

Nursing Student Expectations and Professional Accountability Contract

Faculty and staff of the Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing (SCBScN) and After Degree Nursing Program (ADNP) have a responsibility to the College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan (CRNS), the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA), and the general public to ensure that students and graduates of the SCBScN and ADNP are competent and professional in their academic performance and nursing practice.

All students are expected to act in a manner that demonstrates an understanding of the professional responsibilities of a nurse. This document serves as a contract outlining behaviours and professional accountability expected of all SCBScN and ADNP students.

All students must review this document before beginning their studies in the SCBScN or ADNP. Students must initial the bottom of each page and provide a full signature at the end of the document to demonstrate their understanding and agreement with the *Nursing Student Expectations and Professional Accountability Contract*. This contract must be received by the Nursing Student Services office at the U of R prior to your first day of classes.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all lectures, labs, and practice education (clinical). There is no mechanism for students to make up missed time from lectures, labs, or practice education. When students miss lectures, labs, and practice education, they miss critical nursing knowledge and opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills, impacting their ability to provide safe, competent nursing care. Students who miss more than 10% of lectures, labs, and/or practice education may be unable to consistently demonstrate course competencies and be unsuccessful in the course. This may impact progress through the program.

Practice Education orientations and other learning experiences assigned as mandatory program components must be attended as scheduled. Failure to do so will result in withdrawal from the course and may impact progress in the program. Extenuating circumstances will be considered with appropriate supporting documentation.

If students are concerned about meeting the attendance requirements, or situations arise during the study term which will affect future attendance, students are expected to inform the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Program Head as soon as possible.

Social Media

The SCBScN and ADNP providers recognize and value that social media is a significant aspect of the student's learning in the post-secondary, academic environment; however, students are expected to use social media responsibly, professionally, and confidentially. Once a message is posted on the internet, in any form, even when privacy settings are at their most restricted, the posted message is **not** considered to be private or confidential and must be considered a permanent record online.

Posting messages or photos about clients, patients, practice education settings, fellow students, faculty, or staff is never appropriate. Even if the post does not include a name, other details may be used to identify who or what the post is about.

Inappropriate use of social media will be addressed by the Faculty of Nursing and may result in expulsion from the program and/or the University of Regina and Saskatchewan Polytechnic. This contract will be considered the first and only warning about the consequences of inappropriate use of social media.

Program Communication

The four official electronic methods of communication between students and their program are UR Webmail, UR Courses, UR Self-Service, and Health Sciences Placement Network (HSPnet). Students are responsible for monitoring these systems regularly to ensure they stay informed of all changes, requests, and communications concerning their program.

Students are expected to check their University of Regina email account frequently for program and course announcements and information. This is the program's primary and official method of communicating with students. Please note that this email should **NOT** be forwarded to another account, i.e., Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.

You should regularly check the Nursing Student Portal on UR Courses. You will find useful, helpful, and **essential** information there. For instance, occasionally, changes to timetables and room bookings are necessary. These changes will be posted to the Nursing Student Portal.

Please ensure that you regularly check your course pages on UR Courses, University of Regina, for updates and current information about your courses.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding the program, your courses, or your experience within the program, please ensure that you follow the appropriate communication pathway. For concerns with a course, your first line of communication would be with the course faculty. If you have unresolved or general program concerns, you will next contact the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Program Head.

Risk Management

Students are required to submit various risk management documents by the specified deadlines as outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar in the Faculty of Nursing regulations (<https://www.uregina.ca/student/registrar/resources-for-students/academic-calendars-and-schedule/undergraduate-calendar/assets/pdf/2022-23/Faculty-of-Nursing.pdf>), as well as the SCBScN and ADNP Student Handbook. Students are responsible to be aware of the deadlines and meeting indicated expectations. Students can find a record of the certificates and documents submitted to the program in HSPnet. Students are responsible for regularly monitoring their risk management documents and ensuring they are up to date. Current, up to date risk management documents are required for entering the practice education setting. Students who do not present up to date requirements will not be permitted to participate in any practice education experiences.

Once immunization records are assessed, students may be recommended to receive further vaccines. Many practice education agencies have policies regarding immunizations required by students and have the right to refuse unvaccinated students into their environment. Refusal of a required vaccine may result in the student being unable to enter a practice education setting to complete the practice education course requirements.

Additional risk management documents will be required in the program related to specific practice education placements (e.g., Work-Based Learning Consent, Workers Compensation [WCB] forms, and Confidentiality Agreements). Students have a professional responsibility to ensure they have completed all risk management requirements.



Professionalism

The nature of the study and practice of nursing places individuals in a position of trust with clients and a close relationship with fellow students, colleagues, and staff in the university and practice education settings. Unprofessional student behaviour in the practice education setting can cause physical and/or emotional harm to the client, significant others, and/or other healthcare providers. This behaviour may also damage the reputation of the educational program and institutions and harm the reputation of the nursing profession.

As future nurses, students must adhere to professional nursing expectations, values, and ethics, which include respect for the inherent dignity and worth of the person, the pursuit of social justice, service to humanity, integrity, confidentiality, and competence in professional practice. In addition, students must adhere to legal statutes and requirements governing nursing practice.

A student in the SCBScN or ADNP may be required to discontinue their program of studies when they are found unsuited for the nursing profession through consideration of competence or professional fitness.

University of Regina Undergraduate Calendar and SCBScN and ADNP Student Handbook

Students are responsible for informing themselves on all University of Regina Undergraduate policies listed in the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://www.uregina.ca/student/registrar/resources-for-students/academic-calendars-and-schedule/undergraduate-calendar/index.html>) and the SCBScN and SCBScN Student Handbook (Nursing Student Portal on UR Courses). All policies listed in the above publications, even if not explicitly repeated in this document, are expected to be adhered to by all students.

I, _____, agree that my signature below reflects that I have read and agree to comply with all terms in this contract. I acknowledge my responsibility to fully understand this document and all policies listed in the University of Regina Undergraduate Calendar and the SCBScN and ADNP Student Handbook. If I have questions about this document or other policies relating to my university studies, I understand I can seek assistance from an Academic Advisor, Nursing Advisor, Student Advocate, or other form(s) of Student Support Services.

Consequences for failing to comply with the expectations and responsibilities in this document may include, but are not limited to, placement on probation or performance contact, assignment of failing grades or grade reduction, removal from a course, dismissal from the program, suspension or expulsion from the University of Regina and/or Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Signature

Witness

Student ID #

Date

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Initials