

Revised January 2024



Hinds Community College
Nursing and Allied Health
Student Manual

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**Hinds Community College
Nursing and Allied Health
Student Manual**

Preface

The purpose of the Nursing and Allied Health (NAH) Student Manual is to provide students enrolled in a health professional program important information that is specific to nursing, allied health, and short-term health related programs. This manual is compiled and published through the cooperative efforts of the faculty, program director/chairperson, and administrators of the nursing and allied health programs.

The NAH Student Manual is used as a supplement to the College Catalog and Student Handbook. All of these documents are also available on the College website www.hindscc.edu. Programs will provide more information in course syllabi and program handbooks.

Faculty and administrators reserve the right to change any guidelines and procedures as necessary. Written notification to currently enrolled students and applicants approved for admission will be provided for any changes.

Mission and Goals for Nursing and Allied Health

Programs Mission Statement

The mission of the nursing and allied health programs, through the combined efforts of students, administration, faculty and staff, is to prepare individuals to be competent, caring healthcare professionals.

Goals

1. Promote the values of the college: Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, Accountability, Leadership, and Stewardship.
2. Provide academic courses that support existing nursing and allied health programs and foster articulation to higher degree programs.
3. Provide health care programs to prepare students for employment in the changing health care environment.
4. Promote inter-disciplinary teaching/learning experiences among nursing and allied health programs.
5. Provide health related continuing education programs for unemployed, employed, or underemployed adults who need training or retraining, or who can otherwise profit from the programs.
6. Promote a student-centered focus that includes recruitment, advising, admission support, instruction, and retention activities.
7. Promote community awareness and wellness through community service activities.

Nursing and Allied Health Administration

Dean of Students – Ms. Joycelyn Washington
Dean of Nursing – Ms. Wendy Lingle
Dean of Health Sciences – Ms. Katharine Elliott
Vice-President of Instruction for Academic & Health Sciences – Dr. Thomas Ware
President – Dr. Stephen Vacik

Hinds Community College Notice of Non-discrimination & Disability Statement

Notice of Non-discrimination Statement

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972 of the Higher Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other applicable Federal and State Acts, Hinds Community College offers equal education and employment opportunities and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability or veteran status in its educational programs and activities. We recognize our responsibility to provide an open and welcoming environment that fosters a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion for employees and students to collaboratively learn, work and serve our communities.

The following have been designated to handle inquiries regarding these policies:

EEOC Compliance: Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Box 1100 Raymond MS 39154; Phone: 601-857-3458 or Email: EEOC@hindscc.edu.

Title IX: Associate Vice President Student Services, Title IX Coordinator

Box 1100 Raymond MS 39154; Phone: 601-857-3353 or Email: TitleIX@hindscc.edu.

Disability Support Services Statement

Hinds Community College provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. Disability Services staff members verify eligibility for accommodations and work with eligible students who have self-identified and provided current documentation. Students with disabilities should schedule an appointment with the designated Disability Services staff member on their respective campus to establish a plan for reasonable, appropriate classroom accommodations.

Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center 601.987.8158

Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center 601.376.4803

Rankin Campus 601.936.5544

Raymond Campus 601.857.3646

Vicksburg-Warren Campus 601.629.6807

Utica Campus Academic 601.885.7022

Utica Campus Career-Technical 601.885.7128

Email: DSS@hindscc.edu

Video Phone 601.526.4918

Nursing and Allied Health Civility Statement

Faculty, staff, and students are expected to contribute to the creation of a community environment of learning which focuses on positive outcomes. The atmosphere of learning demands respect and courtesy for all involved.

All Hinds Community College employees, students and visitors are expected to contribute to the creation of a community environment of learning which focuses on positive outcomes. The atmosphere of learning demands respect and courtesy for all involved. In order to achieve positive outcomes, employees and students are expected to be professional at all times, demonstrating accountability and responsibility in their actions, and to foster an environment free of distractions or disruptions. Inappropriate behaviors will be addressed in accordance with college policies, procedures and guidelines.

Accountability and Conduct

Students are expected to follow all College rules related to conduct as described in the College Student Handbook. Students must also follow all clinical agency rules and regulations. Students should also be aware that engagement in illicit activities and/or behaviors outside of the Hinds Community College setting could be detrimental to successful completion of one's chosen program of study, future licensure/certification and/or employability.

Accountability Guidelines

These guidelines are intended to guide the ethical and professional behavior of students enrolled in all HCC Health Sciences Programs and not intended to directly guide or address behavior that is a part of a student's private life. Unethical and/or unprofessional behavior may come to the attention of Hinds Community College in several ways and become the focus of an investigation or student conduct referral in the following circumstances:

1. Conduct may be reported to a member of the faculty or administration from a variety of sources raising concern about a student's capacity to continue their studies. If such reported conduct raises a concern about the safety of the student, the safety of others, or includes behavior that could indicate an issue with judgment or moral, ethical, or personal values, that would preclude satisfactory functioning in the chosen discipline, an investigation may be conducted and action taken on the basis of the investigation.
2. If a student has been charged with a criminal offense between the time the student submits an application and the time the student begins a program at school, or at any time while a student at Hinds Community College, the student is required to inform the program director/chairperson of the charges **immediately**. If the College later discovers that a student withheld disclosure of a criminal charge, the student may be subject to immediate dismissal from the program. Due Process will be followed for students in all cases.
3. HCC NAH students are expected to hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct at all times. As part of their education, students must begin to practice behavior that they will uphold for the rest of their professional lives. While not all-inclusive, examples of unacceptable ethical and professional behavior include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Lack of honesty (e.g., lying about, misrepresenting, or not reporting information

about care given, clinical errors, or any action related to clinical functions; acting outside the scope of his or her role in a clinical, academic, professional, or administrative setting; cheating, including copying all or any portion of another student's paperwork and presenting it as one's own for class assignment or clinical assignment in actual reproduction or plagiarized format);

