

**Kent State University
College of Nursing**



**MSN Student Handbook
AY 2025-2026**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome	4
Useful Links.....	4
Contact Information	5
Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives.....	6
College of Nursing Mission	6
College of Nursing Values:	6
MSN Outcomes	6
MSN Program.....	6
Certificates	7
Admission Policies and Procedures	7
Licensure	7
Conditional Admission.....	8
Table 1. Conditional admissions for students in the MSN and DNP programs.....	8
Table 2. Conditional admissions for students in certificates.....	9
Transfer Credits	9
New Student Orientation.....	9
Grading Policies and Procedures	9
Grading Scale	9
AI Use	10
Progression Policies and Procedures	10
Academic Standing	10
Semester Warning.....	10
Academic Probation	11
Dismissal	11
Extension of Time Limits.....	11
Leave of Absence	11
Academic Complaints.....	12
Curricular Changes	12
Program Planning and Advising	12
Program Plan.....	12
Advising	13
The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services	13
Concentration Coordinators and Program Directors	13

Change in Program or Concentration	13
Practicum Requirements	13
Orientation to First MSN or Certificate Practicum Course	13
GSN Canvas Course	14
Typhon	14
Preceptor/Practicum Agency Selection	14
Clinical Compliance Policy	15
Professional Liability Insurance	15
Student Conduct in Practicum Settings	15
Appearance Standards	15
Cleanliness	16
Attire	16
Hair	16
Jewelry	16
Nails	17
Body Art	17
Other	17
Clinical Incident Reports	17
Graduate Student Research and Scholarship	17
Center for Nursing Research	17
Graduate College	18
Student Organizations and CON Committees	18
College of Nursing Committees	18
Graduate Student Senate	18
Sigma Theta Tau International	18
Table 3: Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Xi Chapter Eligibility Criteria	19

WELCOME

Welcome to Kent State University (KSU) College of Nursing (CON) MSN programs. KSU's graduate nursing programs have expanded from the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree in 1977, to the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD), and finally, to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in 2011. The College also offers certificates for graduate-prepared nurses who want to expand their scope of practice and advance their careers.

The material in this handbook supplements information provided in the KSU Catalog, Policy Register, and Graduate College. Students are responsible for knowing policies, procedures and academic regulations of the College and the University. The [Guide to Graduate Education](#) contains the policies and procedures applicable to the University's graduate education community. KSU Graduate College has also published the [Expectations for Graduate Education](#) that outlines expectations for graduate students, faculty, staff and administrators in all colleges, departments and administrative units.

USEFUL LINKS

[Academic Calendar](#)

[Calendars and Deadlines](#)

[Canvas Support](#)

[College of Nursing](#)

[Commencement](#)

[Graduate College](#)

[Policy Register](#)

[Student Ombuds](#)

[University Catalog](#)

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PROGRAM MISSION, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES

College of Nursing Mission: The College of Nursing is dedicated to transforming lives by producing compassionate nurses who advance health locally, nationally, and globally.

College of Nursing Values:

1. Graduates will become competent, compassionate nurses who care for patients, families and the community.
2. Our graduates will exhibit behaviors of lifelong motivated learners to address the complexity of health care.
3. Graduates will become competent, compassionate nurses who care for ALL patients, families and the community.
4. We exhibit innovative nursing education models that build on integrity and critical thinking.
5. We cultivate inquisitive minds that innovate and develop new nursing science.

MSN Outcomes

Graduates of the MSN program are prepared to:

1. Meet the standards for advanced practice certification or other advanced professional distinction.
2. Demonstrate competencies based on professional standards to assume advanced roles in nursing, and for leadership and career advancement, including doctoral study.
3. Communicate, integrate and apply advanced nursing knowledge and skills to provide person-centered nursing care and promote quality outcomes in nursing and health care.

MSN Program

The MSN program prepares nurses for advanced nursing roles. Depending on the MSN concentration, graduates obtain educational eligibility for national certification as clinical nurse specialists (CNS) or nurse practitioners (NP) or are prepared to serve in nurse educator or health care leadership roles. The program provides a foundation for further post-graduate and doctoral-level study in nursing. The following concentrations are offered:

- Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Dual MSN/MBA Business Administration
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Educator
- Nursing Administration and Health Systems Leadership
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Certificates

The CON offers certificates in all MSN concentrations to allow graduate-prepared nurses to pursue advanced education and additional specialization, and to prepare students to sit for national certification in selected areas. CON also offers a post-BSN certificate (SANE). The following certificates are offered:

1. Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate
2. Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Certificate
3. Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate
4. Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate
5. Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate (Admissions suspended Fall 2024)
6. Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate
7. Women's Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate
8. Nurse Educator Certificate
9. Nursing Administration and Health Systems Leadership Certificate

The program of study in each certificate represents concentration-specific coursework related to role and population competencies. After admission into a certificate, a gap analysis is completed for each applicant, whereby the applicant's transcript is compared to the certificate plan. Syllabi of courses to be considered for transfer in the gap analysis are examined carefully to determine equivalency. Courses are transferred to KSU per the [Transfer of Graduate Credit policy](#).

ADMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Requirements for admission to graduate programs and certificates are outlined in the [University Catalog](#). Students who hold a BSN will be admitted to both the DNP and MSN programs. This will allow BSN students to complete MSN coursework and enroll in some DNP coursework after successfully completing their first two full-time semesters of graduate study.

Licensure

Students enrolled in the MSN program or a certificate must have an active, unrestricted RN

license in the state in which practicum coursework will be completed. Proof of the appropriate licensure must be obtained prior to registering for courses. Students' licensure is verified by the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services via the state's board of nursing during the admission process. Renewals are also verified at the appropriate intervals to verify continuing licensure according to the [Clinical Compliance Policy](#). Graduate students must notify the CON of any change in status regarding their license.

