

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX: MSN/FNP Students Regarding Clinical Hours

Greetings MSN/FNP students,

As previously communicated, the College of Nursing has been exploring options that will allow students to progress with their program as communities and agencies react and adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note that students are encouraged to complete their clinical hours at available agencies IF:

1. Local/state/federal regulations allow for it
2. Agency and preceptor approve
3. Student is not sick
4. Student is comfortable doing so

However, we understand there may be circumstances in which a student may be unable to complete their clinical hours as planned. In those cases, we have developed the following options. **Please discuss your specific situation with your Academic Counselor and Clinical Coordinator so you can determine the best option for you.**

Telehealth hours

Students will be allowed to complete up to 100 clinical hours in a telehealth environment (of the total required for the program). The following guidelines must be followed for the hours to be acceptable:

1. Students must be at the agency with their preceptor
2. Hours cannot exceed 100 for the entire program, and should ideally be spread out over several clinical courses
3. Student is participating in patient care, not just observing or entering data
4. Hours must be logged in ACEMAPP under the Telehealth category

Please contact your Clinical Coordinator if you have questions or need additional details.

In Progress (IP) grade

If you are in a clinical course and cannot complete the clinical component by the end of the course, please notify your Academic Counselor, the course instructor, and your clinical coordinator as soon as possible. You can discuss with your faculty the option to complete the didactic component of the course and receive an IP (In Progress) grade until the clinical component can be completed. You will be given additional time beyond the course end date to complete the clinical hours, but all didactic requirements must be submitted by the course end date.

If you do this, you can either:

1. **Continue into your next scheduled course.** This option allows you to progress in the program.
OR
2. **Take a leave of absence.** This option allows you to take a break from courses if needed. You can choose to reschedule when you are ready to return. Please talk to your Academic Counselor if you need this option.

NOTE: If you take an IP grade, regardless of whether you continue into another course, you are still required to complete the clinical hours for the course with an IP grade before a letter grade can be assigned and credit is earned for the course.

We understand that each student situation is unique, so please review the options and reach out to your Academic Counselor to discuss questions or concerns about these options for progressing in your program. As always, the College of Nursing is dedicated to supporting our students and we will continue to provide information to keep you informed.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Winston, PhD, RN
Dean, College of Nursing