



WSU College of Nursing students have entered a profession in which commitment to full participation in the learning environment, including through course-supported learning experiences, is essential. These are defined as any activity designed for students to meet course objectives.

These experiences include, but are not limited to: laboratory sessions, clinical rotations, classroom experiences, simulations, and practicum. Attendance and engagement in scheduled courses and course-supported learning experiences is critical to successful course completion. Absences undermine a student's ability to attain the necessary competency to meet course objectives and master course content.

Additionally, the Washington State Nursing Commission requires schools of nursing to document clinical hours completed by students. Each clinical course has a minimum clinical hour requirement. The WSU CON is responsible for ensuring that all students who graduate have completed the required programmatic clinical hours. Absences often make that requirement tighter or impossible to meet.

### **Didactic/Seminar Absences**

This policy addresses absences in didactic/semnar experiences. The Pre-Licensure BSN program is approved for live, in-person class modalities. Students must have pre-approved accommodations or arrangements for individual zoom-related activities with didactic experiences.

In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to notify the faculty member or program director prior to the beginning of the day's experience. Exceptions to this policy are considered only for unforeseen and catastrophic events. Absences and make-up content will be arranged at the discretion of the course instructor.

### **Clinical/ Simulation/Laboratory Absences**

This policy addresses absences in clinical, simulation, and laboratory course-supported learning experiences and is applied to each within a single course (e.g., one lab absence and one clinical absence in the course means two absences).

Students may have no more than **one** absence in clinical per semester. This includes lab and simulation. In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to notify the faculty member or program director prior to the beginning of the day's experience. Exceptions to this policy are considered only for unforeseen and catastrophic events.

Clinical attendance requirements may be more rigid with limited opportunities for make-up days due to the requirements of clinical partners to have clinical placements scheduled far in advance of the semester. Absences from clinical may result in an evaluation by faculty to determine if the student is able to meet the course outcomes with expected clinical competency. There may not be an opportunity for make-up of absences or competency development within the semester, which will influence the course grade. This may result in a course failure or an incomplete grade.

If a student must miss clinical/simulation/laboratory time due to illness or unforeseen personal emergency, the student must call the clinical instructor prior to the start of the clinical, lab or simulation day. The school will offer makeup for a maximum of one absence if possible. No makeup will be offered beyond one absence.

- Makeup learning activities are determined and scheduled by faculty. Alternate experiences for the purposes of makeup are at the discretion of the clinical faculty, program director and/or director of experiential learning and are not negotiable.
- Providing makeup for missed course-supported learning activities is at the discretion of the faculty, clinical placement opportunities and in collaboration with the program director. The CON cannot guarantee the availability of makeup opportunities.

Special circumstances will be addressed by the program director and the director of student services on a case-by-case basis, and decisions of that circumstance will be given to the student.



Policy Title	Pre-Licensure Attendance Policy
Policy Inception Date	06/2022
Policy Applicable Party	College of Nursing Undergraduate Students
Date of Last Change	03/2023
Responsible Party, Level I (to create and review)	Center for Student Excellence
Responsible Party, Level II (to approve)	CON Faculty
Responsible Party, Level III (to implement)	Center for Student Excellence