- Lack of integrity (e.g., illegally gaining and distributing drugs; illegal attainment of patient possessions or patient care items);
 - Failure to demonstrate professional demeanor or concern for patient safety (e.g., use of offensive language and gestures, being under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the educational or clinical setting; use of patient's medication for self or others);
 - Unmet professional responsibility (e.g., not contributing to an atmosphere conducive to learning due to poor attendance, punctuality issues, and/or distracting or insensitive behavior in class, lab, or clinical; poor personal hygiene; needing continual reminders to complete responsibilities in a timely manner; not responding to requests [written, verbal, e-mail, text, cell phone, Canvas, etc.] in a timely manner; breaching patient confidentiality);
 - Exhibiting disruptive behavior (e.g., pushing; punching; throwing things; making inappropriate gestures; threats; verbal intimidation; language that belittles or demeans; negative comments with racial, ethnic, religious, age, gender, or sexual overtones; making impertinent or inappropriate written entries in the medical record; or making statements attacking students, faculty, or staff);
 - Lack of effort toward self-improvement and adaptability (e.g., resistant or defensive in accepting constructive criticism; remaining unaware of one's inadequacies; refusing to make suggested changes to improve learning, behavior, or performance; not accepting responsibility for errors or failure; abusive or inappropriately critical or arrogant);
 - Lack of respect for cultural diversity (e.g., inappropriate behavior with respect to age, culture, race, religion, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation);
 - Exhibiting poor relationships with members of the health care team (e.g., not functioning appropriately within the health care team or not demonstrating the ability to collaborate with fellow students, staff);
 - Exhibiting poor relationships with patients and families (e.g., insensitive to the patient's or family's needs, inappropriate personal relationships with patients or members of their families; lack of empathy);
 - Failure to maintain and safeguard the confidentiality of patient information, including paper and electronic records, verbal communications, and social networking and electronic media sites.
2. All other violations as stated in the HCC Student Handbook. Review the College Student Handbook for Student Conduct Regulations and Procedures.

Guidelines for Conduct in Campus Classrooms, Campus Learning Labs, Computer Learning Center, Ball Simulation Center, and Learning Resource Center (LRC)

1. Only students currently enrolled in Hinds Community College or those instructed to return for remediation, etc., are allowed to use the campus classrooms, campus learning labs, computer labs, and Learning Resource Center (library).
2. Students may not bring children to any class, learning lab, computer lab, or the LRC. Students cannot bring children or pets to the campus, to leave in any areas, including, but not limited to the library, student lounge, or personal vehicles.

3. Students may only use College facilities during posted hours, unless special advanced permission is obtained.
4. Noise should be controlled.
5. No eating or drinking is allowed in any of the laboratory settings or the auditorium.
6. Students, faculty and staff are expected to practice cleanliness in the classrooms, laboratories, student lounge areas and restrooms. Janitorial staff should be notified if there is a specific area that needs attention.
7. No articles can be removed from any areas without authorization from a program director/ chairperson, learning lab manager, College computer lab personnel, or Library personnel.
8. Students participating in learning activities that involve touching of another human's body must maintain program standards and guidelines, including but not limited to, professional behavior at all times, practicing universal precautions if dealing with blood and/or body fluids, etc.
9. Simulated experiences should be implemented as if working in a real-life situation; simulation equipment and any other models should be treated with the same respect and confidentiality as a real-life client.
10. Duplication of copyrighted media is not allowed.
11. Students may not participate in unauthorized filming, audio recording, and/or picture taking in any setting by personal camera, cell phone or other device.

Documentation of Accountability and/or Conduct Violations

Documentation of accountability and/or conduct violations will include the following, in addition to College student conduct procedures:

1. Behavior that is of concern but that may be remediated through a single discussion. Documentation will include a conference report and/or a student conduct warning.
2. Behavior that requires a formal process for remediation, for example, situations in which a student has exhibited significant and/or serious behavior problems that do not warrant suspension or expulsion, but need to be corrected. Documentation may include a Conference Report and/or Conference, Behavioral Intervention Team referral, Warning Behavior/Student Conduct Hearing Referral Report.
3. Unethical or Unprofessional Behavior – Behavior requiring immediate action by the program director/chairperson through student conduct referral to include a Conference, Warning Behavior/Student Conduct Hearing Referral Report and a recommendation for interim suspension or expulsion from the program and/or College.

Attendance

Attendance in class, lab and clinical is vital to the education experience and absences can have profound repercussions on a student's ability to be successful in a nursing or allied health program. *Each program's attendance policy is outlined in the program handbook and/or the course syllabus. The attendance policy for Health Sciences Programs may be different than other college courses. Refer to Program Handbook and/or Course Syllabus for specific information.*

Clinical Attendance and Progression

Clinical attendance is vital to the educational experience and absences can have profound repercussions. If make-up time or preceptors are not available, absences could result in an incomplete grade. One excused clinical absence will be allowed without a required make-up experience. Other clinical absences will require a make-up experience per program guidelines. The make-up experience will be scheduled at a time designated by and at the discretion of the

program faculty and will depend on available clinical facilities and faculty supervision. *If any clinical agency does not allow a student to participate in clinical experiences, the student may not be allowed to attend clinicals at other clinical agencies.*

Background Records Check

Students are required to participate in a fingerprint background records check for all nursing, allied health, and short-term health programs. Detailed information about the background check procedure is available on the Health Sciences Programs/Pathway page of the College website: <https://www.hindscc.edu/pathways/health-sciences>

Chain of Command for Communication

All students are expected to follow the chain of command as described below for communication and to facilitate due process. If a student does not follow the appropriate chain of command, the student will be redirected to the appropriate step in the chain of command.

Allied Health & Short-Term Programs: Dental Assistant, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Sciences, Health Information Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Surgical Technology, Short-Term Continuing Health Programs

Student → Faculty Member → Program Director/Chair → Dean of Health Sciences → Vice-President of Instruction for Academic, Transfer, and Health Sciences → President

Division of Nursing Programs: Associate Degree Nursing, Practical Nursing, or Healthcare Assistant

Student → Faculty Member → Program Director/Chairperson → Dean of Nursing → Dean of Health Sciences → Vice-President of Instruction for Academic, Transfer and Health Sciences → President.

