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Welcome

The faculty and staff of the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing would like to welcome you to the program! This handbook has been designed for you to use as a resource and to familiarize you with program policies and guidelines. You will also be assigned to a faculty advisor who will act as a resource person for you, and we recommend that you go to that person with your questions and concerns.

This handbook is reviewed and updated on a yearly basis. If it is necessary to change a policy during the school year, students will be informed in a timely manner.

Once again, welcome to the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing! We are looking forward to helping you attain your goal of becoming a professional nurse.

Sincerely,

Faculty and Staff

School Motto: Care, Compassion, Competence

Mission:

The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing exists to provide quality nursing education. We seek to engage a diverse group of students in a manner that enables our graduates to become leaders in providing competent and safe bedside nursing care across the continuum and throughout the surrounding community.

Philosophy:

Nursing is a dynamic process of caring based on a theory-guided, evidence-based body of knowledge and established standards of professional practice. The focus of nursing practice is based on the patient/family's level of functioning, preferences, values, and needs related to their diverse physiological, psychological, socio-cultural, developmental and spiritual dimensions which promote, maintain and restore wellness. Education is a life-long process that fosters the development of critical thinking so that individuals can respond to the health care of people in a variety of settings with the concept of caring deeply rooted in its history.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Exhibit caring behavior while collaborating with the patient, family and members of the healthcare team to assist the patient to achieve optimal outcomes through evidence-based practice guidelines.
2. Utilize the nursing process to provide individualized nursing care in diverse settings while applying culturally sensitive care.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking and accountability while safely practicing within the ethical, legal and regulatory framework of nursing and standards of nursing practice.
4. Pursue personal goals for professional development and participate in lifelong learning.

Program Objectives:

1. To develop critical thinking skills, accountability, in the management of safe patient care.
2. To provide an educational process that integrates caring and evidenced based practice across the continuum and throughout the communities.
3. To advocate for patients and families in ways that promote their self-determination, integrity and ongoing growth as human beings while providing culturally sensitive care.
4. To pursue a commitment to lifelong learning in the nursing profession.

Application to Program

All program applicants will be required to meet standardized criteria in order to apply for the program. The education requirements for admission are as follows:

1. High School Education – A candidate must have completed work equal to a standard high school education. A Pennsylvania general equivalency diploma (GED) is accepted as a standard high school education.
2. High School Class Rank - Class rank will be considered for high school applicants and recent graduates. Rank in the upper half of the class is preferred.
3. Grade Point Average (GPA) - GPA will be considered for all applicants. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is preferred, with a “C” grade or better required in algebra, general biology and general chemistry, and each must be one full credit. (C-minus is not acceptable).
4. Applicants will have completed work equivalent to a high school education with a minimum of 16 units, including **four units of English, three units of social studies, two units of mathematics (one of which is Algebra), and two units of science, (general biology and general chemistry) with a related laboratory or the equivalent.** Algebra taken at a post-secondary school must be a college algebra or intermediate algebra.
5. All applicants will be required to take the National League for Nursing Preadmission Examination for RN, and a score of at least the 60th percentile is preferred.
6. Postsecondary Education - Applicants who have completed post-secondary coursework must submit a transcript(s) and detailed course description(s) for evaluation of academic achievement and possible credit transfer. Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above is preferred.
7. Applicants must have a cleared/clean record of all criminal and child abuse clearances in order to attend. Clearances are not required until after acceptance into the program and must be turned in prior to the start of classes.
8. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for applicants whose first language is not English. Acceptable scores must be documented. Minimum passing score for the TOEFL iBT is 84 or higher total score, with a minimum speaking score of 26. Minimum passing score for the TOEFL PBT is 540 or higher total score.
9. All Geisinger facilities are tobacco free. In accordance with Geisinger policy, all applicants who are offered admission will be required to have a nicotine screening. If results are positive, the offer for admission will be rescinded.
10. Must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident of the USA.
11. General Education Sciences cannot be older than 5 years.

Application to the Program Cont.'d

Applicants will be reviewed for admission after the following forms (if applicable) have been received:

1. Completed School of Nursing application with applicable fee.
2. High School graduate transcript (past or current) and/or GED (if applicable)
3. College and /or post-secondary education transcripts (past and current) (if applicable)
4. Report from TOEFL (Test of English as Foreign Language if applicable)
5. References - Three references are required. Suggestions are a teacher, guidance counselor, spiritual counselor or employer. Relatives and peers are not acceptable. References are to be submitted in an un-opened envelope with the writer's signature across the seal. In order to maintain objectivity, GLHSON faculty and staff will not provide references for applicants.
6. NOTE: Applicants are responsible for obtaining and submitting official high school, post-secondary education, and college transcripts to the School of Nursing. These must be in un-opened envelopes with a signature across the seal. Attendance at any other institution must be reported at the time of application. Failure to indicate at the time of application that the individual has taken courses at another institution will result in denial of credit transfer from that specific institution. Any other misrepresentation or material omission of fact in an application will result in the denial or revocation of admission.

If the above requirements are met, the student may be scheduled for an interview with faculty members to assess the applicant's motivation, personal qualities, academic potential, and aptitude for the nursing profession.

Refer to policy B1

Acceptance into Program

Acceptance for admission to the School of Nursing is based on the assessment of the applicant's potential to successfully complete the curriculum as indicated by the Admission criteria. The procedure is as follows:

1. The applicant's potential to successfully complete the program will be assessed through a review of admission criteria.
2. Availability of class openings will be considered.
3. The School of Nursing will select the best candidates to offer program admission: those who demonstrate a commitment to the nursing profession and who have scholastic aptitude.
4. Candidates will be notified in writing of the decision of the admission committee.
5. All students who are accepted into the program will be required to pay the admission fee.
6. Students will be required to complete and submit pre-entrance medical screening requirements (see Pre-entrance Medical Screening Requirements).
7. Students will be required to have current Healthcare Providers CPR certification and health insurance, both must be maintained during the entire program.
8. Provisional acceptance means that an applicant must meet certain conditions in order to continue in the program. Failure to meet these conditions will result in offer for admission being rescinded.
9. Applicants may be granted full-time admission into the 2-year program. Plan of study must be completed within 3 years of admission.
10. Applicants must be able to show proof of US Citizenship or Permanent Residency.

Refer to policy B2

Pre-Entrance Medical Screening

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all pre-entrance medical evaluations will be submitted after permission to enter the program is granted, will document ability to perform essential functions as outlined in the GLHSON policy manual, and will be the same for each student. The medical screening process is a comprehensive system of assessment, evaluation, and referral, designed to identify existing problem areas, document baseline health status; provide immuno-prophylaxis and education, and establish criteria for ongoing medical surveillance.

Essential Functions of a Nursing Student are as follows:

1. **Critical Thinking:** critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For ex, student must be able to identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, collect and analyze data to aid in problem solving and develop nursing care plans. The student must be able to read and apply information in the clinical setting.
2. **Interpersonal Skills:** interpersonal abilities sufficient to establish rapport with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
3. **Communication Skills:** communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in English verbal and English written form. Must be able to read a patient chart and apply information to the clinical setting. Must be able to spell medical terms.
4. **Mobility:** physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces. Able to tolerate a clinical experience up to 12 hours in length.
5. **Motor skills:** gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care. For ex. Calibrate and use equipment, position and move patients, administer cardiopulmonary procedures, and perform skill procedures.
6. **Hearing:** auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs and identify a change in patient condition. For ex. Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultation sounds, and cries for help. Hear, understand, and apply English language.
7. **Visual:** visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care. For ex. Observe patient responses, specimen color, distinguish between colors.
8. **Tactile:** tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. For ex. Perform palpation functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, insertions of catheters, taking pulses, and change in temperature. **Olfactory:** discern various odors from patients and environment. For ex. Foul smelling drainages, burning materials, gases, and spoiled food.

Pre-Entrance Medical Screening Cont'd

9. Weight-bearing Strength and Mobility: ability to lift and manipulate/move 45-50 pounds daily.
10. Cognitive Abilities: ability to be oriented to time, place, and person, organize responsibilities and make decisions. The student shall assess patient complaints, provide prioritized patient care, and implement appropriate plans. The student must be able to provide follow-up evaluative care.
11. Temperament and Emotional Control: must be able to be patient, calm, and react to perform in a high stress situation. For ex. Cardiac arrest, shock, hemorrhage, and high stakes testing.
12. Professional Behaviors: behaviors consistent with forming a safe and effective therapeutic relationship with patients. For ex. Conveying a caring, respectful, sensitive, tactful, compassionate, empathetic, and tolerant attitude toward patients, family, and members of the interdisciplinary team. Handle multiple tasks concurrently. Provide nursing care in an appropriate time frame. Accept responsibility, accountability, and ownership of one's actions.

