

Developed by University of Michigan NP and CNM Faculty

Clinical Site Preparation, Student Placement and Evaluation for NP Programs

Preparing for Student Clinical Placements:

1. Assessment of the student:

Information is collected from the potential student as well as individual discussion regarding their desired clinical placements and appropriateness of the requested clinical site. Review of past clinical evaluations, discussion of career goals

1 hour / student

2. Assessment of the clinical site:

While the SON has relationships with numerous preceptors and institutions, on many occasions there has been a need to gather new preceptors. There is also the need to contact past preceptors to confirm their willingness to have students during this time. This includes updating regarding any new or changed requirements for student placements (e.g. EMR etc.) This assessment involves minimally a conversation with the faculty and potential preceptor, as an assessment of the appropriateness of the site for our students and for that course. While this has always been a requirement every semester, it has been a necessary contact each academic year.

1 hour / site

An additional consideration is that for the accreditation requirements, preceptors for Midwifery students have to have documented teaching preparation. As a result faculty have been active in providing teaching preparation workshops and resources to meet this criteria. As a result of new preceptors are engaged in working with students, then this time allotment may be greater.

3. Arrangement of the clinical site:

The burden of this work now is managed through the OSAMS and Clinical Placement office. This process has been variable in terms of providing full support for courses to faculty still maintaining the lead role and the office providing structural support in sending out letters and doing follow up to the site regarding contacts etc. . There is also continual discussion with the faculty as well as Clinical Placement office as the process evolves which takes the form of face to face meetings and or email follow up until students are all placed.

0.5 hour / student

4. Evaluation of the student:

Students are placed throughout the Ann Arbor; Washtenaw county areas with another substantial number in Wayne County near Detroit but placement extend beyond local boundaries and include a regular range of 1-2 hours for travel time to teach them. Rarely some placements are further and extend up to 4 hours away from the School of Nursing. In order to offer adequate assessment in the clinical setting, the faculty typically spends at least 2 hours and generally 3-4 hours in the clinical site with the student and preceptor.

3 hours / student (minus travel time)

Additional time and activities for students needing extra attention (varies depending on the issues needing to be addressed, need for additional one-on-one interaction with student, and need to additional site visits and for interaction with preceptor)

In addition to the site visit, there is also a review of the clinical evaluation form of students completed by their preceptor

a. Mid-term (15 minutes/student, once/term - minimum)

b. Final (15 minutes/student once/term)

0.5 hour/student/term

5. Ongoing communication with clinical preceptor and site via email or phone.

This communication varies greatly ranging from minimal when a student is performing well in a site that is well established with an experienced preceptor to a new site, new preceptor and a student who is struggling.

Estimates range from 10 min per week to 40 minutes per week per student

6. Evaluation of the clinical site/and preceptor:

After each clinical semester, the faculty provides an assessment of the clinical site and preceptor to offer feedback of appropriateness for future students.

0.25 hour / site

7. Utilizing the NTF guidelines – clinical faculty will provide supervision for up to 6 students/course/term

Standard Activities that focus on in class time and course assignments including time estimates/student:

2. Evaluate weekly SOAP notes and provide feedback (15-20 minutes/student/week)
3. Evaluate patient data log (10 minutes/student/week)
4. Grade class assignments – i.e. papers, case studies, etc. (depends on assignment 30 min-60 min/assignment/student/week)
5. Lead clinical conference for group of 6 students (60 minutes of actual class/ 6 conference/term)

Example: N566, which is the first clinical course for ANP & FNP students; and includes the first term CNM student.

Clinical faculty have clinical groups of 6 students. They evaluate weekly SOAP notes and data logs, grade weekly case studies and lead 6 clinical conferences during the term. Each student receives a site visit – so travel time and actual visit time at the site vary depending on student, location, and preceptor. Occasionally faculty will bring a student to their clinical practice for an evaluation if schedules don't mesh, or if additional evaluation in another setting is needed, or distance/weather is an issue. If the faculty evaluates the student at their own practice, they will contact the preceptor for feedback.

Evaluation for students doing clinical as residency or global experience

For students that have done clinical overseas, the student's faculty evaluator will communicate with the preceptor, or SON faculty that was involved in the project for feedback. Currently, students do minimal hours in this type of setting, so complete hours in their home area for faculty to evaluate face to face.

We are beginning discussion of residencies and how that will work in the program. Evaluation of students will need to be done by the preceptor on site, and the faculty evaluator will need to be in communication with the preceptor regarding the progression of the student. Depending on distance/time, we may need to have the local preceptor be adjunct faculty so that they are responsible for evaluation of the student.

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