Class/Clinical Schedule Variation

Class, lab, and clinical days and hours may vary from those stated in the College Catalog and Registration Schedule in order to meet student and program needs. This schedule will not exceed the maximum course hours required by the college. Scheduled changes will be made in writing in the format identified by the program, i.e., posted in Canvas. The changes should not conflict with other class schedules. If a conflict occurs, the student should contact the program director/chairperson.

Clinical Requirements

Clinical Requirements

All clinical requirements must be completed by the health science program's **designated date**. All clinical requirements are to be uploaded into the student's CastleBranch Account. Program faculty/directors will provide the information to access CastleBranch. This includes the NAH Health Record Packet and Background Record Check. A copy of the health record packet can be found on the Health Science Pathways page of the Hinds CC web site: <https://www.hindscc.edu/pathways/health-sciences>. Information on the Background Record Check can be found later in this manual. Students who have not met requirements will not be

allowed to progress in theory, laboratory, or clinical courses. For students newly admitted to a program, failure to submit the clinical health requirements by the program specific due date will result in loss of placement. For students who are continuing in a program, failure to submit clinical health requirements by the due date will result in disruption in progression. Unexcused absences will be earned in all classes, laboratories and clinical rotations until the requirements are met. Attendance guidelines will be enforced.

Clinical agencies utilized by Hinds Community College's Nursing and Allied Health programs may require proof of full Covid-19 vaccination in order to allow students to participate in clinical training. Clinical training is a requirement for program completion; therefore, if a student is not vaccinated, the student must complete an exemption request and submit to the Dean of Health Sciences for approval. If a student is unable to be placed in a clinical setting due to not being vaccinated, alternative clinical placements may be possible; however, we cannot guarantee that a student can be placed in an alternative placement. In the event that a student is unable to be placed in an alternative placement due to vaccine status, progression in the program will be affected, and the student will have to withdraw from the program.

Confidentiality of Client Information/Clinical Records

Students will be utilizing confidential information in clinical settings from clients, patients, and the affiliating clinical agency. This information can include, but is not limited to, written records, electronic records, verbal communication, policies, procedures, and guidelines. This information cannot be disclosed to anyone, except those approved through clinical and program policies and procedures. Violations of the policies and procedures can result in termination of student privileges at the clinical facility, legal recourse, and disciplinary action through the College. Students should contact their faculty member or program director/chairperson for any questions.

Complaints/Grievances

Information related to complaints is available in the College Student Handbook; see Grievance Procedure for Students. The handbook is available on the College website: <https://www.hindscc.edu/student-services>

Faculty and administrators welcome feedback and concerns. **All students are expected to follow the appropriate chain of command to facilitate due process.** Formal complaints should be filed using the procedures in the College Student Handbook.

Counseling and College Student Assistance Program

Students have access to advisors/counselors on all campuses. Appointments are not required, but are recommended. The Student Navigator is available to assist nursing and allied health students with a variety of program success strategies. This office is located on the NAHC campus in the TechNest, but the navigator will also schedule hours on the Rankin Campus and Vicksburg Campus. A variety of College resources and programs are available for all students. Information about these resources and programs can be found on the College web site, <https://www.hindscc.edu/student-services>.

Course Failure

Students who fail a health science program course are required to meet with the program director/chair- person to complete an exit interview. ***An Exit Interview Form and Readmit***

Letteris required to be completed for those students eligible for readmission.

Course Withdrawal Procedures

Approved dates for withdrawal are published in the College catalog and will be strictly enforced. **Withdrawal from a nursing or allied health course is a two-step process.** If a student wants to withdraw from a course(s), the student must begin the process with the program director/chairperson by completing an exit interview form. If the student is current with all fees, has no restrictions, and has not been dropped with a “W” for excessive absences, the student can withdraw on-line or seek assistance from a counselor. Refer to the Student Handbook for further information regarding single-course withdrawal and college withdrawal.

Dress Code

Students, faculty, staff and guests of Hinds Community College shall dress in a manner appropriate for an institution of higher education. Clothing, including face masks, that is in any way controversial, provocative, and/or revealing shall not be worn. If poor judgment is exercised in the manner of dress or grooming, students, faculty, staff and guests may be asked to leave campus by any college official. Sanctions may be imposed. Refer to current HCC Student Handbook.

Students enrolled in nursing and allied health courses with lab and clinical requirements must meet the dress codes of affiliating agencies. Dress code information will be provided by each program in course syllabi or in a program specific handbook which is considered an appendix to the NAH Student Manual. Violation of dress code guidelines and procedures can result in a student conduct referral.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Guidelines

All students in nursing and allied health programs are required to meet the Drug Free Environment Statement as published in the College Student Handbook. Resources for students are available in the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Booklet which can be found on the College website, www.hindscc.edu, > Offices > Campus Police. Note that the Booklet documents the following College Policy: “All students found guilty of violations resulting from substance use or abuse may be suspended or expelled from school and/or the residence hall for one semester or more as decided at the hearing. (August 1, 1990) Alcohol is considered a controlled substance under this policy.” ***Students must report all current medications including any controlled drugs on their health form and must update their records as changes occur.*** Nursing and allied health students who test positive for a controlled drug will be required to provide a current prescription to the Medical Review Officer (see Drug Screen Results Section below).

Drug Screen Procedures

Routine urine drug screens are covered under student healthcare professional fees. Urine drug screens will be done **after** a student enters any health science program and prior to the first clinical experience. Repeat urine drug screens will also be required for the following: students entering the 2nd year of a two-year program; students who have been readmitted to a program; and for programs that choose to repeat drug screens more often than annually. Clinical agencies may require additional drug screens. In this case students will be required to pay the additional fee.

In most cases, drug screens will be done at the Hinds Community College campus where the student is enrolled; occasionally students will be referred to a specified clinic. *Drug screens done at a different clinic other than the one specified will not be considered valid.*

Beginning Fall 2023, routine urine drug screens will utilize a “split-specimen” method. Students will submit one urine specimen that will be divided into two containers, Container "A" and Container “B” at the time of the drug testing. The urine in Container “A” is used in the initial testing. The urine in Container “B” is saved by the laboratory agency and is only tested if the student challenges/appeals the results determined by the MRO.