Examples Are Not All Inclusive: If a nursing student or applicant believes that he/she cannot meet one or more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the school of nursing must determine, on an individual basis, whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made. Requests for accommodations should be directed toward the Program Director or designee.

A change in the student's health during the program of learning so that the essential functions cannot be met, with or without accommodations, may result in withdrawal from the nursing program. The nursing faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense in order to assist with the evaluation of the student's ability to perform the essential functions.

Pre-Entrance Medical Screening Cont'd

Nicotine and drug testing will be completed prior to admission into the program. If the test results demonstrate a positive result, the student will not be admitted into the program. A negative nicotine and drug test result must be maintained throughout the program.

Students must be free from communicable diseases, infection, psychological disorders and other conditions that present a threat to, or negatively impact the well being of faculty, other students or consumers, or would prevent the successful performance of the responsibilities and tasks required in the nursing education program.

New students and students re-entering the program greater than six months since withdrawing will be required to review and update medical information and perform nicotine and drug screening with the Student Health nurse. A physical examination will be necessary for all new students and those returning from a leave greater than six months. Students re-entering the program within six months of withdrawing will be required to review and update medical information with the student health nurse. A new physical exam will be necessary if there are changes in the medical condition of the student.

Faculty may refer students to the student health nurse if they appear to be unable to perform clinical functions. The student health nurse may ask for additional medical clearance or drug testing as she deems necessary.

Refer to policy B3

Liability Insurance:

All students will be required to maintain liability insurance and maintain it throughout the length of the program up to and including graduation. Malpractice insurance must be no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence. Any student who fails to maintain liability insurance will not be allowed to attend clinical experiences.

Health Insurance:

All students will be required to show proof of health insurance and maintain health insurance throughout the length of the program up to and including graduation. Any student who fails to maintain health insurance may be involuntarily withdrawn from the program.

Child Abuse and Criminal Record Check/FBI Clearance

All students must provide criminal history information (Act 33) and PA Child Abuse History Clearance (Act 151). The clearances must have been obtained within the past six months, and the original forms must be produced. All forms must be placed in the student's file prior to enrollment.

Applicants must have a cleared/clean record of all criminal/FBI and child abuse clearances and maintain throughout the program.

The PA State Board of Nursing reserves the right to deny licensure based on the applicant's criminal and/or child abuse history, even if an individual has completed a nursing program (Refer to the Professional Nursing Law).

Refer to policy B1

Students with Disabilities

The Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing is committed to offering students who are disabled (as defined by Section 104 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) an opportunity to participate in the program. Evidence of a current, substantial limitation to learning or other major life activity and recent documentation (within the past 5 years) from a psychologist or physician must be submitted to the School of Nursing prior to registering for a course at the school. Pending review of substantiating information, the student will meet with the Program Director and/or designee to develop an individual education plan. The student is responsible for meeting with instructors to discuss how accommodation provisions may be implemented.

Please refer to the GLHSON policy manual on further student nursing physical and mental requirements.

Advanced Placement

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) may apply for and receive advanced placement in the program.

The following criteria must be met:

1. All admission and pre-requisite requirements must be met.
2. The applicant must be a graduate of a Board-approved and accredited program.
3. The applicant must have a current Pennsylvania LPN license and be in good standing. A copy of the LPN license needs to be submitted and/or license verification will be conducted.
4. Two years of LPN work experience are preferred within the past 5 years.
5. All written work and testing must be met with satisfactory performance in the transition course in order to continue in the program.
6. Additional theory and clinical time may be recommended, even if advanced standing is granted.
7. Students who are currently licensed as an LPN in the state of PA and in good standing, may receive credit for N111-Nursing Fundamentals, Nursing 122-Professional Nursing Communication, Nursing 213 Critical Thinking. They will not be required to complete a course transfer form to receive credit.

Refer to Policy B5

Transfer Policy

A. For students requesting course transfer credit:

- 1.) The GLHSON will maintain a list of courses that have been previously reviewed and approved. This list can be found in the Empower system.
- 2.) Students are not required to submit course transfer forms if the courses have already been approved by the school. However, if a student has taken a course that is not on the list, then he/she must request a course transfer. The student must also submit official transcripts from the college or previous professional nursing program. The course description must be included for any courses that are not on the list of previously reviewed and approved courses.
- 3.) The advisor will review the course descriptions and will take one of the following actions:

Transfer Policy Cont'd

- a) If the course is included on the previously reviewed and approved course list, the advisor will approve the course and will submit the form for credit.
 - b) If the course is not on the previously reviewed and approved course list, the advisor will request a review by the Executive Committee.
 - c) The committee may ask the student for the course syllabus.
 - d) The committee will determine whether the course will be accepted, and this decision will be communicated to the student.
 - e) When an official transcript is received, the course will be added to the student's GLHSON transcript. Until the official transcripts are received, the course will show no credit amount on the grade report.
 - f) If the student decides to take a CLEP test for a course, credit must be granted through a college or university, and the student must submit official transcripts as proof of credit with the approved course number on the transcript. A course transfer form must also be completed. CLEP testing credit for English courses will not be accepted.
 - g) Accepted transfers will receive an official credit evaluation after student registration. For every semester that the student is still taking general education courses, he/she will be required to submit grade reports from the respective college or institution where the course is being taken. Students will be required to submit official transcripts at the end of every summer semester. Students may be refused registration to nursing courses if official transcripts are not submitted.
 - h) Students will not graduate and will not be approved to take the NCLEX exam until official transcripts are received for all classes
- B. For students who have been enrolled in previous professional nursing programs:
- 1.) Every applicant must meet the basic admission requirements (refer to Admission Requirements policy).
 - 2.) Only students who have successfully completed nursing courses at an accredited institution of higher education will be considered transfer students.
 - 3.) Transfer students must complete a minimum of three semesters of core nursing courses at the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing.
 - 4.) Granting of transfer credit is evaluated on a course-by-course basis by the committee.
 - 5.) The student will follow the procedure for requesting course transfer credit.
 - 6.) Transfer applicants will be considered if space is available in the class.
 - 7.) Nursing Course transfer will be granted based on the following:
 - a) The course content must be comparable to the curriculum that is offered in Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing curriculum.
 - b) Course descriptions will be required for nursing courses completed at other institutions. Faculty will make the decision based on a review of the course description submitted.
 - c) In order for courses to be considered the course grade earned in Theory/Clinical must be at least C/P or higher. (C-minus is unacceptable).
 - d) Successful completion of challenge exams may be required.
 - e) A fee will be charged for each nursing challenge examination. The fee must be paid on or before the day of testing, and the student will be informed of the fee prior to the testing date.

- f) Students who have successfully challenged the theoretical knowledge portion of the course are required to be evaluated for clinical proficiency.
- g) Faculty may require students to audit nursing courses and/or attend clinical preparatory sessions as a condition of their enrollment.
- h) The student may be placed on academic probation as a condition of enrollment in the GLHSON program.
- 8.) After beginning the nursing program, all required courses must be taken through Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing, unless special approval is granted.

Refer to policy B7

Scholarship Protocol

All students will be given proper notice when scholarships are available. Scholarships must be submitted per the directions for each scholarship. Students receiving any type of scholarships may be required to attend a recognition ceremony or meet with donors as part of their scholarship acceptance.

Current Scholarships

Robert & Sandy Metz Scholarship

\$2,000.00 scholarship per year for the 2yr program. Offered once every other year. Must be an employee of the Geisinger Healthcare System.

Sarah Heintzelman Stoicheff Scholarship

Scholarship offered once a year (amount to be determined).

Chapman Family Scholarship

Scholarships offered once a year (number and amount to be determined).

GLHSON (Darrow Scholarship & Community)

\$1,000.00 scholarship offered once a year.

Refer to Policy C11

Student Advisement / Academic Counseling

Each student will be assigned a faculty advisor. The student will be responsible to complete a Student Checklist form found on our website, and for setting up a meeting with their advisor at least once a semester. In addition, the advisor must approve and sign all registration forms. Students are expected to keep their advisor apprised of any pertinent issues.

Student Privacy

In order to protect student privacy, personal information such as phone numbers, addresses, or email addresses will not be released. Students are encouraged to personally share these if desired. Academic, financial or personal information will not be disclosed to outside individuals or institutions without a signed release of information. The Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association will receive an address listing upon student graduation – please inform the GLHSON Secretary if you do not want your information shared with them. Also, Geisinger email addresses will be shared with student groups. GLHSON follows the rules of FERPA which are outlined later in this handbook.

