

## **STANDARDS OF NURSING CONDUCT**

The Helen S. Breidegam School of Nursing (SON) follows the same community and safety standards/standards of conduct as those that are outlined in the Moravian University Undergraduate Handbook. Please see the [Moravian University Student Code of Conduct](#). Any student found in violation of this policy on campus or clinical agency property may be subject to dismissal from the program.

Specific standards of nursing conduct are found in the [Pennsylvania Code: State Board of Nursing \(chapter 21\) website](#).

Graduate nursing students are expected to uphold the highest standards of ethical, professional, and academic conduct at all times, in both academic and clinical settings. These standards reflect the values of the nursing profession and are essential to ensuring safe, compassionate, and competent care. Students must possess the necessary behavioral, physical, intellectual, interpersonal, and communication skills to provide nursing care that is safe for clients, for themselves, and for other health care providers. Students must be able to meet these performance standards in order to qualify for and remain in the nursing program. Reasonable accommodations will be made according to University Policy.

### **Professionalism**

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate ethical behavior according to the [American Nurses Association Code of Ethics](#).
- Demonstrate respect, integrity, accountability, and responsibility in all interactions with peers, faculty, staff, patients, families, and members of the healthcare team.
- Maintain professional boundaries in the clinical and academic environment.
- Uphold the reputation of the nursing profession through respectful conduct on campus, in the community, and online (including social media).

### **Safe and Competent Practice**

Each student is expected to:

- Maintain a safe environment for all patients in the clinical setting.
- Provide care that reflects current best practices, clinical guidelines, and the scope of a student nurse's role.
- Recognize and report any clinical errors, omissions, or unsafe practices to the clinical instructor immediately.
- Never perform procedures or administer medications without proper supervision

and authorization.

- Adhere to the policies of all clinical agencies.

#### **Respect for Diversity and Inclusion**

Each student is expected to:

- Provide care that is free from discrimination, bias, or judgment based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or cultural background.
- Demonstrate cultural humility and strive to understand diverse perspectives.

#### **Appearance and Conduct in Clinical Settings**

Each student is expected to:

- Present self in a professional manner in the clinical and academic setting.
- Adhere to the program's clinical dress code, personal hygiene standards, and safety requirements.
- Arrive prepared, on time, and ready to fully participate in assigned clinical activities.
- Comply with all of the Simulation Center guidelines and standards.
- Notify clinical faculty or preceptors promptly of any absence, delay, or issue impacting participation.

#### **Substance Use and Fitness for Duty**

Each student is expected to:

- Report to class or clinical experiences free from the influence of alcohol, drugs, or substances that impair cognitive or physical functioning.
- Students found to be under the influence while in any academic or clinical setting will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include dismissal.

#### **Communication and Conflict Resolution**

Each student is expected to:

- Communicate clearly, respectfully, and professionally in all written and verbal interactions.

- Address concerns or conflicts using appropriate channels, such as discussing issues first with the involved faculty or clinical instructor.
- Engage in honest and positive communication with peers, faculty, patients, family members, and staff.
- Demonstrate a willingness and ability to give and receive feedback.

#### **Use of Technology and Social Media**

Each student is expected to:

- Use technology (phones, tablets, laptops) in classrooms and clinicals only for academic and patient care purposes, as permitted by faculty or clinical sites.
- Avoid posting any content related to clinical experiences, patients, or faculty on social media. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal.

#### **Compliance with Institutional and Regulatory Policies**

Each student is expected to:

- Abide by all Moravian University, School of Nursing, and clinical agency policies and procedures, including the Moravian University Student Code of Conduct.
- Cooperate fully with investigations or inquiries regarding academic or professional conduct.

Reviewed: 8/2025