _____________

Mumps Date ______ and MMR II Date _________ (2 doses of MMR are required)

Rubella Date ______ or MMR Titer Date ______ Result _____________

Varicella Immunization Doses #1 and #2 ___________ or Titer Date ______ Result ______

Hepatitis B Date #1_______ Date #2_______ Date #3_______ AND Hepatitis B Titer: Date _______ Result ______ (Titer is required 1 – 2 months after the Hepatitis B Series is completed OR if previous titer is 5 or more years old)

Physician’s Signature: ___________________________ Print last name: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
# APPENDIX A
## DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
### PROGRAM GRID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Evening</th>
<th>Weekend</th>
<th>Fall Start</th>
<th>Spring Start</th>
<th>Summer Start</th>
<th>Length of Program</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Health/CPR Document Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Processing Technology</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Semester</td>
<td>4 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Sep 9th (fall), Feb 3rd (spring), June 4th (summer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1 Semester</td>
<td>6 credits Certificate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Coding</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Semesters</td>
<td>27 credits Certificate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maxillofacial Certificate</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Semesters</td>
<td>17 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Sep 9th (fall), Feb 3rd (spring), June 4th (summer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Office Adm. Asst.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Semesters</td>
<td>23 credits Certificate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assoc. Degree Nursing</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 Semesters</td>
<td>77 credits Associate Degree</td>
<td>Sept 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assoc. Degree Nursing</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 Semesters including 2 summers</td>
<td>77 credits Associate Degree</td>
<td>Jan 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Nursing</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Semesters Intercession 1 summer</td>
<td>48 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Sept 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Nursing</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 Semesters 1 summer</td>
<td>48 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Jan 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramedicine</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Semesters 1 summer</td>
<td>29 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Oct 23rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramedicine</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3 Semesters 1 summer</td>
<td>29 credits Certificate</td>
<td>May 23rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phlebotomy</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1 Semester</td>
<td>7 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Sep 9th (fall), Feb 3rd (spring), June 4th (summer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiology Technology</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>4 Semesters and summer</td>
<td>78 credits Associate Degree</td>
<td>Sept 6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad. Tech Flex</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 Semesters</td>
<td>78 credits Associate Degree</td>
<td>Sept 6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Technology</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3 Semesters</td>
<td>37 credits Certificate</td>
<td>Nov 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Technology</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 Semesters</td>
<td>37 credits Certificate</td>
<td>March 23rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B

DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES
ADMINISTRATION AND FACULTY
DIVISION OF HEALTH SCIENCES ADMINISTRATION AND FACULTY

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Kimberly Altavesta, BS, EMT-P kaltavesta@massbay.edu 508-270-4037

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APPENDIX C

PROGRAM SPECIFIC POLICIES AND STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PAGE
Massachusetts Bay Community College

Department of Nursing

Practical Nursing Program

Introduction
The Practical Nursing Student Handbook Addendum is a working document designed to provide information to students in order to be successful in the nursing program. The Practical Nursing Student Addendum is not a substitution to the College’s Student Handbook or the College Catalog, but is an addition to them. The faculty reserves the right to revise this Student handbook as necessary. Students are expected to read and adhere to policies found in the Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook and Policy Manual.

Approval
The Practical Nursing Program is approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing (BORN).

Board of Registration in Nursing
239 Causeway Street, 5th Floor, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114

Mission Statement
The Mission of the Department of Nursing at Massachusetts Bay Community College is to prepare graduates from diverse backgrounds to practice safe and quality nursing care within an evolving health care system.

To fulfill the mission nursing faculty are committed to following core values that are congruent with the college values and current strategic plan:

- Maintaining programs that are aligned with the Mission, Philosophy, and Core Values of MassBay Community College.
- Developing a creative, relevant, socially inclusive model of nursing education based on theory, evidence-based practice and clinical immersion.
- Devising curriculum that promotes academic challenges, technological competence, critical thinking, compassionate care, respect for cultural diversity, accountability, professionalism, and reflective practice.
- Establishing a culture of engagement among students, faculty, administration, staff and clinical partners who collaborate to enhance professional and personal student development and a desire for lifelong learning.
• Providing service to the College, nursing program, nursing profession, and greater community.

Philosophy

The Department of Nursing faculty encompasses the belief that nursing education has multiple levels of entry with the option of starting with the practical nursing education. While students in the practical nursing program do not obtain a liberal arts degree, they are exposed to a focused curriculum that enables them to develop basic skills required to care for individuals with common well-defined health care needs and predictable outcomes. In general, the practical nurse should be prepared to function in the context of more structured, supervised healthcare environments and teams.

The Department of Nursing believes that all licensed practical nurses should have the opportunity to progress in the nursing profession. Therefore, the Department of Nursing provides a transition program for Licensed Practical Nurse to accomplish this goal. The LPN-RN transition option is aligned with the associate degree nursing program.

