

## **SECTION VIII – Health Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Health Program is to assist each student in maintaining and/or attaining optimal health. Administration of the program is the responsibility of the Regional Director WorkCare/Employee Health. The Health Services Program is evaluated according to the Plan for Systematic Evaluation of the School. The Health Services Office is located at Trinity East campus at WorkCare. The telephone number is (740) 264-4250.

### **PRE-ENROLLMENT HEALTH SERVICES REQUIREMENTS**

1. Health inventory and physical examination.
2. Immunizations:
  - Mumps
  - Measles
  - Rubella (X2)
  - Hepatitis B and/or serological evidence of immunity
  - Varicella immunization or history of disease
  - COVID Vaccination

**Laboratory tests may be required.**
3. TB screening (2 step Mantoux or Quantiferon serology) or review of chest x-ray/signs and symptoms of tuberculosis for positive responders.
4. Completion of a questionnaire to determine if latex sensitivity exists is required.
5. Preadmission Urine Drug Screen. (Refer to substance abuse policy) (Must be completed at WorkCare on East Campus)
6. Submission of the Essential Functions and Abilities of a Nursing Student Form.

It is the responsibility of students who are latex sensitive to inform their clinical instructor each semester/session of their latex needs. Reasonable accommodations will be made to meet the students' needs. Special gloves are provided for students with latex sensitivity.

If ongoing reactions occur (i.e. rash, respiratory problems, etc.) it is the responsibility of the students to follow up with their own physician.

Students are to indicate if they plan to seek medical or religious exemption to COVID-19 vaccination. This exemption is made by CommonSpirit at the corporate level. If granted the student may be required to complete weekly COVID testing through the school.

**Records of graduates not accepting employment are returned to the graduate; no copies are maintained by Trinity Health System.**

## **HEALTH SERVICES**

### **GOALS**

1. Provide a health program for students that will identify health hazards and promote success in the program.
2. Provide advice to students of appropriate courses of action when physical or mental health problems exist.
3. Maintain confidential health records pertinent to the health status of each student.

### **POST-ENTRANCE HEALTH SERVICES REQUIREMENTS**

Second year students will follow the guidelines established by the Student Services/Integrity Committee in accordance with the Regional Director WorkCare/Employee Health. Prior to the beginning of the second year, the student is responsible for a completion of a Health Assessment and a TB screening or a review of chest x-ray/signs and symptoms of tuberculosis for positive responders. A Tdap vaccine is recommended if a student is older than 19 years old or had last dose of Tetanus more than 5 years ago. Students must submit documentation of their post-entrance health requirements to the School of Nursing Receptionist by Aug. 1 of each year. It is required that the student participate in the annual influenza inoculation program which is provided by the Hospital free of charge. The School of Nursing/Hospital complies with the current OSHA regulations regarding blood borne pathogens. Updated information is provided annually for incoming and enrolled students.

### **HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE**

**It is recommended that some type of hospitalization insurance be maintained by the student while enrolled in the program.** The cost of pre-enrollment and enrollment health requirements is the responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for expenses incurred during illness, i.e., hospitalization and/or doctor fees/diagnostic tests, emergency care, medications, treatments, prosthetics and/or supplies.

Twenty-four hour emergency service is provided at Trinity Medical Center West on a fee for service basis. The School does not have facilities/personnel to provide constant monitoring of students with serious health problems. Therefore, students are encouraged to seek the advice of his/her physician concerning hospitalization or recuperation at home. A student whose health requires ongoing medical supervision and/or hospitalization is responsible for notifying the Dean of the School. The School reserves the right to request the student to leave the premises. A physician's written permission for the student to continue/resume all class/clinical responsibilities must also be submitted to the Dean. The purpose for requiring a physician's release is to protect the student from assuming responsibilities which could be hazardous to his/her mental/physical health.

In case of illness and/or accidents incurred while on School premises or at a clinical experience facility/agency, any emergency or on-going care received as a result of such illness and/or accident is the student's financial responsibility.

Students are reminded that any unsettled financial obligation to Trinity Health System, i.e. medical bills, may result in denial of transcripts or copies of educational records to be released, including final transcripts necessary for NCLEX- RN.

## **ILLNESS**

The following is the procedure for reporting an illness:

1. Students are required to report illness promptly to the Faculty/Affiliate Agency.
2. When a student is too ill to report for class and/or clinical experience, **a message must be left on the receptionist's voice mail** at 740-266-1321 before 6:45 am. The student **must** also contact the clinical nursing unit.
3. The cost of visitations to private physicians, clinics, and/or emergency room services is the responsibility of the individual student. Any student who chooses may avail him/herself of the Hospital services. Students are reminded that any unsettled financial obligation to Trinity Health System, i.e., medical bills, may result in denial of transcripts or copies of educational records to be released, including final transcripts necessary for NCLEX- RN.
4. All injuries must be reported as soon as possible to a faculty member or staff member whenever they occur in the clinical area or in the School. An electronic incident report must be completed by the individual(s) involved. All charges for medical treatment received by the student post accident/illness are the responsibility of the student.
5. A student having diagnostic/surgical procedures or undergoing any other medical or rehabilitative treatment as an inpatient/outpatient is responsible for notifying the Lead Instructor and the Dean of the School. A physician's written permission for the student to resume all class/clinical responsibilities must be given to the Dean. The purpose for a physician's release from care is to protect the student from assuming responsibility which could prove hazardous to his/her mental/physical health.
6. A student who becomes pregnant while enrolled in the School of Nursing, is encouraged to notify the faculty as early as possible. This is so that clinical instructors can take measures to protect both the student and unborn child.
  - a) A pregnant student will be granted time off for pregnancy, termination, false pregnancy, complication, and delivery as ordered by the their physician when paperwork is submitted to the school.
  - b) A student who has to take time off due to pregnancy will be granted the same allowances as students on a short-term leave.
  - c) Upon return, students will be granted the same standing as they were when they took leave under reasonable circumstances. The logistics of this reinstatement will be reviewed by faculty on a case by case basis.

## **HEALTH SERVICES OPTIONS**

It is a student's right to seek medical and/or surgical services other than those available in the Hospital. However, if a student exercises this right, the School has the option to verify that the student's health status reflects his/her ability to continue in the program.

### **DENTIST**

The school encourages a dental examination prior to admission. The School recommends a dental examination every six months.

### **OPHTHALMOLOGIST**

Students are recommended to have their eyes examined prior to entering the program. Scheduled periodic examinations are recommended.

## **INFORMATION MAINTAINED IN THE STUDENT'S HEALTH RECORD**

1. History and Physical/Health Assessment
2. Immunizations (Pre-enrollment – Post-entrance)
3. Chest x-ray/signs and symptoms questionnaire (if applicable)
4. Laboratory Reports
5. Annual TB screening
6. COVID Vaccination record or exemption