

March 21, 2018

## STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS

The intent behind the professional development hours is to provide the pre-licensure MSN students with an opportunity to explore aspects of health care they may not encounter in their classes, provide service to the community, and develop a beginning grasp of the Clinical Nurse Leader role and competencies (attached to this document).

To that end, the following changes have been approved by the MSN Curriculum Committee in February 2018 and are effective immediately.

- The total number of PD hours will be 100 hours
- These hours can be accrued across all 6 terms based on the following guidance. STUDENTS CAN ACCRUE UP TO THE DESIGNATED NUMBER OF HOURS EACH TERM
  - Term 1-10 hours
  - Term 2-10 hours
  - Term 3-20 hours
  - Term 4-20 hours
  - Terms 5 & 6 –remaining hours (40 hours)
  - ALL HOURS MUST BE COMPLETED BY WEEK 10 OF TERM 6
- How will this work?
  - If in any given term you attend events or participate in more than the hours allotted, you will choose the events that best match the stated criteria above to put in your log of hours but you CANNOT log more than the hours designated for each term.
  - It is your responsibility to keep track of your hours and maintain that log over the 6 terms. Attached is the format of the log you will use.
  - In term 3, you will make an appointment with your advisor to go over the activities you have participated in to that point and have a conversation about what you are interested in for future terms.
  - The PD hours will be housed in the NSG507 course in Term 6 and the Course Director will collect the logs no later than Week 10 of Term 6. The log must be turned in to graduate from the program.
- What counts for PD hours?
  - This always seems to be the difficult question! We want you to use your time wisely to gain perspective on the profession you have chosen as well as contribute to the community in which we practice. We also want you to be cognizant of the CNL competencies and how you can incorporate that level of thinking and questioning into your PD hours experiences.
  - An example of incorporating this level of thinking could be a focus on the Organizational and Systems Leadership competency that states: “Demonstrate working knowledge of the healthcare system and its component parts, including sites of care, delivery models, payment models, and the roles of health care professionals, patients, caregivers, and unlicensed professionals.”

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- Let's say you volunteer to work with the March of Dimes March. You will be engaged with families who have had premature infants or infants with some type of difficulty at birth. You can use these encounters to think about all the health care systems these families have to be engaged with, how does such care get paid for? Who pays for it? How do these families manage with their children after they leave the hospital? What healthcare team is involved with them post-discharge? What is the role of the RN in the NICU, post-discharge, in the clinic?
- We expect you to take what seems like a fairly simple volunteer experience and think about it on an individual patient level, a family level, a community level and a systems level....that is the role of the Master's prepared RN and CNL.
- You can count up to 20 hours for seminars, webinars (like TedTalks), lectures (non class) at the RUMC or wider Chicago community, and conferences.
- Part of your log will be providing the rationale for your choice of this activity and describing the category of activity that it represents.

It is important that you capture the spirit of this activity! This is not meant to be busy work or just one more thing to do but to allow you credit for being involved in opportunities outside of the classroom that enrich your education and developing professionalism as a nurse. These encounters should also help you prepare for the CNL exam as you begin to bring that perspective to each encounter and engage in a level of thought expected of a MSN CNL professional nurse.

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