The faculty holds that the associate degree nursing education prepares students to render care for individuals with complex health care needs and less predictable outcomes within the context of structured health care environments. Curricular content includes more exposure to the arts, sciences and humanities, as well as the advanced critical thinking skills required to engage in more independent assessment and decision making activities.

The faculty maintains that both associate degree and practical nursing graduates should engage in lifelong learning and the pursuit of advanced degrees.

We believe that Mass Bay Community College provides a student-centered learning environment that emphasizes the essential quantitative, analytical, technological and expressive skills required to integrate and apply nursing knowledge. As a faculty we recognize that a community college education also exposes students to the broader goals of the parent institution; fostering a connection to a community that supports the liberal arts, open access, diversity, civic responsibility and the lifelong pursuit of educational opportunities. These meaningful early interactions with peers and faculty from all disciplines enable our students to recognize the scientific, social, political, economic and ethical principles that distinguish professional practice.

The faculty holds that recent research on competencies that enhance safety and quality in nursing and healthcare must be embedded into contemporary curricular models. While our traditional framework maintains traditional emphasis on nursing, the individual, the environment, health and nursing education definitions are expanded and updated to include the essential components of evidence-based practice, client-centered care and diversity, critical thinking, collaboration, safety and technological and communication skills.
The conceptual/organizing framework of the practical nursing curriculum is based on the following:

1. Nursing
2. Individual
3. Environment
4. Health
5. Nursing Education
6. Nurse of the Future Nursing Core Competencies

These curricular threads are defined and expanded to include contemporary emphasis on quality and safety initiatives as follows:

**Nursing** is a caring, unique, theory-based discipline which incorporates the knowledge of biological, psychosocial and physical sciences to assist the clients and significant others in achieving an optimal level of self-care. Nurses utilize the nursing process, therapeutic communication, critical thinking and evidence-based practice while interacting collaboratively with members of the health care team. Nurses function within the appropriate standards of practice to deliver safe, competent, holistic, and ethical care.

**Individual** is a diverse and complex being, member of a family and community, who has distinct needs along the health-illness continuum. The individual is understood as an integral and holistic being with unique cultural, economic, biological, psychological, social and spiritual components. The individuality of each person influences the manner in which health care choices are made and needs are met. Diversity and client-centered care is an essential priority for nurses at all levels of practice. Individuals are best understood within the context of their environment.

**Environment** encompasses internal and external elements relevant to the individual’s state of health. The interaction between the individual and the environment may affect his/her ability to adapt to illness and restore maximal functioning. The practical nurse communicates and collaborates with the patient, family and healthcare team to influence an individual’s environment; promoting dignity, safety, quality of life, and the achievement of human potential. This includes participating in the healthcare teaching required by the individual and family in order to maintain an optimal level of health.

**Health** is a state of biological, psychological, and spiritual well-being and not merely the absence of illness. Health is influenced by each person’s culture and belief system, developmental stage, and ability to adapt to changes within his/her environment. Human beings have the freedom to make lifestyle choices, which influence their state and perception of health. Episodes of illness can interfere with an individual’s level of health. Optimal well-being may be
promoted, maintained, or restored by achieving a balance between internal and external environments. The practical nurse acts within their generic scope of practice to participate in the promotion and restoration of an optimal state of health through the application of the nursing process.

**Nursing Education** is the study and application of interdisciplinary concepts and evidence-based practice in the didactic and clinical settings. The practical nursing program utilizes a contemporary array of instructional technologies to take account of the most recent advancements and current knowledge in the field; enhancing learning and accessibility for a diverse student population. Faculty act as facilitators and mentors to foster critical thinking, stimulate intellectual growth, promote self-esteem, increase independence and encourage a commitment to life-long learning in an atmosphere of mutual respect and professionalism. Learners progressively move toward developing a solid theoretical foundation in practical nursing science and demonstrating competence within their generic scope of practice. The goal of nursing education, at all levels, is to prepare a graduate who accepts professional accountability and contributes positively to the profession of nursing.

**Nurse of the Future Nursing Core Competencies** emanate from the foundation of nursing knowledge. The competencies for future nursing practice and curricula, consist of patient centered care, professionalism, informatics and technology, evidence-based practice, leadership, systems-based practice, safety, communication, teamwork and collaboration, and quality improvement.

