

Clinical Placement Attendance Policy Year 2 Sept 2019

Clinical Placement Attendance Policy for Students undertaking the B.Sc. (Hons) in General and Psychiatric Nursing in Athlone Institute of Technology¹

This policy was updated in line with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) Requirements and Standards for Nurse Registration Education Programmes (fourth edition) 2016

1. Students must undertake no less than 81 weeks and 2,300 hours¹ of Clinical Placement over a four year programme
2. Students are required to attend Supernumerary² Clinical Placement for not greater than 35 hours each week, inclusive of rest periods and 4 hours Protected Learning³
3. Students are required to attend Internship Placements for 36 weeks³, inclusive of annual leave and 4 hours Protected Learning per week.
4. Full attendance (100%) on Clinical Placement is desirable in order to optimise student learning and to complete a Clinical Competency Assessment for each stage of the programme.
5. Following any interruption⁴, a minimum of eighty per cent (80%) attendance is acceptable to undertake a complete Clinical Competency Assessment.
6. Following the examination board meeting second and third year students can repeat a maximum of nine weeks' placement during the student's summer vacation period. This repeat time can be utilised to repeat an insufficiently attended or failed Clinical Placement. Time requirements exceeding nine weeks' duration will

¹ Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2016). *Requirements and Standards for Nurse Registration Education Programmes* (4th ed). Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland, Dublin.

² Allocation to a clinical placement is driven by educational needs; the student is surplus to the rostered complement of nurses.

³ Specific periods of protected time are allocated for reflection during supernumerary placements and the final internship clinical placement (Nurse Education Forum 2000)

⁴ Any leave (other than annual leave and bank holidays) including sick leave, force majeure leave, parental leave, compassionate and special leave." Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2016) Requirements and Standards for Nurse Registration Education Programmes.

⁵ HSE Managing Attendance Policy and Procedures (2014)

necessitate students completing Clinical Placement in a separate academic year.

7. A student in Stage 4 of this programme is required to successfully complete the module Clinical Placement VII prior to commencing Clinical Placement VIII (Internship). The student will be required to repeat this module before progressing to Clinical Placement VIII (Internship).
 8. The module Clinical Placement VIII consists of 36 weeks internship (including annual leave). Internship students must adhere to the HSE Managing Attendance Policy and Procedures (2014)⁵ whilst on Clinical Placement VIII.
 9. Failure to complete or pass all Competency Assessment Workbooks in this module will result in failure to complete the programme and the student must repeat the entire clinical placement, which the student has not completed or failed in the next academic year. (Internship students need to repeat any failed placement as soon as is practicable after the autumn examination board subject to the clinical placement availability as agreed by the HSE Health Care Partners).
 10. A new Clinical Competency Assessment Workbook will be issued to the student when the student returns to placement to fulfil the stipulated attendance.
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