Operating Policy and Procedure

SON OP: 30.410 RN to BSN Program Classroom to Clinical Course Hours

PURPOSE: The purpose of the School of Nursing RN to BSN Program Classroom to Clinical Course Hours is to ensure that students in the RN to BSN Program have sufficient and effective practice experiences to achieve the competencies expected of the professional nurse to care for the variety of patients they will encounter across a continuum of care.

REVIEW: The OP will be reviewed biennially by September 1 of each even numbered year (ENY) by the applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair, with recommendations for revisions forwarded to the Dean of the School of Nursing.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

- The RN to BSN nursing curriculum recognizes the knowledge gained by the student graduating from an associate degree or diploma program, viewing each course of study as transitional to professional baccalaureate education.
- The curriculum incorporates experiential learning activities as an essential element for a practice discipline which is interactive and engages other disciplines and patients on a professional level of practice.
- It is recognized that as students reside in a wide variety of municipalities and rural settings as well as practice in many types of clinical environments it is important to strive to ensure an equal experience for students in terms of scope and concentration.
- As with the importance of striving to achieve consistency in scope and concentration likewise assessment methods must ensure parity between students.
- Oversight of practice experiences is provided by the course faculty, communicating requirements and providing feedback on the learning experience and student achievement of outcomes.
- Experiential learning experiences may occur in the student’s work setting, community or public health environment, or through facilitated virtual on-line case experiences.
- Students are expected to engage in 16 hours of clinical each semester. This represents a 15:1 classroom to clinical ratio.