Communication

All students will be provided a Geisinger email address and they are to check their messages on a daily basis.

A secured mailbox for the GLHSON faculty/staff is located in front of the SON office building. No money or checks are to be placed in this mailbox.

The School of Nursing website can be accessed from the hospital website (www.geisinger.edu). Information for students will be posted on the website, and many forms can be downloaded from this site. Please check the site frequently.

Please note: Upon any change of address (email or home), phone numbers, name changes or contact information, it is your responsibility to inform the school administration office immediately to keep your files accurate and up to date. A request to update personal information can be submitted through the Empower system.

Name changes must have legal documentation included. New badges are required. No changes will be made until proper paperwork is received.

Social Media/Confidentiality

Social media, professional networking sites, rapid-fire communication, blog sites and personal websites are all useful technology. The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing appreciates the importance of using social media to foster learning and innovation through responsible open exchange and dialogue.

Strict confidentiality for all patients and residents of clinical sites will be maintained. Patient information is only to be shared in confidential areas of the facility with direct healthcare providers and faculty. It is never to be discussed outside the facility. When discussing Protected Health Information (PHI) in any non-secure area, all conversations should be kept as low as reasonably possible.

All students will have access to the student handbook online. The handbook will be reviewed with the students at orientation and on an annual basis. Once reviewed an acknowledge receipt will be signed by the student.

Refer to policy C13

Use of Logo or Name

The logo or name of the School of Nursing and/or the Hospital is not to be used without permission from the GLHSON director.

Photocopying

All students are reminded that for personal copies, the photocopier in the computer lab and the Sandy Lane classroom is available for your use. Students are to be mindful of copyright infringement issues and hospital guidelines.

Copyright laws are noted in the financial aid disclosure section of the handbook.

Plan of Study

The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing (GLHSON) offers one program of study and that is in professional nursing. At the completion of the program, the graduate is eligible to apply for the National Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN) to become a Registered Nurse.

In order to graduate from the GLHSON program, a student will need to complete 88 credits. The nursing courses, totaling 58 credits, will be offered by the GLHSON.

The remaining 30 credits are college courses, and GLHSON has partnered with Harrisburg Area Community College to offer these courses to our students, although students may choose a college of their choice. Please meet with the financial aid advisor prior to scheduling your college courses.

Students who do not have the 30 credit college courses completed before entry will take these courses in the evening, at the college that you choose, and courses must be taken during or before the semester that they are listed. All general education courses must be completed prior to the Leadership and Management in Nursing course.

The GLHSON offers a two-year Plan of Study. Students who are Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) in the state of Pennsylvania may qualify for advance standing.

GLHSON Plan of Study**(Fall – 16 weeks)**

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N111: Nursing Fundamentals	10	Psychology	3
N122: Professional Nursing Communication	1	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
N213: Critical Thinking	1		
N130: PN-RN Progression Course* (LPN's only)	2		

(Spring – 16 weeks)

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N112: Pharmacology	2	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
N121: Medical Surgical Nursing	8	Microbiology	4

(Summer – 12 weeks)

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N131: Medical-Surgical Nursing II	6	Nutrition	3
		Human Growth and Development	3

Year Two:**(Fall – 16 weeks)**

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N211: Nursing Care of the Elderly	6	English	3
N221: Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	6	Computer Applications	3

(Spring – 16 weeks)

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N212: Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	5	Sociology	3
N222: Nursing Care of the Critically Ill	5		
N232: Transcultural Nursing	2		

(Summer – 12 weeks)

GLHSON Courses	Credit/ Unit	General Education Course(s)	Credit/ Unit
N231: Leadership and Management in Nursing	6		

Two Year Plan of Study = 88 Credits/Units

Transfer Students and LPNs may qualify to receive credit for Nursing Fundamentals (8 credits), Professional Nursing Communication (1 credit), and Critical Thinking (1 credit) upon admission into the program.

Plan of study must be completed within 3 years.

School of Nursing RN Course Descriptions

Course Descriptions

N111: Nursing Fundamentals

Credit Hours: 10 units (5 theory and 5 lab/clinical)

This course is designed to introduce students to nursing fundamentals based on concepts of health promotion and wellness. The theoretical component of the course will emphasize the basic needs of the individual in maintaining health and wellness and preventing illness. Theoretical concepts include an introduction to professional nursing as a caring profession, communication techniques, introduction to legal and ethical issues, nursing physical assessment and history-taking, nursing process, and the teaching-learning process. An overview will be provided on various types of health-care settings and patient care delivery systems.

The clinical laboratory portion of this course will enable the student to develop clinical competencies in the learning laboratory and to integrate theoretical concepts with clinical skills. Through selected guided experiences in direct care and the community, the student will apply acquired skills and knowledge to meet the basic health care needs of individuals. (Co-requisites: N122, N213, Psychology, and Anatomy and Physiology I).

N 121: Medical Surgical Nursing I

Credit Hours: 8 Units (5 theory; 3 lab/clinical)

Presents concepts relating to the individual whose basic needs have been altered by illness. This course emphasizes the effects of stress on homeostasis in adults. The specific needs of clients experiencing impaired skin integrity, pain, altered nutrition, impaired mobility, fluid and electrolyte imbalances, fatigue, and challenges to emotional and spiritual well-being are presented in the classroom. Care of the client during the perioperative period is also presented. Principles of pharmacology and techniques of medication administration are emphasized. Guided clinical learning experiences are presented in an acute care setting, integrating theoretical concepts with clinical skills. Restoration of the client, family, and community wholeness is emphasized through appropriate assessment, diagnosis, planning, and therapeutic intervention/evaluation and client education. (Prerequisites: Nursing N111 and all of its requirements; Pre- or Co-requisites: N112, Anatomy & Physiology II and Microbiology).

N131: Medical Surgical Nursing II

Credit Hours: 6 Units (3 Theory; 3 lab/clinical)

This course builds on the theories and clinical experiences of Nursing 121. It emphasizes the care specific to the individual who is experiencing cellular imbalance. Adult health nursing theory is presented through an integrated approach that includes: prevention of illness; pathophysiology; promotion of wellness; rehabilitation; integration of research and problem-solving; pharmaco-therapeutics; diet/nutrition therapy; patient teaching; and other modalities.

The clinical nursing experience enables the student to plan, implement, and evaluate patient care plans designed to restore homeostasis in the adult client within an acute care setting and in community settings. (Pre-requisite Nursing 121 and all of its requirements; Pre- or Co-requisites: Nutrition and Human Growth & Development).

N 211: Nursing Care of the Elderly

Credit Hours: 6 units (3 theory and 3 lab/clinical)

This course focuses on the changes experienced with aging and their influence on the individual, the family and the community. The course introduces concepts related to the aging phenomenon and related healthcare dynamics. It explores personal values related to aging and promotes sensitivity to aging issues. End-of-life care issues are explored with an emphasis on appropriate pain management. This course provides clinical experiences that allow students to apply theoretical concepts to Gerontological nursing practice in the acute care and community settings (Pre-requisites: Nursing 131 and all of its requirements; Pre- or co-requisites: English Composition and Computer Applications).

N 212: Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing

Credit Hours: 5 Units (3 theory/2 clinical)

This course will build on skills developed in N 122: Professional Nursing Communication. The student will be introduced to the concepts of nursing care as related to patients experiencing coping mechanism failures. The theoretical framework emphasizes therapeutic and interpersonal relationship skills, including self-awareness skills, communication skills, group process, and psychopathological disorders. The student will gain experience in working with adults, adolescents, and children. The clinical component includes experiences with one-to-one relationships and group interpersonal situations in acute, chronic, and community mental health systems. (Pre-requisites: Nursing 131 and all of its requirements; Pre-or co-requisites: Sociology).

N221: Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family

Credit Hours: 6 Units (3 Theory; 3 lab/clinical)

This course introduces the student to concepts of nursing care for the childbearing family. Emphasis is placed on applying concepts of childrearing and childbearing within the family unit from the prenatal client to the adolescent client. Principles of growth and development are correlated to nursing and medical diagnoses. The theoretical content includes the care of families experiencing normal and high-risk pregnancy and childbirth as well as pediatrics. Preventative issues surrounding the childbearing family are also emphasized. The clinical learning component includes experiences in the prenatal, antenatal, and postpartum management of the patient in the acute care and community settings. (Pre-requisites: Nursing 131 and all of its requirements; Pre- or co-requisites: English Composition and Computer Applications).