Drug screens (urine sample, blood sample, hair sample, and/or breathalyzer) can be required for noted alterations in behavior, any other indication of impaired behaviors, or for any history of drug and/or alcohol abuse, including a previously positive drug screen.

Day of Drug Screen:

- a) A student who is present on the day of a drug screen **cannot** be excused from the screening process. If a student leaves the campus without completing a drug screen or refuses to participate in any required drug screen, the student will be required to withdraw from the program.
- b) The testing agency utilizes specific drug testing protocols to which all students must adhere. If the testing agency determines that a specimen is unacceptable, i.e., low temp, low PH, etc., the student will be allowed one additional specimen collection; however, it will be collected within the remaining testing period as an OBSERVED specimen. Failure to provide an acceptable OBSERVED specimen following an unacceptable specimen is considered a refusal to test and will result in the student being required to withdraw from the program.
- c) If a student is unable to provide a specimen within three (3) hours from the start time of the testing period the student will be allowed one additional opportunity to submit an OBSERVED drug screen at the testing agency **within 24 hours.**
 - The program director/chair will contact the testing agency to arrange the test. The student will report to the required testing agency for an OBSERVED urine screening no later than 8:00 a.m. the day after the first drug screening attempt. If the student is unable to provide a specimen during the OBSERVED urine screening at the testing center, it will be considered a Refusal to Test; and the student will be required to withdraw from the program.
 - If the student does not report to the required testing agency by the designated time and date, it will be considered a Refusal to Test; and the student will be required to withdraw from the program.
- d) If a student is absent on the day of the drug testing, the Program designee, i.e., chair, director, and/or dean, etc., will contact the student and require the student to have a drug screen completed within 24 hours, between the hours of 8:00 and 2:00, at the testing agency. It is the student’s responsibility to assure the program has current contact information.

Drug Screen Results:

Hinds Community College Nursing and Allied Health programs utilize a laboratory that employs a Medical Review Officer (MRO), a physician that reviews all drug screens. Drug screen results

must meet clinical agency requirements which include a drug screen that is negative for illicit drugs and a documented current and valid prescription(s) for a drug screen that is positive for a controlled drug. *Program directors/chairs are not responsible for reviewing prescriptions, etc., from students regarding positive drug screens; thus, students are not to submit any prescription information to their program chair/director, clinical coordinator, etc.*

1. Negative Drug Screen Results:

No further action is required by the student. The drug screen result will be uploaded into CastleBranch by the Hinds CC clinical records clerk.

2. Positive Drug Screen While Enrolled in a Clinical Semester

- a) If a drug screen is confirmed positive by the MRO for illicit drugs, i.e., marijuana*, cocaine, heroin, etc., during a semester in which clinical training **is required**, the student will be suspended from the program and will receive a “W” in all program courses.

****clinical agencies will NOT accept a positive drug screen for marijuana (cannabis) even if the student has a medical cannabis card.***

- b) If a student is confirmed positive for a controlled substance, i.e., amphetamines, benzodiazepines etc., the MRO from the testing laboratory will contact the student to request prescription verification/documentation of the controlled drug. **The MRO will make multiple attempts to contact the student.** The MRO will review the information provided by the student. If the information provided to the MRO satisfies the requirements to report as a negative drug screen, the MRO will issue a negative drug screen result. If the information provided to the MRO does NOT satisfy the requirements to report as a negative drug screen, the MRO will issue a positive drug screen result, and the student will be suspended from the program and will receive a “W” in program courses.
- c) If the drug screen result is reported as adulterated or substituted, this is considered a positive test as the urine specimen provided has been altered by adding a substance to the urine or non-human urine has been submitted. If this is reported on the drug screen results, the student will be suspended from the program and will receive a “W” in all program courses.
- d) If the positive drug screen result is reported as UNABLE TO CONTACT DONOR (due to the failure of student to respond to the MRO calls/requests), the program chairs/director will contact the student immediately. **If the student does not resolve the issue with the MRO by the time designated by the MRO, the positive drug screen result will stand, and the student will be suspended from the program and will receive a “W” in program courses. See 5A (p.16) regarding readmission.**

3. Positive Drug Screen While Enrolled in a Non-Clinical Semester

- a) If a drug screen is confirmed positive by the MRO for illicit drugs, i.e., marijuana, cocaine, heroin, etc., during a semester in which clinical training **is not required**, the student will receive a modified suspension from the college and be allowed to remain enrolled in the program, **provided the student enrolls in approved drug counseling and rehabilitation program within five (5) days of the confirmed results.** The student must complete all requirements of the drug counseling and

rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester and be approved for readmission by the readmission committee. Any student failing to complete all requirements of the drug counseling and rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester will not be allowed to progress or will be withdrawn from the program.

- b) If a student is confirmed positive for a controlled substance, the MRO from the testing laboratory will contact the student to request prescription verification/documentation of the controlled drug. **The MRO will make multiple attempts to contact the student.** The MRO will review the information provided by the student. If the information provided to the MRO satisfies the requirements to report as a negative drug screen, the MRO will issue a negative drug screen result.

If the information provided to the MRO does NOT satisfy the requirements to report as a negative drug screen, the MRO will issue a positive drug screen result, and the student will receive a modified suspended from the college and be allowed to remain enrolled in the program, provided the student enrolls in approved drug counseling and rehabilitation program within five (5) days of the confirmed results. The student must complete all requirements of the drug counseling and rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester and be approved for readmission by the readmission committee. Any student failing to complete all requirements of the drug counseling and rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester will not be allowed to progress or will be withdrawn from the program.