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**End of program/Student Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the practical nursing program the student will be able to:

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Utilize the nursing process, therapeutic communication, critical thinking and evidence-based practice to assist clients and significant others to achieve an optimal level of self-care.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Function within the appropriate standards of practice to deliver safe, competent, holistic, legal and ethical care.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Recognize the diversity of human experience and client-centered variables when participating in planning and implementing nursing interventions.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Recognize and respond to environmental factors that may impact the individual’s ability to adapt to illness, maintain safety and security and achieve restoration of maximum functioning.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Communicate effectively to elicit client concerns, meet healthcare learning needs and contribute to team decision making and collaboration.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Act within the generic scope of the practical nurse’s practice to respond to clients as</td>
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human beings who have the freedom to exercise choices and determine their state and perception of health.

7. Utilize the steps of the nursing process to assist the client with common, predictable health problems to achieve a state of biological, psychological and spiritual wellbeing.

8. Engage in the pursuit of clinical excellence within the scope of the practical nurses practice through professional affiliation, lifelong learning, inquiry and mentorship.

9. Accept professional accountability for maintaining skills and the technological expertise required to provide safe, quality care and contribute positively to the profession of nursing.

10. Pursue opportunities to progress in the nursing profession through the achievement of undergraduate and graduate degrees as well as specialization and certification.

American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics *

1. The nurse, in all professional relationships, practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and uniqueness of every individual, unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.

2. The nurse’s primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, or community.

3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and right of the patient.

4. The nurse is responsible and accountable for the individual nursing practice and determines the appropriate delegation of tasks consistent with the nurse’s obligation to provide optimum patient care.

5. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to preserve integrity and safety, to maintain competence, and to continue personal and professional growth.

6. The nurse participates in establishing, maintaining, and improving health care environments and conditions of employment conducive to the provision of quality health care and consistent with the values of the profession through individual and collective action.

7. The nurse participates in the advancement of the profession through contributions to practice, education, administration, and knowledge development.

8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public in promoting community, national, and international efforts to meet health needs.

9. The profession of nursing, as represented by association and their members, is responsible for articulating nursing values, for maintaining the integrity of the profession and its practice, and for shaping social policy.

*(www.nursingworld.org)*
Introduction

This purpose of this section of the handbook addendum is to present those policies which are specific to the duties and responsibilities of students enrolled in the Practical Nursing Program.

The Practical Nursing faculty regards the student as an adult learner who comes to the program with a variety of life experiences, knowledge, and learning styles. Students are expected to exhibit a maturity level consistent with adulthood and to maximize the learning experiences available throughout the program. Students are responsible for their own behavior at all times.

Practical Nursing students must adhere to the policies that have been developed to meet the requirements of the accrediting agencies and the clinical affiliations to ensure successful completion of the program.

Graduates of the Practical Nursing Program are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN) in Massachusetts if they also meet the Good Moral Character Requirement of the Board of Registration in Nursing. Graduates receive a certificate of program completion from the College and are qualified to work in health care settings such as nursing homes, long-term care hospitals, extended care facilities, clinics, and other health care environments.

The Day Option of the Practical Nursing Program is conducted over a forty week period beginning with the Fall semester and ending after Summer Session I. Classes are scheduled full-time during the day.

The Evening Option is the same curriculum as that offered for the Day Option, but is spread over two academic years, including summer sessions. Classes and clinical experiences are scheduled on various evening.

Throughout the program, students are responsible for their own transportation to the college and to the clinical facilities. No transportation will be provided to the students.

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM POLICIES

Professional behavior:

- Professional behavior and civility is an expectation of all in classroom, laboratory, and clinical area, with faculty, lab instructors, staff, peers, patients, family and allied health staff.
- Student’s behavior should reflect physical and emotional well-being. They are expected to demonstrate caring and compassion for others.
- Engaging in any behavior that detracts from the learning experience of others. This includes but is not limited to using class time to negotiate or appeal grades, course content and or expectations or other class/division or college policies. Class discussions should be pertinent to both the goals of this program and the content being covered.
All faculty members are to be addressed as Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss, Dr., or Professor. No first names are acceptable.

Students are expected to adhere to the Affective Domain Violations found in the Division of Health Science Student Handbook and Policy Manual.

**Advising**
- Full time PN faculty members act as advisors to all PN students. All full time faculty members are available during posted office hours or via e-mail to discuss student concerns or questions.
- Students scoring less than 73% on any exam will receive an Academic Alert and should immediately meet with their course faculty to remediate.
- Any student who leaves the PN program for any reason are encouraged to meet with the program chair to discuss educational options.
- All nursing students will have an assigned advisor. Students are urged to see their advisors for academic and clinical concerns, career plans, and other issues that arise.
- Advisors assist students in determining whether or not they are making progress in the nursing coursework and which courses they have completed toward their certificate.
- A transcript check will be conducted to review all courses taken toward the certificate to identify any missing requirements.
- Students are required to make appointments with their nursing advisor and bring a copy of their transcript (available from the computers in the library or the kiosk in the front lobby through the PeopleSoft Student system).

