



**Health Science Education Department
 Immunization & Nursing Program Requirements
 2019-2020**

Students are required to follow the Immunization & Nursing Program Requirements that are found in this document, as well as presented at Health Maintenance Meetings. These meetings take place with the Coordinator of Health Science Education upon admittance to the Nursing program at RVCC, and will do so yearly after.

All nursing students, 1st year, 2nd year, Nursing Seminar, and PNAD's will make a class registration appointment with the Coordinator of Health Science Education, nadine.larson@raritanval.edu once ALL health maintenance requirements are complete and uploaded to the online student health document tracking account with Sentry MD. Each student must receive an email confirmation from Sentry MD before emailing the Coordinator of HSE for a class registration appointment. **Students should forward the email from Sentry MD to Nadine.larson@raritanval.edu to show evidence that health maintenance and program requirements for the 2019-2020 academic year have been completed. In the body of this email students can include a few dates and times of suggested class registration appointment. No paper documents will be dropped off, emailed or faxed to the Coordinator of Health Science Education- they all will be uploaded to the Sentry MD student account.**

Students are not eligible to register for Summer 2019, Fall 2019, and Spring 2020 nursing classes without all health maintenance and nursing program requirements (this includes degree requirements) being up to date, as well as having all the documents respectively uploaded and verified as complete by Sentry MD.

Deadline Dates for Health Maintenance Record and ALL required documents (see checklist):

- **Students are to upload health maintenance forms & requirements NO later than the following dates:
- 2019-2020 PNAD Option Students.....**May 10, 2019**
 - First Year Generic Nursing Students (**Early Admission**).....**June 24, 2019**
 - Second year nursing students.....**June 06, 2019**
 - First Year Generic Nursing Students (**Late Admission & Nursing Seminar**).....**August 1, 2019**

It is under the jurisdiction of the Health Science Education chairperson, to remove students from course(s) where requirements have not been met. This jeopardizes a students' progression and completion of the nursing program if there is non-compliance with the above health maintenance deadlines. These deadlines are made in accordance with clinical agency contracts and the need for student clearance review and submission to the hospitals. A student who is not clinically cleared is ineligible to participate in clinical rotations, and therefore, affects a students' progression in the nursing program.

Clinical agencies mandate immunizations for all individuals engaged in patient care. A student may be exempt from any required immunization if they have a medical contraindication or religious exemption. Failure to receive immunizations may prevent fulfillment of the nursing course objectives. The nursing department shall provide reasonable accommodations to those students whose medical conditions or religious beliefs prevent them from being immunized. However, failure to be immunized may prevent the student from meeting nursing course objectives, and therefore, jeopardizes the students' successful completion of the courses in the nursing program.

Physical Clearance

Yearly, each student will be required to have their health care provider answer questions and sign off that they have been examined that they are in good physical health, and have no restrictions when taking part in clinical rotations. This information will be filled on a health maintenance record. The health care provider will also verify/sign off on the students' health history. It is the students' responsibility to notify the Chairperson of the HSE Education Department of any changes in their health status.

Background Check

Clinical nursing students will perform a criminal history background check on a yearly basis. This is done in order to be authorized to attend clinical site rotations to fulfill clinical course objectives. This is a requirement of the clinical agencies and the

New Jersey Board of Nursing for RN licensure and is intended to protect patients in all practice setting. ***It is important to know the students with an unfavorable criminal history will not be admitted to the nursing program at RVCC.*** 2nd year & Nursing Seminar II students need to order their background check no later than 04/01/18. Nursing Seminar I students must order their background checks no later than 07/01/18. 1st year students must submit a copy of their background check that was attached to their clinical application with their health maintenance packet. **CHBC's must be done through www.adamsafeguardstudents.com – school code- rvcdn. Students are required to notify the HSE Department Chairperson in writing if they have any change in that could affect their CHBC during the academic year.** The cost associated with this is the responsibility of the student. Clinical agencies reserve the right to require a more frequent or additional background check, fingerprinting, or any requirement deemed by them & needed to clear a clinical nursing student. These additional requirements would as well, be the responsibility of the student.