- c) If the drug screen result is reported as adulterated or substituted, this is considered a positive test as the urine specimen provided has been altered by adding a substance to the urine or non-human urine has been submitted. If this is reported on the drug screen results, the student will be suspended from the program and will receive a "W" in all program courses.
- d) If the positive drug screen result is reported as UNABLE TO CONTACT DONOR (due to the failure of student to respond to the MRO calls/requests), the program chairs/director will contact the student immediately. If the student does not resolve the issue with the MRO within 48 hours, the positive drug screen result will stand. The student will receive a modified suspension from the college and be allowed to remain enrolled in the program, provided the student enrolls in approved drug counseling and rehabilitation program within five (5) days of the confirmed results. The student must complete all requirements of the drug counseling and rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester and be approved for readmission by the readmission committee. Any student failing to complete all requirements of the drug counseling and rehabilitation program prior to the first day of class of the subsequent semester will not be allowed to progress or will be withdrawn from the program.

4. Challenging MRO's Positive Drug Test Results

Challenges to the positive test results as determined by the MRO utilize the Container "B" of the urine specimen previously collected. No other type of sampling, i.e., hair, blood, etc., will be allowed to be utilized in challenging the original results of the urine drug screen. The student has 48 hours to inform the MRO that they wish to challenge

the results.

If a student chooses to challenge the positive drug screen results he/she must:

- Contact MedScreens (601-939-3030) to arrange to pay the \$150.00 fee to the drug testing agency for the challenge test. ***This must be done in the time frame specified by the MRO.***
- Notify the program director/chair of the intent to challenge the results.
- The results of the challenge exam will be accepted, and if positive, the student's status in the program will be determined as outlined in #2 and #3 above, whichever enrollment status applies to the student in question.

5. Readmission Requirement following a Positive Drug Screen:

- a) Students who are suspended from a program due to a positive drug screen during a clinical semester must complete an Exit Interview with their program chair/director and will be given a Referral Form to Pathways, PLLC, for counseling and rehabilitation. Rehabilitation can include, but is not limited to, addiction assessment, successful treatment, and submission to random drug screening. If the student meets all readmission requirements, readmission will only be considered if appropriate rehabilitation documentation is received by the Dean of Health Sciences from Pathways PLLC. The student cannot be considered for another nursing or allied health program until appropriate rehabilitation has been documented.
- b) Students who are placed on a modified suspension from a program due to a positive drug screen during a non-clinical semester must complete a conference report with their program chair/director and will be given a Referral Form to Pathways, PLLC, for counseling and rehabilitation. Rehabilitation can include, but is not limited to, addiction assessment, successful treatment, and submission to random drug screening. ***Students must follow the guidelines and timelines as outlined in sections 3a-d above.***

6. Costs Associated with Counseling and Rehabilitation:

- a. Students that are withdrawn from the program **are responsible** for all costs associated with the counseling and rehabilitation, including assessment, treatment and random drug screening, etc. Hinds does not pay for these services nor does Pathway, PLLC, provide these services free to students.
- a) Students who are placed on a modified suspension from the program **may be responsible** for all costs associated with the counseling and rehabilitation, including assessment, treatment and random drug screening, etc. This will be determined based on the agreement of College and Pathways, PLLC.

7. Readmission following a Second Positive Drug Screen:

If a student has a second positive drug screen, regardless of whether it is during a clinical or non-clinical semester, while enrolled in any nursing or allied health program, the student will be required to withdraw from the program, will not be eligible for counseling/rehabilitation, and will be ineligible for future admissions to any nursing or allied health program.

director/chairperson are required to report positive drug screen results to the respective regulatory agency.

Emergency Plans – Hinds Alert

Students should remain alert to emergency situations. Emergency procedures for the college are included in the College Catalog and Student Handbook. Emergency information is also available on the College web site under Hinds Alerts at <https://www.hindscc.edu/emergency/hinds-alert>. All current students, faculty, and staff are automatically enrolled for Hinds Alert. You can manage your account by logging in with your My.Hinds credentials. Emergency plans for clinical agencies are included in the orientation to the clinical agency.

Ethics and Academic Integrity

Ethics for the Health Care Professional

Students enrolled in any of the health science programs are expected to conduct themselves with integrity and honesty at all times. Cheating, lying, stealing, misrepresentation, false documentation, or any other form of dishonesty in the class or clinical area will be cause for immediate student conduct action.

Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity

1. **Know Your Rights.** Do not let other students in your class diminish the values of your achievement by taking unfair advantage. Report any academic dishonesty you see.
2. **Acknowledge Your Sources.** Whenever you use words or ideas that are not your own when writing a paper, use quotation marks where appropriate and cite your source in a footnote, and back it up at the end with a list of sources consulted.
3. **Protect Your Work.** In examinations, do not allow your neighbors to see what you have written; you are the only one who should receive credit for what you know.
4. **Avoid Suspicion.** Do not put yourself in a position where you can be suspected of having copied another person's work, or of having used unauthorized notes in an examination. Even the appearance of dishonesty may undermine your instructor's confidence in your work.
5. **Do Your Own Work.** The purpose of assignments is to develop your skills and measure your progress. Letting someone else do your work defeats the purpose of your education, and may lead to serious charges against you.
6. **Never Falsify a Record or Permit Another Person to Do So.** Academic records are regularly audited and students whose grades have been altered put their entire transcript at risk.
7. **Never Fabricate Data, Citations, or Experimental Results.** Many professional careers have ended in disgrace even years after the fabrication first took place.
8. **Always Tell the Truth When Discussing Your Work with Your Instructor.** Any attempt to deceive may destroy the relationship of teacher and student.
(Used by permission of Dr. Dan Garrison, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois)

Exposure to Hazardous Materials

Students in any of the health science programs may be exposed to hazardous materials while participating in campus lab or clinical experiences. Students are required to complete educational module(s) regarding exposure control at least annually. Penalties for failure to follow exposure control procedures can result in termination of student privileges at the clinical facility, disruption

in clinical training and/or program progression, and may result in student conduct referral through the College.

Students who have an exposure incident are required to complete specific college documents. The student should report any exposure to the clinical instructor and program director/chairperson. Students are responsible for following any recommendations of the clinical affiliate or program representatives. The student is also responsible for payment of any medical or emergency services. (See Health and Insurance Services.)