N222: Nursing Care of the Critically Ill

Credit Hours: 5 Units (3 Theory; 2 lab/clinical)

This course builds on the theories and clinical experiences of Nursing 111, 121, 131. The student will learn about clients who are experiencing high-risk, complex multi-system health care problems across the life span. Nursing concepts related to the needs of the critically ill patient will be emphasized. The course will incorporate advanced nursing skills and the theoretical knowledge required when caring for patients with complex medical-surgical problems. Caring relationships and critical thinking skills are emphasized in addition to the psychodynamics involved when caring for individuals and families experiencing a life-threatening crisis. Clinical experiences offer the student the guided application of theoretical knowledge and technical skills required to provide holistic nursing care to this population. (Pre-requisite: Nursing 131 and all of its requirements; Pre-or co-requisites: Sociology).

N231: Leadership and Management in Nursing

Credit Hours: 6 Units (2 theory; 4 lab/clinical)

Introduces the student to the leadership and management skills needed to manage the care of individuals with acute health care needs. Emphasis is placed on the concepts of leadership, change, legal issues and quality improvement in health care delivery systems. Clinical experiences are designed to provide the student an opportunity for the application of leadership and management theories in the delivery of nursing care. Students are also oriented to the functions and responsibilities of the graduate nurse. (Prerequisites: Nursing 111 through Nursing 222 and all of their pre- or co-requisites, including general education courses).

N122: Professional Nursing Communication

Credit Hours: 1 Unit (1 theory; 0 lab/clinical)

Introduces the student to the theories and skills necessary for effective and collaborative communication between members of the healthcare team as well as patients, families and others. Explores communication theories with a focus on listening skills, teaching skills, customer service skills and professional boundaries and relationships. Classroom experiences are designed to allow the student to apply theoretical knowledge and gain experience in the critical role of the nurse as a member of the interdisciplinary healthcare team. Provides the opportunity to learn and use medical terminology as well as to read, interpret and appropriately share patient information.

N130: PN-RN Progression

Credit Hours: 2 Units (1 theory; 1 lab/clinical)

This course is designed to integrate the theoretical concepts basic to professional nursing from practical nursing concepts and experiences. The course bridges prior learning and experience with professional nursing education. This course focuses on the delineation of the role and responsibility of the professional nurse as well as the theoretical basis for the nursing process. This course is open only to LPN-RN students. Nursing advisor approval is required prior to enrollment in this course.

The physical assessment or clinical portion of this course will focus on the presentation of principles and techniques used in obtaining a comprehensive health assessment and physical examination in the context of physiological, psychological, sociological and developmental parameters. Emphasis will be placed on differentiating between normal and abnormal findings in adults, the elderly and children. (Pre- or co-requisites: N111 and all of its requirements; Pre-or Co-requisites: Anatomy and Physiology I and Psychology).

N232: Transcultural Nursing

Credit Hours: 2 Units (2 theory; 0 lab/clinical)

This non-clinical course explores aspects of human diversity including race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation and disability. Concepts such as social and economic justice, ethnocentrism and social class are addressed as they relate to the effective delivery of holistic nursing care.

N213: Critical Thinking in Nursing

Credit Hours: 1 Unit (1 theory; 0 lab/clinical)

This non-clinical course focuses on critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills. Introduces ethical and legal constructs as they apply to health care issues. Emphasizes ways to apply critical thinking skills in the nursing care of various populations. Classroom experience includes exercises in the application of critical thinking skills.

N112: Pharmacology

Credit Hours: 2 Units (2 theory; 0 lab/clinical)

This course is designed to provide a theoretical foundation of pharmacological concepts important to the safe administration of drug therapy in various clinical settings. The focus will be on therapeutic pharmacologic treatment modalities and expected responses to treatments. Major drug classifications will be reviewed. The nurse's role in the delivery of drug therapy will be emphasized, as well as the safety aspects of drug therapy. Students will also demonstrate competency in calculating medication dosages. (Pre- or co-requisites: Nursing 111 and all of its co-requisites, Nursing 121, Anatomy and Physiology II and Microbiology).

The following general education courses are required.

Anatomy and Physiology: 4 credits each

Study of the structure and function of human cells, tissue, organs, and systems. Clinical applications of anatomy and physiology will also be considered. These courses include lecture and laboratory component.

General Microbiology: 4 credits

The study of fundamental characteristics of bacteria and related microorganisms, including taxonomy, physiology, and distribution. This course includes a lecture and laboratory component.

Nutrition: 3 credits

An introduction to the science of nutrition. Consideration is given to nutrients, their composition, functions, and sources. Human physiology, including digestion, metabolism, and excretion is covered, along with special nutritional needs throughout the life cycle. Integrated with this basic information are special topics pertaining to diets, organic foods, preservatives, pesticides, world hunger, and other current issues.

Human Growth & Development: 3 credits

Physical, cognitive, social, and emotional developments are studied throughout the life span. Major theories of development are discussed. Applications and examples are presented from applied contexts. Special needs of individuals at various stages throughout the life span are addressed.

Introductory Sociology: 3 credits

This course will introduce the student to concepts of sociology. The course will focus on the nature and characteristics of human societies and social life.

Computer Applications: 3 credits

This course is designed to introduce the student to computer applications related to health care. Basic computer skills will be reviewed. The student will gain skills in working with various computer programs, which are commonly used in the health care setting.

English: 3 credits

This course is designed to introduce the student to technical and professional writing to prepare them to utilize effective written communication in the professional world.

Introduction to Psychology: 3 credits

This course is designed to introduce the student to basic concepts and theory related to psychology. The course will focus on human psychological development and behavior.

Grades

Grades will be reported within two weeks of the end of each semester. The numerical and letter grade scale utilized in the School of Nursing is as follows:

A	93-100	4.00
B	85-92	3.00
C	75-84	2.00
D	62-74	1.00
F	below 62	0.00
W	Withdrawal Voluntary	not calculated
WP	Withdrawal while passing	not calculated
WF	Withdrawal while failing	0.00
Z	Involuntarily Withdrawn	0.00
I	Incomplete	not calculated
X	LPN transfer course	not calculated

*Clinical component of all nursing courses must be passed in order to pass class. Any grade below a C is considered not passing.

***To pass any course, the student must achieve a minimum of 75% cumulative average on exams before any extra points can be added.**

Refer to policy B19

Course Registration

Students will be required to register for courses offered by the School of Nursing.

- A. Students will be notified when registration is open.
- B. The student will complete and submit the registration form and student checklist to his/her advisor. This is to be a face-to-face meeting.
- C. The student's advisor will sign the registration form and indicate his/her approval or disapproval.
- D. If the registration form is approved, the student will be enrolled in the class(es) as requested.
- E. If the registration is not approved, the advisor will meet with the student to review the reason.
- F. Students will be required to submit proof of grade and completion of pre- and co-requisite general education courses.
 1. The student must submit his/her original grade report from the college where he/she is taking general education courses by the first day of each semester or as soon as they are available to the student. The advisor will review the report and make a copy.
 2. If the student obtains a grade less than a "C" (this includes a C minus), and the course is a prerequisite, the student will not be permitted to take the requested, corresponding nursing course.
 3. Students will be required to submit official transcripts prior to the first day of the fall semester each year.
 4. Failure to submit grade reports and/or transcripts each semester may result in disciplinary action up to and including involuntary withdrawal from the program.

Course Registration Cont'd

- G. The School of Nursing Secretary will compile a list of students who are registered for each class.
- H. Request to add a course after the first day of class must be approved by course faculty and advisor. Cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Refer to policy B14

Curriculum Progression

All nursing courses within a semester must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in courses in the next semester.

- A. Nursing N111, N121, N131 must be taken in sequence. Students who fail any of these courses may be academically withdrawn from the school. If readmitted to the school, the student must repeat the course before progressing on to the next nursing course.
- B. All general education courses must be successfully completed before or during the semester that they are offered in the curriculum plan.
 - 1. Students who fail any general education course may be involuntarily withdrawn.
- C. Students who fail or withdraw while failing from any nursing course may be dismissed from the program and may not be eligible for readmission.
- D. Students will be given an ATI achievement test at the end of each major nursing course. A passing score must be achieved of at least a level one in N111, N131, N212 and N221.
- E. Students have a maximum of three years to complete the entire program.
- F. If the student has withdrawn, re-application is required with the appropriate fee.
- G. Students may apply for re-admittance to the program. Offer of re-admission will be at the discretion of the admissions committee.
- H. The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing may permit progression exceptions due to unusual circumstances. The request will be reviewed by the Program Director and all decisions are final.
- I. Failure in either the clinical or theoretical portion of the course constitutes failure of the course.
- J. A theory grade of "C" (C minus is unacceptable), is required for all nursing and general education courses. A clinical grade of "Pass" is required for all clinical experiences.
- K. The student will be required to satisfy any outstanding GLHSON charges prior to the final exam and progressing to the next semester.

