

Butler Community College
Department of Nursing

Procedure Guidelines: Requesting Exemptions to Clinical Requirements

Reason for Procedure Guidelines: This process will provide guidance to students and faculty requesting, managing, and outlining expectations for exemptions to Clinical Requirements as set by the Department of Nursing and their Clinical Affiliates as referenced in Nursing Student Handbook. Clinical Requirements are based on the highest requirements from clinical partners as outlined in their respective Clinical Affiliate Agreements. Clinical Requirements, such as immunizations, are critical safeguards, not only to protect the patients we serve, but also the students, their families, and fellow students.

Responsible Individuals: The College Health staff, in collaboration with nursing faculty and the Nurse Administrator, will process and review all student requests for exemption, declination, and refusal to selected immunizations and approve if the request is deemed appropriate.

Policy Statement: Students may request exemption, declination or refusal **only** to the following Clinical Requirements

- A. Covid-19 initial vaccine and/or booster:
 - 1. Students must:
 - a) Submit request for Exemption form to College Health
 - b) Submit evidence of medical reason from healthcare provider or a letter that explains personally held religious beliefs
 - 2. Acknowledge the risks of not being vaccinated that may include but not limited to the following:
 - a) Required quarantine times based on CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and/or clinical affiliates guidelines
 - b) Financial loss
 - c) Inability to complete course requirements
 - d) Must follow masking and other PPE requirements for unvaccinated individuals as required by clinical affiliates and/or CDC.
 - 3. Students and the Nursing Department will be notified by College Health of their approval, denial, or request for additional information regarding their request for exemption.
- B. Influenza vaccination declination
 - 1. Students must submit a declination form and cite reasons for declination
 - 2. Acknowledge the risks of not being vaccinated that may include but not limited to the following:

- a) Must follow masking requirements for unvaccinated individuals as required by clinical affiliates and/or CDC
 - b) Failure to follow this policy will result in the inability to successfully complete clinical time and associated coursework.
- C. Hepatitis B vaccination
- 1. Submit completed Refusal form to College Health
 - 2. Maintain standard precautions during clinical and lab situations

All other Clinical Requirements and immunizations are required of all nursing students without exception. Failure to obtain and maintain the identified clinical requirements as cited in the Nursing Student Handbook, will result in the student being prohibited from attending clinical practice and will cause the student to be unable to successfully complete their coursework.