Exposure to Latex: Students may be exposed to equipment, supplies, and/or an environment that contains latex. Exposure to latex may cause an allergic reaction in individuals with this type of sensitivity. Students are responsible for documenting any allergies in their health records and although programs make every effort to order supplies that do not contain latex, students are responsible for supplying latex and/or allergen free equipment and supplies to meet program requirements if needed.

Federal Student Aid

Federal Student Aid can only pay for classes that count toward your degree or certificate. Courses required by your program of study can be found by going to the catalog and then program of study on the Hinds website: <https://catalog.hindscc.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=832>. Students are encouraged to meet with a Financial Aid Advisor and apply for financial aid upon admission to the college or upon submission of an application to a program of study. Financial Aid Advisors are located at all campuses, including the Nursing and Allied Health Center.

Graduation Procedures

It is the student's responsibility to meet College requirements for graduation as stated in the current College Catalog. Every program of study's requirements for completion are listed in the College Catalog and on the program of study website. Students are encouraged to meet with a Nursing and Allied Health Advisor to review attainment of requirements for graduation. Additionally, students may meet with their program chair/director or faculty regarding advisement of meeting program of study and college requirements. Failure to complete all requirements for graduation will result in the student not being eligible to graduate.

A combined graduation and pinning ceremony is held for spring and fall graduates of nursing and allied health programs. All students desiring to receive their diploma or certificate **are required to apply for graduation**. There is no cost to apply for graduation. Students that fail to apply for graduation by the designated due date will not be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony and will not have their degree conferred by the College. Dates for the ceremonies and other important information will be provided by the Admissions and Records Office through the students' Hinds email account after the student completes the graduation application. Additional graduation information and details can be accessed on the Hindscc.edu website.

Beginning Summer 2024, the college will not hold a summer graduation ceremony. Summer graduates of Health Science Programs (Dental Assisting, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Sciences, Practical Nursing, and Surgical Technology) will hold a combined pinning ceremony in lieu of a formal graduation. Students may participate in the formal graduation ceremony held in December following summer program completion.

Healthcare Professional Fees

Healthcare professional fees are attached to certain nursing and allied health courses. The healthcare professional fees include, but are not limited to: drug screen fees, OSHA/HIPAA training, testing fees, clinical repository, clinical placement fees, curriculum support products, cloud-based software/applications to enhance student learning and success, graduation pins, certification or licensing exam review course, certification testing in some programs, etc. Financial aid, if applicable, will cover the cost of the healthcare professional fees. All healthcare professional fees will be itemized on the student's billing statement. Any questions/concerns regarding healthcare professional fees can be answered by the program chair/director or appropriate Dean.

Health and Insurance (Liability, Accident) Services

A description of health services is available in the College Catalog and Student Handbook. Students are responsible for payment of all medical and emergency services provided for the student. Students are encouraged to have medical insurance. Information on an available policy for student purchase can be found in the Administration offices or counseling offices. In addition, students in the health-related professions are required to pay fees for accident and liability insurance each semester.

Students who are involved in an accident during a school activity should contact their program director/chairperson immediately for reporting and claim information. Accident Claims are available in the Administrative Office. Student Accident Insurance may cover costs associated with a clinical related accident. Students who have any questions about liability coverage should discuss the issues with the program director/chairperson.

ID Badges

Students currently enrolled in any health science program are required to wear a current student identification badge. Hinds' student ID badge must be worn above the waist at all times on campus and at all clinical sites. ID badges should be made during the first two weeks of school. Penalties for not wearing the ID badge are described in the current College Student Handbook.

Learning Environment

Students should strive to contribute to the overall learning environment by limiting excessive noise and other distracting behaviors outside classrooms, campus labs, student study areas and faculty work areas. At no time should students gather and/or sit in hallways or other areas so as to obstruct traffic. Students may not bring their children to campus.

Letters of Good Standing

There are several different letters of good standing that students can request. Students will be required to request in writing and/or complete a FERPA permission form.

College Letter of Good Standing

A letter of good standing or enrollment verification must be requested and completed by the student. The form is available on-line at Hindsec.edu: click on Admissions; Records-Transcript; Verification: Letter of Good Standing; then Download the Request form. For additional information, call the District Office of Admissions and Records.

Program Letter of Good Standing

A program letter of good standing from a nursing or allied health program is only provided to students who are satisfactorily progressing in a program and/or are eligible for re-admission to a program.

Program letters of good standing will not be provided to previous Learning to Learn completers wishing to transfer to another college or university. Students who are not eligible for readmission to a program, regardless of the reason, will not be provided a letter of good standing.

- **Allied Health Programs** (Dental Assisting Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Science, Health Information Technology, Medical Assisting Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Technology, Surgical Technology):
Requests for a program letter of good standing are to be submitted to the appropriate program chairperson. *Faculty may not provide a student with a program letter of good standing.*
- **Nursing Division Programs** (Associate Degree Nursing, Practical Nursing, Health Care Assistant):
All requests for a nursing division program letter of good standing are to be submitted to the office of the **Dean of Nursing**. *Faculty may not provide a student with a program letter of good standing.*

Clinical Letter of Good Standing

A clinical letter of good standing for nursing or allied health programs to verify students have met all clinical requirements may be provided to clinical agencies if requested. Clinical letters of good standing that reflect students are in compliance with agency requirements can be provided by the faculty and/or chair.

Messages for Program Faculty or Program Directors/Chairs

Faculty or program director/chairperson can be contacted by phone or by e-mail. Faculty and program director/chairpersons will generally respond to calls, emails and/or text messages within 48 hours of receipt. **Faculty are not required to immediately respond** to text messages, calls, or e-mails. Disrespectful or inappropriate communication via calls, emails, text messages of any kind will be grounds for student conduct charges. Faculty will provide emergency contact information along with the preferred method of communicating with students.