**Registration**
- To register for any PN course a signature is required from full time Practical Nursing faculty member.
- Once enrolled in the program, students will register for the next semester as a group.
- Students who register, but who decline or are unable to continue in the PN program are responsible to drop that course themselves.

**Progression, Retention, and Dismissal Policies**

Class and clinical components of nursing courses must be taken concurrently and sequentially. All nursing and science courses must be completed with a minimum passing grade of “C” (73%) or better. Successful completion of the clinical component of a course depends upon evaluation of the student’s performance based on established criteria and fulfillment of attendance requirements. Students must pass the clinical component in order to pass a nursing course. Students must maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 to graduate.

Each nursing course must be completed with a minimum passing grade of “C” (73) in order to progress in the Practical Nursing program. There will be no rounding of grades. Any end of the semester final score tabulation below 73 is considered failure in the course, e.g. 72.9 does not satisfy a passing grade.

Students are only allowed to fail or withdraw from one nursing course. A second failure or
withdrawal from any nursing course will result in dismissal from the PN or ADN program. These nursing courses are PN 102, PN 105, PN 106, PN 107, PN 110, PN 108, PN 120, PN 130, HL 110, HL 125, NU 130, NU 135, NU 136, NU 160, NU 161, NU 225, NU 226, NU 235, NU 236, NU 260, NU 261, NU 270, NU 275.

In order to pass a course, the student must attend and successfully complete the classroom (theory), clinical, and laboratory components of the course. Clinical and laboratory performances are evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Unsatisfactory clinical performance and/or lab competencies constitute a failure in the course regardless of the student’s grade in the theory component of the course.

Students who meet the following criteria are ineligible for readmission to the Practical Nursing program:
- Dismissal or withdrawal from the Practical Nursing program with a course average <70%
- Dismissal or withdrawal from the Practical Nursing program for clinically unsafe practice/unprofessional behavior as defined in the Division of Health Sciences handbook.

**Dosage Calculation Examination:**

All nursing students are required to be competent in drug dosage calculation in preparation for clinical practice. Successful completion with a grade of 90% or better on the HESI Dosage Calculation Test (DCT) is required, in addition to passing the medication administration competency in the nursing skills lab, before the student is allowed to administer medications in the clinical setting. Students who fail the DCT will be prescribed a remediation plan for dosage calculations, issued an Academic Alert, and will not be able to pass medications in the clinical settings until a passing score is achieved. Students will have three (3) opportunities to successfully pass the test with a grade of 90% or higher. Those who failed to achieve a score of 90% by the third attempt will be academically withdrawn from the program.
Examination Policy

Guidelines for Taking Examinations:

1. Students are expected to be present and on time for all exams. However, we realize that illness and emergencies occur. Students must call the course faculty before an exam if unable to attend or if they will be arriving late. Students who do not take the exam during the scheduled time and do not notify the course faculty before the exam will receive a grade of “0” for that exam. Faculty has the right to ask for documentation verifying the illness or emergency. In the event of severe illness or hospitalization, the student must provide documentation from their health care provider clearing them to return to class and to clinical. The student must then contact the course faculty on the day s/he returns to arrange for a makeup exam date. A different version of the exam will be given.

   Students who arrive late to an exam will not be given extended time beyond the allotted scheduled time for the exam.

2. There is absolutely no communicating with classmates during the exam. If students communicate with other classmates by any means while testing they will automatically receive zero for the exam and will be required to meet with the course faculty to determine progression in the program or dismissal.

   Academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism constitutes a serious student misbehavior. See MassBay Community College, Student Handbook on policy regarding Academic Integrity – Cheating and Plagiarism.

3. A testing session for a 50-question multiple-choice exam is 60 minutes in length, except for final exams which are 100 questions and two (2) hours in length. Makeup exams may include a change in format requiring additional time at the discretion of the course faculty. The above applies to HESI exams as well.

4. Students must bring several #2 pencils and an eraser to each exam. The student’s name and student ID number must be on both the exam and the Scantron answer sheet.

5. The answer the student selects as their choice of correct response to an exam question MUST appear on the Scantron answer sheet in order for the student to receive credit for the answer. No credit will be given for answers that are circled or otherwise marked on the exam booklet itself. In all test-taking settings, students are responsible for the accuracy of the answers marked on their Scantron sheet before handing it in to a proctor when finished with the exam. Exam grades will be posted on BlackBoard within 3 to 5 working days after the exam date.

6. Absolutely no textbooks, notes, and electronic devices of any kind will be allowed during an exam. A simple non programmable calculator may be used for a math problem. Students who choose to ignore this will have their exam taken away immediately and receive a grade of Zero.
7. All books, purses, bags and personal belongings are to be placed in a designated area prior to the exam and will remain there for the duration of the exam. All cell phones are to be turned off during exams.