Diagnostic Testing

Each first year, Nursing Seminar I and PNAD student is to have the following lab work done by their personal physician: CBC, comprehensive metabolic profile and urinalysis (NOT A URINE DIPSTICK IN OFFICE). **The physician MUST fill in the values of each test on the "Student Health Maintenance Record" AND provide a copy of each lab** to keep in the students' file. Once these lab tests are on file with Sentry MD they are good for two years. It is recommended that Nursing Seminar I student re-do this lab work since it is only good for 2 years.

Hepatitis B Immunization & Titer

1. **Documented immune titer –Hepatitis B Surface Antibodies (anti-HBs) is required.**
2. If student has not previously completed a vaccination series, the course of vaccination requires 3 doses at 0, 1 month & 6 months.
3. **The first 2 doses are required before the deadline of form submittal.** Subsequent doses must adhere to the above schedule. **(Titer must be done 2 months after vaccination is complete).** If titer is negative for antibodies, a second Hepatitis B series is required if no previous positive Hep B Ab serology has been documented on the student. If student previously had a positive Hep B Ab serology, only a booster is required. Documentation of the re-titer is **required in a certain circumstances.**
4. Contraindications can be viewed at - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html>
5. If student declines the Hepatitis B vaccine series, a medical reason must be listed on the declination statement. Additional paperwork and documentation will be required- please see Coordinator of HSE.
6. Students that are continuing the Hep B vaccine series while in clinical rotations must sign the statement on part 3 of the health maintenance record. Students need to submit with their health maintenance packet proof of all future appointment dates for immunizations and titer. The packet will not be complete without this information.

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Immunization & Titer

1. **Documented immune titer is required.**
2. If you were born in 1957 or later and have not had the MMR vaccine, or if you don't have an up-to-date blood test that shows you are immune to measles or mumps (i.e., no serologic evidence of immunity or prior vaccination), get 2 doses of MMR (1 dose now and the 2nd dose 8 weeks later.)
3. Students that are continuing the MMR vaccine series while in clinical rotations must sign a statement regarding this. See Coordinator of HSE for details. Students need to submit with their health maintenance packet proof of all future appointment dates for immunizations and titer. The packet will not be complete without this information. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/hcw.htm>
4. One dose of MMR vaccine should be considered for HCP with no laboratory evidence of disease or immunity to rubella. For these same HCP who do not have evidence of immunity, 2 doses of MMR vaccine are recommended during an outbreak of measles or mumps and 1 dose during an outbreak of rubella. <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2017.pdf>
5. Contraindications can be viewed at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.htm>

Varicella Immunization or Positive Immune Titer

1. **Documented immune titer or proof of completed immunization series required (if have received the series prior)**
2. Persons with history of the active disease should have it documented on the health maintenance record by a health care provider with a copy of a positive immune titer.
3. Persons who received the varicella immunization series must have it documented on the health maintenance record by a health care provider.

- Anyone who presents with a weak titer with no history of varicella vaccination must receive the varicella immunization series- 2 doses at 0 and 2 months. This is required before starting clinical rotations.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/varicella/hcp-vacc.html>

- Contraindications can be viewed at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html>

-A COPY OF EACH TITER RESULT IS NEEDED FOR THE STUDENTS' FILE Immune titers are good for the entire time student is in the nursing program. Required titers must be drawn upon admission to the nursing program.