Parking

All students are required to purchase a parking decal which can be purchased from the Business Office Cashier on any College campus. Police Officers will issue tickets for parking violations or moving violations on campus. Vehicles parked on the street will be ticketed by the respective police departments. A temporary decal may be issued for up to five days if a

student has to drive a different vehicle from the one registered. Students may only park in designated parking areas on campus and at any clinical agency. Students parking in non-designated areas on campus will be ticketed; students parking in non-designated student areas at any clinical agency are in violation of following agency guidelines and may be subject to student conduct referral, removal from the clinical agency and dismissal from their program.

Students cannot utilize a disability designated parking space based on a tag or decal that is registered in another name. Tags/decals will be verified by the police office.

Student Traffic Citation Appeals are handled differently on each campus. Appeals forms are available in the following locations:

Nursing/Allied Health Center	Student Services Office (Anderson Hall, 1 st Floor)
Rankin Campus	Student Services Office (Administration-Classroom Bldg.)
Vicksburg Campus	Dean's Office (Banks Administration Bldg.)

Program of Study Requirements

Students must meet all components of the program of study according to the College catalog published when the student was admitted to a program. Students are responsible for requesting course substitutions with a Nursing and Allied Health Counselor. Program of Study requirements can change if the student is readmitted, defers progression, if a program's accrediting agency requires changes to a program of study or is notified in writing of changes approved by the College Instructional Affairs Committee.

Readmission Guidelines/Procedures

I. General Readmission Guidelines:

1. **Beginning Spring 2024**, a student is allowed one (1) readmission to the same program of study.
 - a. Readmission by recommendation with or without an interview: A student may be approved for one (1) program readmission, based on the recommendation of the program director/chairperson and approval by the Readmission Committee.
 - b. An additional readmission will be considered on a case-by-case basis only under extenuating/extraordinary circumstances and requires the appropriate instructional dean's approval.
2. Applicants with two (2) withdrawals or failures from a Hinds' Health Science Program may re-apply for the same program of study after a period of four (4) years from the date of the last program of study course taken. Applicants must meet the current admission, selection and program of study requirements at the time of reapplication.
3. Students requesting readmission to programs with more than one admission date per year, (ADN and PN) will not be eligible for readmission during the immediate semester following the withdrawal/failure, regardless of whether the course is offered. Students approved for readmission will remain in a spring or fall track cohort, depending on their original admission into the program.

II. Readmission Requirements/Criteria:

- a. An Exit Interview Form must be completed and signed by the program chair/director

- or faculty member, in cases where the chair/director is not available, and by the student to be considered for readmission into the program.
- b. Students will be required to successfully complete action plans for improvement as criterion for readmission.
 - The program director/chairperson will document the required action plan or activities as an attachment on the Exit Interview Form or provide the student with the action plan no later than 30 days after the date of withdrawal.
 - The student must submit documentation of satisfactory action plan completion to the program director/chairperson prior to readmission or by the due date designated on the Exit Interview Form.
 - c. Readmission to the program is NOT guaranteed!
 - Readmissions will be granted depending on readmission committee recommendation, completion of required action plan, and available space in the class, etc.
 - d. A Request for Readmission Form should be completed as soon as possible after the date of withdrawal/failure, but must be submitted to the program director/chairperson or to the readmission committee at least 15 days prior to the date of desired readmission.
 - e. Students must be free from any College restrictions (holds on account) to be readmitted.
 - f. Students must attend a scheduled interview when requested.
 - A student may be interviewed if a record of student conduct action exists, or at the recommendation of the program director/chairperson. *Readmission will be denied if a student does not cancel or does not show for a scheduled interview.*
 - g. A student who is readmitted to the first semester of a program, but has been out of the program for one or more admitting periods, must meet current admission, selection, and program of study requirements.
 - h. A student will not be allowed credit for previously completed coursework if the student has been out of the program of study for more than one year.
 - i. A student who is readmitted after the first semester of a program of study must meet all the program requirements as listed in the College Catalog at the time of initial admission.
 - j. A student who has been approved for readmission and does not return at the scheduled admission time may not defer readmission.
 - k. A student who has been approved for readmission does not have to repeat a background records check as long as the previous clinical clearance letter is not expired or does not expire during the semester in which the student re-enters.
 - l. Students may be required to meet additional program requirements necessary to fulfill college policy, program accreditation, or clinical affiliation requirements.

Rounding of Final Grades

Final course grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number. Grades below five tenths (50 one-hundredths) will be rounded downward, while grades at or above five tenths will be rounded upward. For example: 78.49 will round to 78; 78.50 will round to 79.

Scholastic Probation and Suspension

Students must maintain at least a 1.75 GPA during any semester. Failure to do so will result in scholastic probation. Students placed on scholastic probation must enroll in LLS 1413,

Improvement of Study. This course is designed to improve study habits and academic success. Students placed on scholastic suspension must follow college policies and procedures regarding enrollment requirements. (See College Catalog for the most current policies, procedures, and requirements.)

Simulation Experiences and Videography

The George Ball Simulation Center is used for laboratory and clinical experiences in the nursing and allied health programs. Many of the experiences are required to successfully complete course objectives/outcomes/assignments. Videography is an important part of teaching-learning process for simulation; it will only be used for healthcare education and will not be available for public viewing. For these reasons, if a required simulation experience includes videography, students will be required to participate to meet the objectives/outcomes/assignments.

Smoking/Tobacco Use

Effective January 1, 2015, Hinds Community College declared all campuses tobacco-free. The use of all tobacco and smoking products to include cigarettes (also electronic), cigars, pipes, and dipping products inside and outside of any facility owned or operated by the College are not permitted. This includes college owned vehicles, sidewalks and parking lots. Penalties for smoking and littering are described in the current College Student Handbook. The Tobacco-free Campus policy is part of the college's commitment to creating a healthy and productive environment for students, employees and visitors of our campus community. Smoking guidelines of each clinical agency must also be observed.

Social Networking Guidelines

Social media can be a fun and rewarding way to share your life and opinions with family, friends, and other students around the world. However, use of social media also presents certain risks and carries with it certain responsibilities.