8. PN faculty will assign seats for each exam.

9. No student is allowed to leave the classroom after an exam has begun until the student hands in the exam.

10. Students who are requesting accommodations on the basis of disability should contact the Office of Disability Resources in FRAMINGHAM, room 306, or call 508-270-4267/4286 (See MassBay Community College Student Handbook). It is the responsibility of the student to bring documentation of need for accommodations to the instructor 24 hours before the exam via the purple disability form. Exams taken prior to obtaining accommodations or if the student elects not to use accommodations cannot be retaken.

11. Students may make-up one (1) missed exam due to absence per course per semester. The make-up exam will be a different exam and the format may be completion questions rather than multiple choice questions. Students who are absent or miss a second exam will receive no credit (0%). However, the faculty realizes extenuating circumstances may cause a student to miss more than one exam in a course. The student may petition the faculty in writing, providing verification of illness or emergency, if they wish a make-up the missed exam. It is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements with the Testing Center in Framingham (508-270-4213) to make-up the exam within one week of the missed exam or prior to sitting for the final exam, whichever is sooner. Students must notify faculty of the make-up appointment. The final exam cannot be made up.
Exam Reviews

Unit exam reviews are available as scheduled by the course faculty. Test review will be conducted in the following manner.

- Each student receives an exam booklet or Student Test Report
- Faculty projects the exam to be reviewed on the overhead screen
- Faculty reviews each exam question providing rationales
- Faculty collects exam booklets at the end of the review

All pens and pencils, books, notebooks, purses, tote bags, backpacks, cell phones, pagers, and PDA will be placed in a faculty-designated area and remain there during the review. **Note-taking of any kind will not be allowed during the review.**

If a student takes exception to an answer identified as the correct one, s/he must submit in writing the question number, the answer s/he thinks is correct and a rationale for the answer from the course readings. The written request for clarification must be submitted within 5 working days after the exam review. Following faculty analysis and discussion, a written response will be forwarded to the student either by e-mail or Blackboard posting within 7 working days.

If a student fails a course, an individual review of the final exam is available upon the student’s written request within 24 hours following notification of exam grades. The course faculty will meet with the student within 24 hours after receipt of the written request. This will be the only opportunity to review the final exam.

**Contesting Exam Questions:**
All exam questions are subjected to rigorous team review and statistical analysis. Content covered on the exams may include information synthesized from previous courses as well as content covered in assigned reading. Students have 5 working days from the date of the review to contest items. Students must submit their questions or objections in writing to the course faculty. Students may not show up in faculty offices either alone or in groups to contest questions. Faculty will review these as a team and reply to the student within one week. There are no exceptions to this policy. Students are responsible for presenting their appeals in a professional and constructive manner and citing references that support their answer as the **BEST ANSWER.**
Attendance Policy

**Class Attendance:**
Students must be registered for the class in order to attend. Students who have been withdrawn due to failure to meet their financial obligations will run the risk of losing their seats.

Nursing classes prepare students for safe patient care. Faculty expects students to attend each class to develop the theoretical and practice components of the professional nursing role. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor prior to an absence or anticipated late arrival.

*Students who miss five (5) class hours and/or more than two (2) clinical days may be withdrawn from their respective courses.*

**Clinical Attendance:**
Students are expected to attend all clinical appointments to successfully meet objectives of the course. The clinical experience is a vital part of the nursing curriculum.

Students who miss two (2) clinical days will be allowed to make up those days as outlined in the following policy.

- A student who is enrolled in PN 102, PN 120, and PN 130 will be allowed to make up the first clinical day by completing an assignment to be determined by the course faculty.
- A student who is absent a second clinical day must make up this day with an appropriate patient care experience or simulation.
- A student who is enrolled in an intercession class, such as PN 108, will not be allowed to miss any clinical hours due to the short duration of the class.
- Students must complete all required clinical make-up hours for each nursing course. Incomplete clinical make-up hours will result in prohibiting your progression in the nursing program.
- Direct care clinical make-up experiences must be completed prior to the end of the course.
- The student may be provided the opportunity to attend a clinical make-up experience(s) with the evening practical nursing program faculty, or day practical nursing program faculty, whichever is appropriate. This may only occur if space is available and with the agreement of the instructor.
- Excessive loss of clinical time due to inclement weather may occur. The missed clinical hours will be made up as arranged by the course faculty and the clinical facility. These make up hours may be extended beyond the current clinical schedule. In case of a clinical faculty’s absence on a clinical day an alternative assignment may be given.

**Clinical Nursing Skills Lab Attendance & Policy:**
- Students are required to attend all scheduled clinical nursing skills lab sessions to successfully meet the objectives of the course. Students who miss any lab session must make it up within the time frame scheduled by the faculty. Failure to adhere to the above
policy will prevent your progression in the nursing program. Clinical Nursing Skills Lab and the clinical experience are interdependent. Preparation and practice are essential for the student’s success in both the lab and in the clinical area.