Refer to policy B10

ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute)

GLHSON has adopted the use of Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) curriculum support materials to assist students in the nursing program. These materials include tutorials, review materials, practice assessments and proctored assessments for the purpose of remediation. All students are required to complete all ATI assignments as noted on course syllabi. The practice and proctored assessments will be given periodically throughout the program as noted on individual course syllabi. All students are required to take the practice and proctored assessments as scheduled, create, and complete a focused review on each assessment. Students will be required to pass ATI proctored exams in N111, N131, N212, and N221 with at least a level one in order to pass these courses.

Refer to policy B23

Academic Alert/Remediation

Academic alert will be used as an academic accountability, support, and remediation program for those students at risk of failing a course. It is to be used at the instructor's discretion and may occur at any time during the semester. The academic alert may involve mandatory study halls, additional assignments, computerized reviews, regular meetings with course instructors, and other learning activities that the student or instructor deems helpful to their academic success.

Academic Probation

Students may be placed on academic probation for the following reasons:

- A. Grade of "failed" for a nursing course and/or general education course.
- B. High likelihood of failing of one or two courses at midsemester.
- C. High likelihood of failing the clinical component of a course at the mid-semester.
- D. The Faculty Advisor and the Director of the program will determine the conditions of the probation.
- E. Students who successfully meet the required condition(s) in the allotted time will be removed from academic probation.
- F. Students who fail to satisfy the condition(s) in the allotted time will be involuntarily withdrawn from the program.
- G. Students who are on academic probation more than once will be reviewed on an individual basis and may be involuntary withdrawal from the program.
- H. The period for academic probation will be reviewed every 90 days.
- I. For students receiving VA monies, the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) will be contacted if student exceeds 90 days of probation or does not successfully meet the requirements to be removed from academic probation.

Refer to policy B20

Withdrawal from a Course

Students who choose to withdraw from a course must complete a Withdrawal Request Form and submit it to their Advisor.

- A. Withdrawal from a course may result in automatic withdrawal from the program (see Withdrawal from Program Policy). In any case, students who withdraw from more than two courses will be automatically withdrawn from the program.
- B. Students who withdraw from a course or courses are subject to all financial obligations to the School of Nursing, please refer to Financial Aid Section for this information.
- C. Students enrolled in affiliate college courses must follow withdrawal policies of that college. Students who withdraw from these courses must inform their GLHSON advisor and may also be withdrawn from the GLHSON program.
- D. If withdrawal is prior to the last 30 calendar days of class, a “W” for “Withdrawal” will be reflected on the grade report. If the student withdraws during the last 30 calendar days of class, “WP” for “withdrawing while passing” or “WF” for “withdrawing while failing” will be reflected on his/her grade report.
- E. The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course is the last day of class.
- F. As soon as it is definitively determined that a student will fail a course (i.e. missed excessive days, failed ATI test, failed clinical experience, failed exit examination), the student will not be permitted to attend any further classes or clinical experiences in the affected course. Students may be permitted to attend other nursing courses that they are passing.

Refer to Policy B6

Withdrawal from the Program

Students may voluntarily withdraw from the School of Nursing. They may also be withdrawn involuntarily. In both cases, they may re-apply to the program.

The procedure for voluntary withdrawal is as follows:

- A. Students who choose to withdraw from the program must complete a Withdrawal Request Form and submit it to their Advisor.
- B. Withdrawal from a course may result in automatic withdrawal from the program.
- C. Withdrawal from the Program requires re-application to the Program.
- D. Students who withdraw are subject to all financial obligations to the School of Nursing including the course or courses from which they are withdrawing.
- E. Students enrolled in affiliate college courses at HACC Lewistown must follow withdrawal policies of GLHSON. Withdrawal from GLHSON program results in automatic withdrawal requirement from HACC courses.

Withdrawal from the Program Cont'd.

The procedure for involuntary withdrawal is as follows:

- F. Items B-E under Voluntary Withdrawal apply
- G. Students may be involuntarily withdrawn from the program due to the following:
 - 1. Failure to follow the plan of study, (not taking a required course), failing or withdrawing from a required course.
 - 2. Incidents of cheating or plagiarism.
 - 3. A student fails a course or withdraws while failing more than one time.
 - 4. The Faculty and Director of the School of Nursing reserve the right to terminate any student in violation of Student Responsibilities, Clinical Expectations, and any disciplinary infractions. (See policies).

Refer to policy B6a

Change of Status

It is the policy of Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing that students apply for change of status when they wish to change from two year to three year plan of study. Permission to change status is not guaranteed.

Procedure

- 1. The student will contact his/her advisor to discuss his/her desire to change status.
- 2. The student will complete a change of status form.
- 3. The faculty will meet and review the request. Factors to be considered include space in the requested class and the student's academic performance.
- 4. Faculty will communicate the decision via completion of the form and will return it to the student within 7 days.
- 5. If the status change is granted, the student profile and file will be changed to reflect changes.

Refer to policy B13

Academic Integrity

Honesty and integrity are important qualities for nurses, therefore, incidents of cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may include involuntary withdrawal from the program. All students will have access to the student handbook and policy manual. They will read and acknowledge understanding during orientation and on an annual basis.

Refer to policy B25

Readmission

A student wishing to apply for readmission to the program may apply during open enrollment. The following will also pertain:

- A. Readmission request should include the academic semester, year, and nursing course the student wants to re-enter the program.
- B. Program vacancies will be filled, space permitting, with students who meet all re-admission criteria.
- C. All general requirements (i.e. TB, CPR, Hepatitis B Vaccine, clearances, health insurance, liability, nicotine and drug screening) must be updated prior to the semester in which the student re-enters the program.
- D. Required curriculum courses previously completed will not be accepted with grades that are less than a "C" (this includes C minus).
- E. The amount of time that has lapsed since the time of withdrawal and re-admission request must be considered. To assure retention of knowledge and skills, the student is encouraged to return to the program at the earliest feasible time. Re-taking of previously completed nursing courses may be required if the student has been out of the program for over two years.
- F. The student may be asked to audit previously taken courses and pass clinical competency skills evaluations if it's been less than two years. If they are unable to demonstrate clinical competency at a reasonable level, they will be required to retake the course. (Audit fees for courses – theory and clinical- will apply)

Refer to policy B4

Course Audit

Students may have the option to audit courses offered by the School of Nursing. The procedure is as follows:

- A. Students will be notified when registration is open.
- B. The student will complete and submit the audit request form to his/her advisor.
- C. The student advisor and the instructor of the class will sign the audit request form and indicate their approval or disapproval. Approval will depend on the size of the class.
- D. If the audit request is approved, the student will be enrolled in the class(es) as requested.
- E. If the audit request is not approved, the advisor will meet with the student to review the reason.
- F. Students will not receive credit for classes that are audited. The class will appear on the transcript as an audited course.
- G. Students will be charged a fee to audit classes and demonstrate competencies.
- H. The theory component of courses may be audited and a portion of the clinical component may be required (48 hours maximum; additional fee applies for clinical component).
- I. Students may have the option of participating in any graded activities at faculty discretion.

Refer to policy B18

Fraternization

Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing faculty/staff will not fraternize with students outside of any school-related functions.

Housing

Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing will not provide housing for students. If students are in need of housing, a list of area realtors will be provided.

Refer to policy C6

Parking

Parking is available for students as designated by the Safety and Security Department. A parking tag must be obtained from the Safety and Security department. Students will be held accountable for parking in only designated areas. Fines and disciplinary action may occur if students violate the parking policy.

Library Services

Students have access to online journals through the Geisinger website as well as other online sites (CINAHL, EBSCO Host, etc.) and these may be accessed at the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing Learning Center.

All library books/CDs must be returned and all fees paid prior to progression to following semester and/or graduation.

The Runtagh School of Nursing Library has been moved to the School of Nursing Learning Center.

