



SCHOOL OF NURSING POLICY

Policy Name: Clinical Standards

Approval Authority: Rutgers School of Nursing Faculty

Responsible Executive: Executive Vice Dean

Responsible Office: Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track

Adopted: 3/1/04

Last Reviewed: 5/6/24

Revisions: 5/6/24

1. **Policy Statement:** To assure patient safety and promote clinical competence.
2. **Who Should Read this Policy:** faculty, administration, and all Nurse Anesthesia students
3. **Resources and Related Documents:**

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA).
Standard for Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs, February 2024
Standard for Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs-Practice Doctorate, February 2024

<https://www.coacrna.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Standards-for-Accreditation-of-Nurse-Anesthesia-Programs-Practice-Doctorate-editorial-rev-February-2024-1.pdf>

School of Nursing Student Policies
<http://nursing.rutgers.edu/policies/index.html>

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (2018) Code of Ethics for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (2020) Scope and Standards for Nurse Anesthesia Practice.

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (2015) Guidelines-Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Anesthesia Care.

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (2022) Guidelines-Safe Injection Guidelines for Needle and Syringe Use.

<https://www.aana.com/practice/professional-practice-manual/>

Rutgers Health Policy: [CLINICAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENTS](#)

<https://rutgershealth.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/rbhs-policy-101-1-2.pdf>

Rutgers Health Policy: [STUDENTS WITH IMPAIRMENTS](#)

<https://rutgershealth.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/rbhs-policy-101-1-33.pdf>

4. Policy

Students must be enrolled in a clinical anesthesia course and satisfy all pre-requisites and co-requisites of that as described in the course syllabus in order to participate in the clinical practicum. A written Clinical Affiliation Agreement will be approved by the School of Nursing in accordance with Rutgers Health policy. Each clinical site will also be approved by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

Students enrolled in SN Nurse Anesthesia Specialty clinical courses are required to adhere to all applicable state and federal laws or regulations; all Standards of Practice and Guidelines of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists; and all Rutgers Health, School of Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia Program and clinical affiliate policies. Failure to do so may constitute grounds for failure of the clinical course and dismissal from the Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track. **Illegal or unethical behavior and/or any action or omission that jeopardizes patient safety constitutes grounds for course failure and dismissal from the Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track.**

The illegal use or abuse of controlled substances is prohibited and is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program. Students may be required to undergo drug testing if mandated by affiliate clinical sites. If a student is taking any drug with potential to affect judgment or performance in the clinical setting, program administration must be informed by the student prior to performing any clinical responsibilities. If, in the opinion of the clinical preceptor or program administrator, the situation presents potential for patient harm then the student will not be allowed in the clinical practicum.

Failure to conform to the standards of all clinical affiliate site dress codes, **inadequate personal hygiene, violent behavior, threatening language, gestures or actions, foul or offensive language, or any infraction of a Rutgers Health personal or professional behavior policy, may result in failure of the clinical course. Conviction of a felony is grounds for failure of the clinical** course and dismissal.

No student may progress in the Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track course of study without receiving a "P" (pass) grade in each clinical course. In order to receive a passing grade the student must successfully and consistently meet course objectives and outcomes specifically described in course syllabi. Final course grade is a composite of the criteria based ratings received from all assigned clinical preceptors during the final five weeks of the semester. In order for the student to pass, the composite rating must meet or exceed the specific benchmark described in each course syllabus.

If a student is identified by faculty as being at risk of failure due to unsatisfactory evaluations, the student will be issued a written warning of possible failure, placed on clinical probation and a remediation plan will be developed by the course instructor in conjunction with the Program Director based upon individual needs of the student. This intervention is intended to support the student in achieving course outcomes and is not a necessary prerequisite to granting a grade of "F" (failure). Students on clinical probation will be allowed to continue in the clinical course unless it is determined by consensus opinion of the clinical preceptor, course faculty and the Program Director that the student presents a risk to patient safety, in which case he/she will receive a failing grade prior to the end of the semester.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY: As stated in the Clinical Affiliation Agreement: "The University shall provide for professional and general liability coverage insuring the University and its faculty, students and employees performing activities under the Agreement through a Program of Self-Insurance providing limits of coverage of \$1,000,000/\$3,000,000 on an occurrence type basis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 59:1-1, et seq., the State of New Jersey Tort Claims Act."