- Students will meet weekly at the scheduled time for their assigned Clinical Nursing Skills Lab section. Students are assigned to a lab section during registration. During the scheduled time the lab instructors will provide instruction on the nursing skill and a demonstration of the skill.

- Students are encouraged to attend Open Lab (several hours each week) to practice the skills under the supervision of the lab instructor(s). Students will have two weeks, following the demonstration of the nursing skill, to demonstrate competency and be signed-off on the skill. Students will have three opportunities per skill to demonstrate competency. Students may practice as many times as they want prior to demonstrating competency of a skill during the two week period. Failure to demonstrate competency after three attempts will result in the student being withdrawn from the nursing course.

**Nursing Skills and Simulation Laboratory:** The Clinical Simulation Center (CSC) and the Nursing Laboratory provides the opportunity for students to develop competency in the nursing skills needed to provide safe care to patients in the actual clinical setting. Simulation lab experiences will be incorporated into the nursing skills lab experience in the Practical Nursing Courses. The Nursing Lab provides faculty, equipment, and opportunities for students to work in small groups to meet their learning needs

**Classroom and lab behavior**

As an adult attending school, the Practical Nursing Student is expected to conduct themselves in the classroom and laboratory as an adult. Faculty interprets adult behavior to include, but not limited to, showing respect and consideration for faculty and classmates by:

- Attending all classes (College policy allows students who have missed 5 hours of class to be withdrawn from the class).
- Arriving on time
- Paying attention in class or lab; no talking to classmates.
- Not leaving class except at breaks or end of class
- Being prepared for class and lab by reading prior to class
- No cell phones or pagers at any time.
- Notifying instructors if unable to attend class
- Reviewing assignments in syllabus and on Blackboard prior to class
Specific Policies Related Laboratory Setting

The purpose of the nursing lab is to provide a safe learning environment where students can master therapeutic nursing interventions, communications, and critical thinking skills that are essential to the nursing curriculum.

- Because the nursing skills and simulation lab is considered to be part of the clinical experience and includes simulated clinical situations, students are required to dress in their clinical uniforms with name tag for lab.
- No clogs, Crocs, flip flops or non-supported shoes/sneakers are allowed.
- Students are expected to maintain the same level of professional behavior they would in a clinical setting.
- No food or drinks are allowed in the Clinical Simulation Center or in MassBay General.
- No sitting on bedside tables or overhead tables.
- Students are not allowed to lie on beds unless it is part of the learning activity.
- Handle expensive equipment carefully.
- Students must keep the room tidy at all times, cleaning up after yourself before leaving the lab.
- Ongoing, mutual respect and professionalism between the lab manager, faculty and students.
- Leave beds in low position and straighten bed linen.
- Cell phones must be placed on vibration mode only (emergency calls only).
- Dress and cover manikins appropriately.
- Clean and put away equipment as directed.
- Label and report to faculty any malfunctioning equipment.
- Do not remove items from the Nursing Lab without permission.
- Keep your voice level low; avoid loud or distracting conversation.
- Treat manikins as if they were your patient.
- Report any injury, immediately to lab manager and/or faculty.
- The use of P.D.A.‘s, SMARTPHONES, computers and IPADS are for educational purposes only and may be used in the nursing lab as a learning tool and not for leisure activities.
- Students are required to bring their nurse packs with them to any lab that requires supplies.
- Students are expected to have completed all assigned readings prior to the scheduled lab experience.
Course and Clinical Expectations/Policy

Course Policies

- Assignments: A late assignment will be graded accordingly and will result in the grade being lowered. Written assignments must be typed or completed on a word processor; exceptions will be made for work assigned during class time.

- Grades: Grades will be available on the appropriate Blackboard site for each individual course. Grades will not be posted to insure the student’s privacy.

- Taping: The PN faculty has voted to prohibit taping of lectures in the PN program. Taping of lectures is at the discretion of the lecturing faculty.

- Photocopying: The Copyright Law of the United States, Title 17 US Code, governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. The person making the copies is liable for any violation of this law. Making copies of textbooks, workbooks, study guides, and/or similar materials without written permission of the publisher is in violation of this law.

Clinical assignments

- Students may be assigned to clinical experiences in any of the following locations:
  - Boston
  - Norwood
  - Worcester
  - Marlborough
  - Framingham
  - Natick
  - Walpole
  - Roxbury

- Students go to a different clinical assignment approximately every 6 weeks. Students are able to learn more effectively in different clinical settings with different patient populations with a variety of instructors and different classmates.

- Student assignments are determined by the faculty to provide the student with the best possible experience.

- No assignments will be changed after being posted.