Student Government

All students will be asked to join the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing Student Nurses Association. The purpose of the student association is as follows:

- A. To assume responsibility for contributing to nursing education in order to provide for the highest quality of health care.
- B. To provide programs representative of fundamental interests and concerns to nursing students.
- C. To promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities related to health care and social issues.
- D. To represent nursing students to consumers, institutions, and other organizations.
- E. To promote and encourage student nurse recruitment and participation in educational opportunities regardless of a student's race, color, religious creed, sex, lifestyle, national origin, age or economic status.
- F. To promote and encourage a collaborative relationship with nursing and health related organizations.
- G. To aid in the development of the whole student and his/her responsibility for the health care of all people.
- H. To have direct input into the standards of nursing education and to influence the education process.

Student Rights

Students have a right to the following:

- A. To be informed of admission, progression/advancement, and graduation criteria.
- B. To receive accurate information about courses and program requirements.
- C. To equal treatment regardless of race, color, religious creed, gender, age, national origin, physical disability or sexual orientation.
- D. To access their own records that will be kept confidential, according to policy.
- E. To participate in curriculum development, implementation, and evaluation, via the Curriculum Committee.
- F. To be informed of policies and have advance notice of any policy changes.
- G. To graduate and apply for licensure when all of the program requirements have been fulfilled. (Note: The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing retains the final authority for NCLEX licensure issues.)
- H. To organize and participate in a student government.
- I. To be treated with dignity, respect, and a caring attitude.

Refer to policy C9

Student Fundraising

All fundraising that is done by the student body (ie. class projects) must be approved by the Student Government officers, the GLHSON Director and the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital Community Relations Department.

Student Responsibilities

Students are responsible for the following:

- A. To know requirements for admission, progression, and graduation as stated in the student handbook and GLHSON policy manual.
- B. To know and follow the guidelines set forth in this handbook and the ANA Code of Ethics.
- C. To actively participate in classes and clinical experiences and to review course syllabi and expectations.
- D. To follow the chain of command, participate positively in conflict resolution, and to follow the student grievance procedure if conflicts are not being resolved effectively.
- E. To vote for student representatives to the Curriculum and Student Affairs Committees.
- F. To comply with the PA State Board of Nursing regulations for licensing examination.
- G. To treat others with dignity, respect, and a caring attitude.
- H. To maintain patient confidentiality.

Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements

The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing adheres to the ANA (American Nurses Association) guidelines for ethical practice as follows:

Provision 1 The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.

Provision 2 The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.

Provision 3 The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.

Provision 4 The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to promote health and to provide optimal care.

Provision 5 The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.

Provision 6 The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality health care.

Provision 7 The nurse, in all roles and settings, advances the profession through research and scholarly inquiry, professional standards development, and the generation of both nursing and health policy.

Provision 8 The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.

Provision 9 The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organizations, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

American Nurses' Association (2015). Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements. Silver Spring: MD: Author.

Complaints/Grievances/Appeals

- A. Students are encouraged to deal with interpersonal problems by using conflict resolution and problem-solving skills. For example, if a student has an issue with an instructor or a peer, they will be encouraged to speak to that person about the issue.
- B. A complaint is defined as the student expressing dissatisfaction and feeling he/she has been treated unfairly. The student should contact the faculty within 2 working days to try to obtain a resolution. The faculty then has 5 working days to try to resolve the issue.
- C. A grievance is defined as a complaint by a student that alleges that he/she has been or is being adversely affected unfairly by a specific or unfair application of the school's regulations or policies.
- D. When efforts to resolve conflicts have not been successful, the following steps in filing a grievance are to be followed:
 - 1. A student will have five working days to file a grievance following the incident of concern.
 - 2. The student will put the grievance in a formal, signed letter and give it to their advisor.
 - 3. The advisor will meet with the student and will provide a written response to the student within 10 working days of receiving the grievance.
 - 4. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the meeting with the advisor, he/she may request, in writing, a meeting with the grievance committee within five working days. A grievance committee will be appointed by the director.
 - 5. The grievance committee will meet with the student and provide a written response to the student within 10 days.
 - 6. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the meeting with the grievance committee, he/she may request, in writing, a meeting with the director within five working days.
 - 7. The director will meet with the student and will provide a response, in writing, to the student within 15 working days of receiving the grievance. The decision of the Program Director is final.
 - 8. No legal representation or the accompaniment of any person is permitted throughout this process.
 - 9. There will be no type of tape recording or video recording of the appeal process by any of the members of the committee, the appellant, the respondent and the non-participating observers. Refer to policy C8

Student Discipline

Progressive disciplinary action for violation of policies, rules or regulations may involve any of the following steps:

1. Verbal warning(s)
2. Written warning(s)
3. Final warning
4. Administrative Time-Out
5. Discharge from program

In most cases, the steps of the disciplinary process will be followed. Immediate administrative timeout/discharge may occur for serious infractions.

All students will have access to the student handbook and policy manual. They will read and acknowledge understanding during orientation and on an annual basis.

DISCIPLINE OR DISCHARGE OF STUDENTS MAY RESULT FROM, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

1. Negligence or inconsiderate treatment in the care of patients.
2. Divulging confidential information concerning patient and/or healthcare facility records.
3. Falsifying records, reports, or information of any nature.
4. Reading unauthorized confidential information (patient charts, administrative memos, etc.).
5. Theft, misappropriation, or unauthorized possession or use of property belonging to the healthcare facility, the school, or to any patient, staff, visitor or another student.
6. Soliciting tips for services from patients or any other person while on clinical assignment.
7. Willfully or carelessly damaging, defacing, or mishandling healthcare facility or school equipment or property of a patient, visitor, or another student.
8. Willful or careless violation of aseptic and/or sterile techniques.
9. Use or unauthorized possession of intoxicating substances.
10. Reporting to school/clinical under the influence of intoxicants.
11. Illegal use of narcotics or drugs.
12. Possession of a weapon during school/clinical hours.
13. Sexual harassment.
14. Interfering with the work performance of another student/staff, threatening, intimidating, or coercing another student/staff.
15. Rude, discourteous, or uncivil behavior such as fighting.
16. Willful or careless violation of safety, fire prevention and security regulations.
17. Insubordination; refusing to follow instructions of the Instructor; refusal of patient assignment.
18. Failure to notify Instructor of absence and reason for absence two hours before clinical.
19. Excessive absences or habitual lateness.
20. Unauthorized absence from your assigned clinical area during regularly scheduled hours.

Student Discipline Cont'd

21. Soliciting and/or distributing of anything during clinical time or in clinical areas.
22. Entering an unauthorized area at any time.
23. Gambling or possession of gambling devices during school hours.
24. Sleeping while on clinical experience/lab/theory.
25. Inefficiency; failure to meet acceptable work standards.
26. Unsatisfactory quality and/or quantity of work.
27. Failure to perform assigned duties.
28. Wasting time, loitering, or abandoning a clinical assignment without notification of instructor and nursing staff.
29. Gossip, spreading rumors, or indiscriminate talk, involving oneself, any other student(s) or faculty members in untruths or dishonest actions.
30. Inappropriate use of social networking sites as stated in Social Media Policy.
31. Practical joking, horseplay, etc.
32. Smoking or smelling like smoke when wearing clinical attire.
33. Slovenly appearances or inappropriate dress while on clinical duty.
34. Violation of any rule, regulation or established procedure of the school of nursing.
35. Any other misconduct, which affects the quality of patient care, service to the community at large or personal morale.
36. Failure to meet clinical expectations.
37. Audio/videotaping is not permitted.
38. Violation of academic integrity.

Refer to policy B15

Sexual Harassment

Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing is committed to providing a working and learning environment free from sexual harassment. It therefore is the policy of the school of nursing that sexual harassment is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. This applies to all faculty, students, and staff. GLHSON will take seriously all sexual harassment complaints; take appropriate action to provide remedies when sexual harassment is discovered; and to the greatest extent possible, protect the privacy of those involved. Faculty has an affirmative duty to ensure that their areas of responsibility are free from sexual harassment of any kind and shall take appropriate steps to prevent and eliminate such harassment.

All students will have access to the student handbook and policy manual. They will read and acknowledge understanding during orientation and on an annual basis.