Tetanus and Diphtheria/Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis

- A tetanus and diphtheria (Tdap) booster is required within the last 10 years if the student has a documented history of receiving a primary series of diphtheria and tetanus (DT) or diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DPT) in infancy. Students under age 65 years of age are strongly advised to receive a Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (Tdap) booster if they are due for a booster and NEVER had one (a Tdap vaccine).
- If never immunized against tetanus or diphtheria, the student should speak to their health care provider and receive the immunization series.
- Contraindications can be viewed at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html>

Two Step PPDs/Tuberculosis Skin Testing

- All new nursing students in the PNAD and 1st year programs are required to have 2 PPDs, 1-3 weeks apart. PPD are an annual requirement. 2nd year or Nursing Seminar I and Nursing Seminar II students may opt to receive only 1 ppd, as long as it is placed and read within the past 12 months of the previous PPD. The last PPD received cannot be older than 12 months for a 2nd year or Nursing Seminar I & II student to receive only one PPD.
- All PPDs be completed and read and documented at the time the health maintenance form is submitted to Sentry MD. **BLOOD tests are NOT ACCEPTED.** Persons with a history of having the BCG vaccine must speak to their health care provider regarding TB testing. Results of initial TB test **cannot be more than 6 months old.**
- PPD test must be assessed within 48-72 hours after placement and measurement of the size (in mm) of induration noted. **Then a 2nd PPD test must be placed 1-3 weeks later and assessed within 48-72 hours after placement-**the area is to be measured in mm and documented.
- If a positive PPD test occurs follow the following procedure:
 - A follow up chest x ray is required – results must be attached the radiology report to health form. If chest X ray is negative, health care provider clearance is needed.
 - If chest X ray is positive, clearance from the health care provider or Infectious Disease health care provider must be obtained to continue in the nursing program.

***For new nursing students, BOTH PPDS need to be placed, read, and documented on the health maintenance form to be considered completed. 2nd year and Seminar students must have their PPD fully documented on the health maintenance form as well. Do not upload your PPD documentation until it is fully completed. It is recommended for PNAD and Early admission students that the 2nd PPD be no earlier than the first week in May 2018.**

PPDs are done yearly. A two step PPD done 4/01/19 and 4/08/19 is NOT acceptable because it will not be valid through the entire Spring 2020 semester.

Malpractice Insurance for Student Nurses

All students entering or continuing the program for the June 2019 (PNAD) or September 2019 Semester must purchase their Malpractice Insurance before their health maintenance deadline date. The policy date will go from on or about May 15, 2019- May 15, 2020 (late admission students may date their policies accordingly since admission is after this date)

The policy can be purchased immediately- today. Students can request specific dates via the insurance company

- Liability amounts for this policy MUST be 1,000,000 per 6,000,000
- Please pick registered nursing student status (our program is an associate degree, registered nurse student level)
- The only form of proof of having a malpractice insurance policy is to upload to Sentry MD, a copy of the malpractice insurance declaration page. No receipts of payment will serve as proof of being insured – you must have the declaration page emailed to you to print out/save on your computer after 24 hours of purchasing, or get the original declaration page in the postal mail. See additional handouts for examples of companies.

Drug Screening

Urine drug screening will be done at a designated time period each year for nursing students prior to the start of clinical rotations and classes. **Urine drug screening must be paid for and scheduled via www.adamsafeguardstudents.com during the designated drug testing period (see addition handout for dates and instructions)** Ordering school code is rvcd. **DO NOT ORDER THE DRUG TEST OUTSIDE THE TESTING DATES- Please do not order ahead of time!**

Urine drug screening is a mandatory requirement for admission to the clinical component of the nursing program. **A positive drug screen, drug testing outside the designated time period, not going for drug testing, or refusal to submit to testing will result in dismissal from the nursing program.** Students will be subject to drug tests while enrolled in the clinical nursing program. Results of a dilute urine drug test may necessitate repeat and/or random drug screening while students are enrolled in the clinical nursing program at RVCC. The cost of initial and any repeat urine drug screen/s is the responsibility of the student. The clinical agencies determine the eligibility of a student being clinically placed at their facility. A negative drug test is required for admission and for the progression in the nursing program.

NOTE: The Urine Drug Screening is NOT part of your Health Care Provider's routine physical exam.