- Students are responsible for transportation to all clinical sites and parking at the clinical sites.

- Students may not have a clinical experience at a facility where they or a family member are employed. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the program chair in writing if they work at one of the assigned clinical facilities. This correspondence must occur prior to clinical assignments.

- Students must be in compliance for health and CPR to attend clinical experience. It is the student’s responsibility to keep health and CPR up to date.

- Students are expected to arrive at a clinical assignment on time and prepared to safely care for assigned patients.
Clinical paperwork
Students are expected to submit all required clinical paperwork and assignments completed and on time. Specific clinical assignments are outlined in the course syllabi.

Clinical evaluation
- Students receive a written clinical evaluation at the end of each clinical rotation.
- Students who need remediation in nursing skills may receive a lab prescription. The student will have one week to meet with lab instructors to perform the nursing skill.
- Students who are having difficulty in the clinical area may receive an Academic Alert. The Academic Alert will identify areas of weakness and specific goals, which must be met.

Additional Polices/Information

Blood and Body Fluid Exposure
Students are to refer to the Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Policy and Procedure in the Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook and Policy Manual.

Cell Phones Use in Clinical Areas (See Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook and Policy manual):
- During clinical experience hours cell phones must be turned off and stored away from the patient care area.
- Students are required to comply with the clinical agency policy regarding the use of cell phone devices.
- Cell phone use during clinical, class or laboratory activities will result in the student receiving an Affective Domain Violation.
- No pictures can be taken at the clinical site by any picture taking device including cell phones cameras, video, etc.
- In case of known emergency, the student can give the department of nursing phone number to a family member needing to contact the student. The number is 508/270-4024.

Student Records:
The Practical Nursing Program maintains a record of each student’s academic and clinical performance for program-specific courses. These records are maintained in a locked file cabinet within the confines of the nursing department for a period of not less than five years. Students have the right to access and review their files, and may do so by appointment and written request to their nursing program faculty advisor.

It is the policy of the Department of Nursing to retain and retire records for both faculty and
students in accordance with the Massachusetts Statewide Records Retention Policy, updated on 1/11.

Mailboxes:

Faculty mailboxes:
Faculty mailboxes are located in 121 across from the secretary’s desk. Part-time faculty mailboxes are located in Room but many clinical faculty members do not come on campus. Be sure to check with all faculty members in regards to using faculty mailboxes as a method to communicate with faculty by this venue.

Work Recommendations:

The faculty recommends the following guidelines for student employment:

- Students should allot 2-3 hours of study time for each hour of class.
- Students enrolled in the day program should not plan to work full time as success becomes more difficult to achieve.
- A work commitment for the evening or night prior to clinical, class or tests is strongly discouraged.
- Students should not schedule themselves to work immediately following class, lab or clinical. Instructors cannot guarantee that students will be released on time.
- From experience, the faculty has found that nursing students who work excessively while in the nursing program often are not successful in meeting academic goals.
- Students commit time, energy and money to become nurses. The faculty hopes that students will maintain a realistic work schedule that will allow them the opportunity to be successful.

Nursing Committees – Student Representatives

Student representatives:
The student body shall elect student representatives for faculty meetings and specific committees. Student representatives are expected to be in good academic standing, with a minimum G.P.A. of 2.0, and passing all of their nursing courses. The representative from the day option will serve for 10 months, and the representative from the evening option will serve for 18 months. Alternates should be selected for each delegate. The faculty reserves the right to remove a student representative from any nursing committee if the student is in poor academic standing.

These students attend Committees and are there to foster communication between faculty and their respective classes. They are expected to act for the group they represent as a whole. Representatives with personal or disruptive agendas will be asked to resign from their duties. They are responsible for sharing information from the meetings with their classmates and for bringing questions from their classmates to the meetings.

Student representatives are non-voting members of the Nursing Department Committees. The faculty reserves the right to have portions of any meeting in closed session without student representatives.
Use of Technology

- Technology is used throughout healthcare. The faculty expects all students to use the technology that is available to them on campus and in the clinical area. MassBay provides computers for student use in the Learning Resource Centers and the nursing laboratory.

- Faculty will utilize electronic mail (e-mail) for communication with students. Each student enrolled in the Practical Nursing Program is provided with a MassBay Community College e-mail account. **Students must use their MassBay-e-mail accounts not personal accounts.** The student is responsible for accessing their e-mail frequently and in a timely manner. Students may communicate with faculty via e-mail. E-mail communications should be signed by students and use correct grammar, punctuation and capitalization. Students are not to communicate with personal e-mail accounts, but college e-mail accounts. Faculty will not open unknown email accounts.

- Each course in the Practical Nursing Program has a BlackBoard site. Students will find announcements, assignments, and other important information on these sites. Examination grades will be posted on these sites. Students are expected to check the BlackBoard site for each of their courses several times each week.