Refer to policy B24

Graduation

The following requirements must be met in order to participate in graduation from the program:

- (1) All required courses must be completed.
 - a. Grades for all nursing courses must be at 75% or higher.
 - b. Student has achieved Level I or higher on all core course ATI proctored exams, and all remediation has been completed.
 - c. If a nursing course includes both theory and clinical content, the student must pass both the theory and clinical components in order to complete the course satisfactorily. (Please see Grading and Evaluation Policy).
 - d. Official transcripts must be on file for all courses that have been transferred.
- (2) All financial responsibilities must be met and all materials that have been borrowed (i.e. library books or lab supplies) must be returned.
- (3) Completion of a standardized NCLEX readiness test, with attainment of a passing score.
 - a. All students will have four mandatory NCLEX readiness exams administered to them. For students who have not passed any scheduled exams, another NCLEX-readiness exam may be offered before graduation.
 - b. If the student does not achieve a desired score on at least one of the NCLEX-readiness exams, he/she will receive a failing grade in N231 and will not graduate.
- (4) At the beginning of the final semester, the student must complete an Application for Graduation form. A graduation fee will be charged and listed on the student's invoice. This fee includes GLHSON pin and graduation uniform. This fee is non-refundable. The student will acquire the pin upon graduation from the program.

Refer to policy B9

Personal Appearance/General Information

The following expectations are provided as a guideline and students will follow policies outlined at each facility. These policies may be more restrictive than those of the School of Nursing, and students will be notified of such.

Faculty has the prerogative of not allowing a student in the theory/clinical area if said student does not meet the required standards of dress and grooming. Students are to practice good personal hygiene at all times.

- A. **Odors:** due to close contact with others, nonfragrant deodorant or antiperspirant shall be worn by the students. Due to sensitivity of some patients and staff, scented personal care items and the lingering odor of smoke or tobacco are prohibited. The environment must be fragrant free. Avoid use whenever possible.
- B. **Breath:** close attention to achieving non-offensive breath and other body odors is important.
- C. **Mustaches and Beards:** neatly trimmed. Sideburns close to cheek and above the jaw line.
- D. **Nails:** clean, length not to extend beyond fingertips, no polish during clinical experience. No artificial tips or nails.
- E. **Cosmetics:** moderate use of makeup, worn very sparingly, no artificial eyelashes.
- F. **Gum:** chewing gum is not allowed in the clinical area.
- G. **Smoking/Chewing Tobacco:** is not permitted at any time. If detected students will be sent home.
- H. **Tattoos:** Any visible tattoos must be covered with clothing, tape, or a band-aid during clinical or when in uniform. During class/theory/lab, tattoos that are potentially offensive must be covered at all times.
- I. **Cell Phones:** not permitted in clinical areas or during classroom instruction unless extenuating circumstances that have been approved by faculty or as directed.
- J. **Clothing:** no tight or revealing clothing.
- K. **Skin Stretching resulting from Foreign Bodies:** not permitted in class or clinical. (i.e. gauges, etc.).

Non-clinical Attire

- A. Students are expected to appear professional, clean and neat at all times. Torn jeans are not permitted, sleeveless tops permissible (3 finger rule), shorts and skirts (mid-thigh length or longer), no pajamas, no midriff tops, Spandex/leggings (must be covered with a long shirt/top (mid-thigh or longer), no shirts with offensive advertising. No muscle shirts. No racerback shirts.
- B. No tight or revealing clothing is permitted. No cleavage.
- C. Sandals and capris are permitted.
- D. Closed-toed shoes required for lab/clinical.
- E. No ball-caps.

Personal Appearance Cont'd;**Clinical Attire**

- A. Uniforms must be ordered from the current supplier specified by the School of Nursing. A specific style has been selected by faculty and will assist in identifying students in the program. No other styles will be permitted.
- B. Students must have or purchased the following items:
 - 1. Two complete uniforms. For women it may include the specified skirts/ pants and tops, or one of each. For men it includes two specified uniform pants and tops.
 - 2. One lab coat as specified.
 - 3. One polo shirt with logo.
 - 4. One name tag (provided by the School of Nursing)
- C. Other items which are required, but may be purchased at any store include:
 - 1. Black professional nursing shoes, leather type, full heel with rubber soles (no sneakers, or open toes/heels, no mesh).
 - 2. White hose if needed.
- D. Approved school-ordered uniform tops must be worn over full white undergarments.
- E. **Female:** appropriate length, clean, pressed uniform; white hose if needed. Only white crew socks or white knee-highs permitted with slacks. Skirts must be at least 1" below the knee or at least 1" above the ankle. White shirts may be worn under clinical uniform.
- F. **Male:** must wear white crew neck T-shirt to cover chest hair if applicable, and tunic neat, clean, and pressed. White crew socks must be worn.
- G. Shoes must be cleaned before each clinical assignment. Wash strings as necessary. No open-toe/heel, canvas, tennis shoes, clogs or flip-flops allowed.
- H. Student Name Badges are to be worn at all times during clinical assignments (students can be sent home if they come to clinical without their name badge). The school provides badges; these are to be worn on the left lapel. All seniors must wear their senior designated pin.
- I. On occasion, students may attend clinical functions in street clothes at the instruction of faculty. Dress is conservative/professional attire.
- J. **Lab coats:**
 - 1. Neat, clean, and pressed.
 - 2. When worn with hospital-acquired scrubs, the lab coat should be buttoned.
- K. A clean uniform should be worn for each clinical experience.
- L. Equipment for the clinical area includes black ink pens, bandage scissors, small note pad, stethoscope, and penlight, watch with second hand or digital.
- M. The faculty may refuse permission into the clinical area if the dress code is not followed, and the student will receive an unsatisfactory for the day.
- N. Specific clinical experiences may require alteration of this policy. Students are expected to conform to such requests or they may be refused permission into the clinical area.
- O. **Hair:** neat, clean, off the collar or in a ponytail. Moderate hairstyles of natural color.
- P. Ball caps are not to be worn during class or clinical

Personal Appearance Cont'd;**Jewelry: Clinical only, none except:**

- A. **Earrings:** one per ear lobe; pierced only; small, stud only. *No **additional** body piercings are permitted.*
- B. **Rings:** wedding ring only; no ring with stones.
- C. **Watch:** professional style; large face with second hand, small-medium sized watchband.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Computers

Cell phones are not permitted in clinical, lab, or during class time unless extenuating circumstances that has been approved by faculty. Laptops/tablets are permitted during class time. Students are permitted to connect to the hospital intranet/internet system via WiFi at anytime. No live recording of faculty or audio/video taping is permitted. This includes pictures of any type.

Student Health Kits

- A. Nurse starter items are to be ordered through the School of Nursing.
- B. Faculty will review the items.
- C. Items will be used in the simulation lab and lab competency sessions, as no other items will be available.
- D. Each student will be assigned a set of starter skill items and these items will be housed in the School of Nursing Simulation Lab.
- E. Instructors will review items as per scheduled skilled sessions.

Skills Lab Guidelines

- A. Lab sessions provide the opportunity for hands-on practice with demonstrations and guidance from faculty. Learning is through imitation, trial and error.
- B. Proper attire is required for lab activities (i.e. casual attire-NO shorts, tank tops or sandals/flip-flops). School uniforms as requested by the instructor.
- C. Prepare for each lab by doing the required assignments.
- D. Keep the lab as neat and clean as possible. Ensure all beds are neat, in low position, wheels locked, and call bell at bedside before you leave the lab.
- E. Treat all models as if they are alive. Practice therapeutic communication and always use universal precautions.
- F. Ask questions, perform the skill.
- G. Handle lab model carefully and clean up your work area when you are finished. Help organize items for the next group.
- H. Prepare for lab competencies. You MUST demonstrate competency to continue in the program.
- I. Bring your Nursing Skills "Record of Clinical Procedures Book" (provided by the school) to all lab sessions and clinical sites. Your clinical faculty may sign off as she/he approves and witnesses the skill.
 - All students *will carry* the Record of Clinical Procedures book with them during every clinical rotation.
 - Students must have the Record of Clinical Procedures book signed off by the instructor at the time the skill is completed.
 - A Lost Record of Clinical Procedures book will result in a replacement fee payable to GLHSON to receive a new Record of Clinical Procedures book.
 - If the Record of Clinical Procedures book is lost, skills will need to be repeated and signed off on again.
- J. No pens are permitted in the simulation room.

Attendance/Absence

Classroom and Clinical time are essential to succeed in this program and attendance is **mandatory**. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the following will apply:

- A. Student must notify the Instructor, Administrative Secretary, and the clinical site (if applicable) at least two hours prior to the start of the clinical day.
- B. Student will also call the school of nursing at 717-242-7930 and leave a message on voice mail if calling off.
- C. Students who have missed time from clinical will be required to make-up the time as determined by the Instructor, and the student may be charged a fee of \$50.00. Fees associated due to covid-19 may be waived. Please discuss your reason for absence with your instructor.
- D. The Director will be notified by the Instructor of any absence from clinical. Absences will also be noted on the student's clinical evaluation form.
- E. A student must attend 85% of theory and 100% of clinical experiences in order to pass the course. Due to covid-19 some theory and clinical may be online. Students are still required to meet the total percentages listed. For any online theory, webcams must be on with student participation.
- F. Excessive absenteeism/unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action, up to and including involuntary withdrawal from the program.
- G. When an absence occurs, the student is responsible for contacting the Instructor the next working day to arrange a make-up day for the missed exam, course work, or clinical time.