CPR Certification

1. All students must provide a copy of a valid **BLS/Healthcare Provider CPR** card from the **American Heart Association**. **No other CPR providers are accepted.** CPR certification cannot expire within an academic year. Letters showing a class was attended or skills checklists are not acceptable as documentation of certification. **Students MUST take a full, in person class to obtain this CPR certification- online classes are not accepted. A copy of a CPR card with the expiration date and student's name is the only documentation accepted.**
2. PNADs should take their CPR class as soon as possible. Early admission Generic RN's should take their CPR class in May 2019. Late admission Generic RN's should take their CPR class no later than early July 2019.
3. CPR certification cannot expire within an academic year.

Influenza

1. In accordance with many of our clinical facilities, an influenza vaccine is **mandatory annually during the fall semester**.
 - a. There is a separate form for each student (1st year, 2nd year, Nursing Seminar I & II and PNAD students) who need to get filled out after receiving an influenza vaccine. PNADs will need to prove they had an influenza vaccine for the 2018-2019 influenza season as well.
 - b. All current nursing students with clinical assignments must comply with the Center for Disease Control (CDC's) recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccination by **October 1, 2019** in order to continue their clinical rotations at their respective clinical agency. The following documentation form must be submitted/uploaded to Sentry MD.
 - c. Some students may need the influenza vaccine earlier due to contractual agreements with clinical agencies those students will be contacted.
 - d. Contraindications can be viewed at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/vaccines.htm> – please see the Coordinator of HSE regarding the need for declining an influenza vaccine and what information is needed.

Pregnancy: While pregnancy is considered a healthy life event, clinical nursing may expose the mother and unborn fetus to harmful conditions. Harmful conditions may be present in some, but not all, clinical placements. Please refer to: Alex, M.A. (2011) Occupational Hazards for Pregnant Nurses, *American Journal of Nursing* 111, pp 28-37. It is the **student's responsibility** to inform the clinical instructor as soon as pregnancy is **suspected and/or confirmed**. Appropriate selection of cases during clinical experiences may or may not be available. It is also the **student's responsibility** to obtain medical clearance from a primary care physician and/or obstetrician or midwife. Medical clearance means that it is safe for the student to participate in clinical activities and what, if any accommodations are needed. Written clearance should identify the pregnancy diagnosis, any limitations, be signed by a licensed health care professional and turned into the HSE Student Services Specialist. This medical clearance needs to be obtained within 1 week of the confirmation of the pregnancy. Failure to notify clinical faculty and the Coordinator of HSE in a timely manner

may result in risks to the pregnancy that could be avoided if the presence of a pregnancy was known. It is the student's informed decision as to whether to continue in the program during a pregnancy.

PNAD, 1st year, 2nd year and Nursing Seminar students: All students who do **not** understand/have questions regarding the health maintenance requirements should contact the Coordinator of HSE- Nadine.Larson@raritanval.edu Email is the fastest and easiest way of contact. **All documents must be uploaded to the Sentry MD student portal at one time when they are completed- partial documents are not accepted for upload.** Students will not be permitted to register for nursing classes until they have met health maintenance requirements- you may forward Nadine.larson@raritanval.edu proof that Sentry MD has accepted your documents and deemed them complete, as each student will receive a confirmation email from Sentry MD within 1-3 business days of uploading completed documents. In the body of the email sent to Nadine.Larson@raritanval.edu students may suggest a few days and times to meet for class registration. **Students will need to bring a copy of a degree evaluation and proof of no RVCC account holds at the time of their class registration appointment.**

Please make an appointment with the Coordinator of HSE to register for upcoming Summer/Fall nursing classes once health maintenance documents are accepted by Sentry MD and deemed complete. **At this registration appointment, students will make an appointment for a time during a designated period to register for Spring 2020 nursing classes.**

Raritan Valley Community College
Associate Degree Nursing Program

nadine.larson@raritanval.edu

<http://commons.raritanval.edu/academics/dept/hs/index.html> www.raritanval.edu/nursing