In the rapidly expanding world of electronic communication, *social media* can mean many things. *Social media* includes all means of communicating or posting information or content of any sort on the Internet, including to your own or someone else's web log or blog, journal or diary, personal web site, social networking or affinity web site, web bulletin board or a chat room, whether or not associated or affiliated with Hinds Community College' Nursing and Allied Health programs, as well as any other form of electronic communication. Common examples of social media include, but are not limited to, blogs, photo and/or video-sharing sites and apps (YouTube, , Instagram, SnapChat, , TikTok, etc.), e-zines (digital magazines), wikis (Wikipedia), social networks (Facebook, "X", formerly known as Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest, etc.), video and audio podcasts (posted to the web or hosted by applications (ex.: iTunes), ratings sites and apps (Google Review, Yelp, Rate My Professor, etc.), and discussion sections of web pages or applications (comment section under articles on news or information websites). Common electronic communication platforms include text messaging, emails, GroupMe, or other group messaging app, etc.

Be aware that no privatization measure is perfect and undesigned persons may still gain access to your networking site. Furthermore, posting, sharing, or even "liking" questionable or inappropriate posts publishes them to your newsfeed for circulation in your name. Litigation involving such issues is complex, as the content on social media sites is easily misconstrued,

permanent, discoverable by courts, and utilized in these adversarial proceedings.

You are more likely to resolve school/program related complaints by speaking directly with your faculty and/or program chair/director or dean than by posting complaints to a social media outlet.

To assist you in making responsible decisions about your use of social media, we have established these guidelines for appropriate use of social media. These guidelines apply to all full and part time students enrolled in any of the Nursing and Allied Health programs.

- Always be fair and courteous to fellow students, faculty, and all who work on behalf of Hinds Community College.
- Make sure you are always honest and accurate when posting information or news, and if you make a mistake, correct it quickly.
- Be open about any previous posts you have altered. Remember that the Internet archives almost everything; therefore, even deleted postings can be searched.
- Never post any information or rumors that you know to be false about Hinds Community College or its employees, students, or faculty.
- Social media should not be used during instructional time.
- Do not use Hinds Community College email addresses to register on social networks, blogs or other online tools utilized for personal use.
- Make sure posts/communications are relevant and accurate.
- Make it clear that you are speaking for yourself and not on behalf of Hinds Community College or a specific program.
- Seek permission from fellow students prior to posting/communicating any personal information or photographs related to HCC activities.
- Avoid using statements, photographs, video or audio that reasonably could be viewed as malicious, obscene, threatening or intimidating, that disparage employees, students, faculty or that might constitute harassment or bullying. Examples of such conduct might include offensive posts meant to intentionally harm someone's reputation or posts that could contribute to a hostile environment on the basis of race, sex, disability, religion or any other status protected by law.
- **DO NOT** post/communicate the personal information or photograph of any patient at clinical sites. Removal of an individual's name does not constitute proper de-identification of protected health information. Inclusion of data such as age, gender, race, diagnosis, date of evaluation, types of treatment, or the use of a highly specific medical photograph (such as a before/after photograph of a patient having surgery or a photograph of a patient from one of the medical outreach trips) may still allow the reader to recognize the identity of a specific individual. Posting/Communication of patient information could violate state or federal laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- **DO NOT** post/communicate vulgar, false, obscene, harassing statements, or statements disparaging the race, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation or disability of any individual with whom you come into contact as a result of your student role in a program.
- represent yourself as another person, real or fictitious, or otherwise attempt to obscure your identity as a means to circumvent the prohibitions included in this manual.

Ultimately, you are solely responsible for what you post online. Before creating online content, consider some of the risks and rewards that are involved. Any form of communications must always be civil and respectful. Students must make every effort to present themselves in a mature, responsible, and professional manner when utilizing social media. Any conduct that adversely affects your student performance, the performance of fellow students or otherwise

adversely affects any Hinds Nursing and Allied Health program's interests or reputation may result in student conduct action up to and including expulsion.

Student Emergency Messages

Emergency messages for students can be left with the program director/chairperson or program secretary. Students should inform day care centers or family members of the name of the program in which they are enrolled and the phone number of the campus location. This information will be provided during the program orientation. Personnel will locate a student for emergencies only.

Student Employment

For educational reasons, the full-time student *should not be employed more than 16 hours per week*. Failure to meet class requirements, fatigue and sleepiness can lead to omissions in learning and errors in performance which can result in failure in the course. Class and clinical schedules and assignments should have priority over work hours. Work hours, including military leave, drill, etc., cannot be used as an excuse if they cause a class or clinical absence or tardy. Students who work are not permitted to wear the school uniform or any identification related to the HCC student role while on the job.

Test Item Security Guidelines

Tests are used in nursing and allied health programs to evaluate mastery of content as well as to prepare students for a professional licensure/registry exam. Tests and test items are considered the property of the programs. Only answers marked as directed will be scored. Test items are analyzed by faculty to provide students with valid, reliable tests.

Students are strictly prohibited from disclosing test items or response choices to anyone, including using language that is substantially similar to the test item or response choice.

The disclosure of any information about the nature or content of test items, before, during, or after a test is considered cheating and will result in a grade of "F" in the course. This includes, but is not limited to possession of test questions outside of a testing situation unless supervised or approved by a faculty member, any oral or written disclosure, or any paper or electronic distribution. Capturing testing items by electronic means, i.e., pictures, screen shots, etc., is strictly prohibited. Additional penalties could occur if the student is referred for student conduct action.

Use of Communication and Other Electronic Devices

The office phones are to be used only for emergencies. **Cellphones should not be used during classroom, laboratory and clinical activities. (See College Student Handbook for description of penalties.)** Students are expected to use approved electronic devices for approved activities only and should not be accessing social media and other internet sites during class, laboratory, or clinical experiences. Students must request permission from the individual program faculty to use recorders in the classroom, campus laboratory, and/or clinical area. Students may use an electronic device in clinical if allowed by the specific program and clinical affiliate. Under no circumstances can an electronic device be used in a clinical setting to record conversations or to take pictures. Confidentiality rights must be protected.