Student Uniform Guidelines

- The Practical Nursing student uniform is obtained through our supplier, McGill’s Inc. Manchester, NH. The uniform consists of a regulation green top with the school patch on the left sleeve, the MassBay SPN name pin, worn with an approved style of white bottom (skirt or pants) and white footwear.

- Students in the clinical area are expected to be dressed as follows:

1. Uniform with the MassBay SPN name pin and MassBay school patch. The school patch must be sewn to the upper left sleeve of each stripped shirt and the lab coat.

2. Watch with a sweep second hand; no digital watches.

3. Stethoscope, bandage scissors, pen light and a pocket calculator (optional).

4. **Black** ball point ink pens.

6. Clean, flat, white footwear with clean white laces.

7. White skirt or pants may be worn. These are to be professional uniform skirt or pants and **are not** to be jeans, sweatpants, or any other similar attire. White belts should be worn if needed.
8. White stockings worn with skirts. White stockings or socks worn with pants. No textured, print, or striped stockings or socks. Knee highs, TEDS, or knee socks are not permitted with skirts.

9. White undergarments should be worn by all students under the student uniform.

10. Hair worn off collar. Decorative hair ornaments are not permitted (i.e.: bows, beads, ribbons, etc.).

11. Earrings are optional. If earrings are worn they must be studs, no larger than a dime; no dangling earrings.

12. No necklaces, bracelets, or rings. Students may wear a plain band only.

13. For warmth, students may wear a clean white turtleneck jersey under the uniform top. Students may also purchase a short warm-up jacket or lab coat from our uniform supplier. Warm-up jackets must have the school patch on the left sleeve and be worn with the MassBay SPN name pin.

14. T-shirts worn under the uniform must be plain white. No colored shirts, designs, or logos may be worn.

15. No nail polish or artificial nails. Nails should be clean, neat, and trimmed to an appropriate length to safely provide patient care.

**Personal hygiene**

Students must be aware of the importance of good personal hygiene and adhere to the following criteria:

- There should be no offensive odors including breath, body and clothing
- Good oral hygiene must be maintained
- Cleanliness of body and clothes must be maintained
- Perfume/cologne or other perfumed products must not be used
- Excessive makeup must not be worn
- Smoking is highly discouraged because strong odors may adversely affect patients

**Readmission Policy**

See Division of Health Sciences Student Handbook Readmission Policy (page 12).

- Readmission to the Practical Nursing Program is on a space available basis.
- Students need to have 70% or higher in nursing courses to be considered for readmission.
I, the undersigned student, having read and reviewed the entirety of the MassBay Community College Division of Health Sciences Handbook and the appendix specific to my program, do agree to adhere to and abide by all College and Health Sciences and Program policies and/or their addenda, during my matriculation at MassBay Community College. Furthermore, I agree to adhere to the conduct codes and performance policies of the Clinical Education sites to which I may be assigned. I clearly understand that the failure to adhere to and abide by these policies and regulations of the College, Division, Program, Hospital and/or Clinical Site may result in my removal and subsequent withdrawal from the clinical site/classroom and/or program.

I also understand that in addition to faculty employed at the College, there may be employees of the Hospital / Clinical Agency or Practicum site which are designated by the College as a Supervisor/Preceptors / Clinical Instructors. As such, these individuals will be functioning as members of the team of instructors within one or more of the Program’s clinical or practicum courses. Therefore, I understand that assessment / evaluation information about my academic and/or clinical or practicum performance may be shared with the designated / appropriate Supervisor or Clinical Site staff member(s) for the sole purpose of providing them with information needed by them for patient / client assignment or College required clinical performance evaluation / assessment. Furthermore, my academic and/or clinical records may be reviewed by duly authorized representatives of Professional, State, or National accreditation agencies.

I further understand that the Hospital or Clinical agencies or Practicum site to which I may be assigned may require that I receive clearance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that I do not have a criminal record of an offence which would compromise the safety or well-being of the clients or patients of that site. Therefore I understand that my name will be submitted to the state for a CORI (criminal offender record information) and SORI (sexual offender registry information) check. A CORI/SORI check report of such an offence may preclude my eligibility for clinical or practicum assignment and thereby may negate my matriculation in the program.

Lastly, I understand that I am required to satisfy the Division of Health Sciences’ Medical History/Immunization Records requirement and CPR requirement. Failure to do so will preclude my eligibility to participate in the clinical or practicum phase and may result in my inability to complete the program.

Please sign and date this form and submit it to your Certified Background account unless instructed otherwise by a faculty member.

Student’s Name (Printed)__________________________  Student’s signature __________________________

Program:____________________________________  Received on (Date):________________________

NOTE: Submission of this form is required prior to clinical rotations.