Punctuality and Tardiness – Students are expected to be punctual. The student may be sent home from clinical or class if tardy and will then be required to make up the entire day. This will be further defined in syllabus.

Note: Appearing for clinical or class inappropriately dressed or inadequately prepared may result in the student being sent home. The student may be charged for a clinical make up day.

Absences and Late Assignments

- A. **Attendance is mandatory.** Classrooms and the Nursing Skills Lab are heavily scheduled and time for any makeup is very difficult.
- B. If you will be absent, you **MUST** contact the instructor immediately and outline a plan for making up the material lost. Failure to do so may result in failure of the course.
- C. Any absences or late assignments must have valid documentation (i.e. health care provider note). For a missed test, quiz, assignment or competency, an alternate time may be assigned, with the fee of \$50 due at the time of make-up, at the discretion of the instructor. (Due to covid-19, fees may be waived).
- D. Assignments that are late may result in a lower grade and/or may result in a zero.

Leave of Absence

- A. Students who wish to request a leave of absence will complete the Leave of Absence Request Form and submit it to their faculty advisor. If a medical leave is requested, the student's health practitioner must complete the Medical Leave Form. The student will turn the medical leave form into the Program Director.
- B. The advisor will arrange for a meeting with the Director to discuss the leave of absence.
- C. When considering the leave of absence, the following factors will be taken into account:
 - 1. Current and past academic performance.
 - 2. Length of time requested.
 - 3. Where the absence would fall in the semester.
 - 4. Whether class and clinical time could be made up.
- D. Additional documentation may be requested from the student (i.e. if a family member is ill, documentation from their health care provider may be requested).
- E. Students may be advised to withdraw from the program rather than take a leave of absence if it is determined that the leave cannot be accommodated.
- F. The leave should not necessitate that a student will be unable to complete more than one semester. If that occurs, the student may be considered for involuntary withdrawal.
- G. Students who are granted a leave of absence are subject to all financial obligations to the School of Nursing.
- H. Prior to returning to school after a medical leave, the student must have their health care practitioner complete the Student Return to School Certification Form. This is to be given to the Program Director. Students must also contact their advisor to make arrangements to return to class and clinical time.

Refer to policy B17

Student Injury/Medical Emergency

All students who are seriously injured or who require immediate medical attention (during school hours) must be taken to the Emergency Department triage area for evaluation and treatment in the Emergency Department. The student's immediate instructor must be made aware at the time of the injury and should arrange an escort for the student to seek care. The instructor will assist with initiation of the Student Incident Management Form.

- A. As soon as possible after any school-related injury/illness or an incident with potential for injury/illness, the Student Incident Management form will be initiated and forwarded to the Student Health office.
- B. The student must complete the first section and the instructor responsible for the student at the time of the incident must complete the accident investigation and second section on the front of the form.
- C. The Student Incident Management Form will be forwarded to the Director after review by the Student Health Nurse.
- D. The Student Health Nurse or the Instructor will determine the need for medical intervention at the time of the incident.
- E. The Student Health Nurse will assist the injured student to obtain appropriate medical evaluation and/or treatment.
- F. Any student who has received medical evaluation and/or treatment for school related injury or illness must meet with the Student Health Nurse to review any medical recommendations as soon as possible.
- G. Prior to the student's return, a copy of the GLHSON Return to School Form must be completed by a Healthcare Practitioner and will be filed in the Student Health Department.
- H. Consent for release of medical records and the Student Health Nurse will obtain related information.

Refer to policy C3

School Cancellation or Delay

In the event of a school closure or delay due to hazardous road conditions, for clinical, lab, and classroom time, the SON will run in accordance with the Mifflin County School District **BUT** will only incur a **2 hour delay**, not a 3 hour delay as is the district's policy. **In the case of a delay, normal class schedules will resume at 10:00 a.m. Clinical schedules will start at 8:45 a.m.** For cancellations or delays, please listen to the stations listed below or log onto the Mifflin County School District website.

WCHX 105.5	WKVA 920AM
WMRF 95.7-103.5FM	WLAK 95.7-103.5FM
WIEZ 95.7-103.5FM	WVNW 96.7FM
WTAJ TV 10	
www.mcsdk12.org	

Official Transcripts

If a student would like to have official SON transcripts, they must complete a transcript request form, located on the Empower system or the school website. There will be a fee for each transcript.

POLICIES FOR VETERANS RECEIVING VA EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work is not permitted for the purpose of receiving Veterans Affairs training allowances (CFR 21.4254).

Approvals and Accreditations:

This program has received full approval from the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

*Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105
717-783-7142*

Our program has received full accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN).

*Accreditation Commission for
Education in Nursing, Inc.
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
404-975-5000*

Copy of documents describing accreditation approval or licensure are available upon request.

BURSAR

**Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing
Total Budget Estimate (1st year) Based on Full Time Traditional Student
2021/2022 Tuition & Fee Schedule ***

Tuition (438.00) per credit) (3 semesters)	\$12,264.00
Admin/Technical/Lab/Sim Fee (3 semesters)	\$1,245.00
Clearances	\$55.00
Books	\$315.00
Uniforms	\$235.00
CPR	\$65.00
Liability Insurance	\$39.00
ATI Fees	\$1,387.000
Physical	\$120.00
Health Tote Start up Items	\$185.00
Application Fee	\$130.00
Pre-Admission Test Fee	\$55.00
Acceptance Fee	\$125.00
TOTAL COST Based on 1year.	\$16,220.00

*Based on 2021/2022 Projected Costs

**Subject to change

NOTE: This estimate does not include general education costs. General education costs will vary according to the college/university that you choose.

Bursar Activities

Tuition

The Bursar's office will post each student's invoice on the Empower system approximately four weeks before the beginning of the term. Students may view and print their invoices at anytime. Tuition payment in full is expected within two weeks of the invoice date unless exception is granted by the GLHSON Director. All costs for a semester must be paid prior to the student taking final exams and beginning a subsequent semester. Payment may be made in any of the following forms:

- _ Cash
- _ Check or money order payable to GLHSON (Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing)
- _ Credit or debit card (all major credit cards accepted) online with Empower or in person at the Financial/Accounting office.

In person payments are to be paid at the Financial/Accounting office located on the 4th floor of the Geisinger Lewistown Hospital (near the surgical center waiting area). The student must present their invoice at time of payment. No payments will be accepted at the school of nursing.

The school will not issue a grade report/transcript until tuition and fees have been paid in full.

Interest Charges

Interest at the rate of one percent per month will be assessed and added to any outstanding balance more than 30 days old.

Returned (NSF) Checks

It is understood that if student's (parents or guardian's) check is returned to the school for insufficient funds, it will be reprocessed once and a service charge equal to the fee charged by the bank will be added. If said check is returned a second time, student (parent or guardian) must pay in cash or with a money order.

If a student receives more aid than the student owes, a refund check will be issued within fourteen days of the credit balance.

Financial Responsibilities

Students are responsible for the following additional costs: uniforms, textbooks, equipment, housing and commuter costs, medical and malpractice insurance, ATI (assessment technologies Institute), CPR certification, child abuse clearance, criminal record check, NLN achievement exams, graduation fees, challenge exam fees (if applicable), and personal expenses. The graduating student incurs these additional costs: State Board Licensure (PA), NCLEX Registration, Temporary Practice Permit, graduation uniform, graduation photographs (if desired).

General education courses taken through Harrisburg Area Community College, Lewistown, PA, designated in the plan of study as college courses, may be included in the tuition cost.

Information on Financial Aid is located on the School of Nursing website under the Financial Aid Student Handbook tab or go to <https://www.geisinger.org/-/media/OneGeisinger/pdfs/ghs/sites/marketing-landing-pages/nursing/1356-4450-LewistownSchoolofNursing-PDF.pdf?la=en>

CAMPUS CRIME AND SECURITY

The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital School of Nursing is protected under the Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital Security. The Geisinger Lewistown Hospital has a complete emergency conduct plan in place for various emergency situations.

A full report of the Cleary Act can be found on the School of Nursing website under Student Life.

Campus Crime Report

Offense	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Drug & Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary/Stealing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

College Navigator

To research schools and their education statistics log onto the college navigator website at <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>.