The CON is not licensed to conduct business in all states. In order to be compliant with federal and state laws related to online education and consumer protection, KSU may not be able offer online programs to students residing in certain states. In addition, some state laws may impose limitations that could affect a program of study, including inability to offer practicum courses. Since these regulations undergo continuous updates, non-Ohio residents interested in pursuing any CON online program or practicum placement are advised to consult official KSU information on state authorization before applying to this program by contacting the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services at 330-672-7911. Also, any student that is planning to move to a different state after being admitted to the MSN or Certificate, programs must immediately inform the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services at 330-672-7911 to determine whether he/she can continue in the program.

APRN concentrations within the MSN program and APRN Certificates qualify graduates to sit for national APRN certification and APRN licensure in Ohio. States other than Ohio may have additional requirements to apply for or obtain an APRN license, including but not limited to specific state examinations, letters of recommendation, or proof of completion of an accredited nursing program. The CON reviews information from all states to determine whether graduates meet the requirements for APRN licensure outside the state of Ohio. Please contact the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services at 330-672-7911 with any questions. Additional information about out-of-Ohio professional licensure please visit the [Kent State Online](#) website.

Conditional Admission

Applicants who do not meet the minimum admission requirements, but whose applications contain evidence suggesting strong academic ability, may be considered for conditional admission. The purpose of conditional admission is to provide an opportunity to address any deficiencies and demonstrate the ability to satisfactorily complete graduate coursework. Students who are granted conditional admission are notified of the conditions and rationale for conditional admission. Table 1 outlines conditions for students in the MSN programs; Table 2 specifies conditions for certificates. **Students who do not meet the conditions of their admission are subject to dismissal from the CON.**

Table 1. Conditional admissions for students in the MSN and DNP programs

Admission Criteria Not Met	Condition
Cumulative undergraduate (MSN) or graduate (DNP) GPA of 2.750 or greater	Students must earn a 3.0 gpa or better in their first semester of enrollment
RN license in the state where practicum hours will be	Student must show proof of a RN license in the state where practicum hours will be completed prior to enrollment in the

completed	first term.
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Table 2. Conditional admissions for students in certificates

Admission Criteria Not Met	Condition
Minimum 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000 scale	Students must earn a 3.0 or higher in their first semester.

TRANSFER CREDITS

The CON will evaluate applications for transfer credit according to the [Transfer of Graduate Credit](#) policy.

To request transfer of credits from another institution, students must contact the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services to request the Transfer of Graduate Credit form. A course syllabus for each transfer course requested must accompany the form.

The request for transfer of credit will be reviewed by the course coordinator. Review will be based on equivalence of the essential learning outcomes between the CON and transfer course(s). The transfer course must demonstrate through course content, student activities, and assessments that it meets or exceeds 70% of the content for the learning outcomes identified in the CON course. Recommendations for transfer must be approved by the Associate Dean of Academics. Once the transfer credit has been approved, the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services will update the student's academic plan.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

The CON is committed to offering quality coursework and access to online resources to help students succeed. Students are enrolled in the College of Nursing GSN (Graduate Student Nurse) course following admission. The GSN course includes an Orientation module. The module is designed to help the student transition to graduate education. In addition to the online GSN course, The CON hosts a live orientation prior to the start of each semester.

The Graduate College hosts a university-wide Graduate Student Orientation (GSO). Students are strongly encouraged to participate in GSO.

GRADING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

[Grading Policies and Procedures](#) are described in the University Catalog. Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for any graduate degree, but are counted in the graduate GPA.

Grading Scale

A	93% - 100%
A-	90% - 92.99%
B+	87% - 89.99%

B	83% - 86.99%
B-	80% - 82.99%
C+	77% - 79.99%
C	73% - 76.99%
C-	70% - 72.99%
D+	67% - 69.99%
D	65% - 66.99%
F	Less than 65%

An incomplete mark (IN) may be given to students who – due to extenuating circumstances – are not able to complete the required coursework between the course withdrawal deadline and the end of classes.

Academic Integrity

All narrative/written assignments will be uploaded to the current university-approved plagiarism software and any necessary revisions completed prior to the assignment due date. Faculty will be using the same software to verify that all submissions have been screened for plagiarism. Students should be familiar with the following Administrative Policies related to [cheating and plagiarism](#) and [misconduct in research and scholarship](#).

AI Use

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is governed by the [Administrative Policy Regarding Cheating and Plagiarism](#). Students should refer to their course syllabus and consult with their instructors pertaining to AI usage.

PROGRESSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic Standing

The CON adheres to the University Catalog policy on [Academic Standing-Graduate Student](#). **All CON graduate students should review this policy thoroughly.** The MSN program and certificates adhere to the minimum grade and GPA policies in the University Catalog.

Enforcement of the Academic Standing policy in the CON is carried out at the conclusion of each academic term (i.e., Fall, Spring, and Summer) by the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. Each student's academic record is reviewed for progression towards degree completion, compliance with degree completion time limits, satisfactory completion of conditional admissions requirements and achievement of grade requirements. Students with noted deficiencies may be issued a semester warning, placed on academic probation, or subject to academic dismissal. The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services will make recommendations to the Associate Dean for a semester warning, academic probation, or academic dismissal based upon the criteria stated below.

Semester Warning

A Semester Warning is a warning from the College to the student that their academic standing is in jeopardy. A Semester Warning shall be issued to any MSN or certificate student who:

- receives a course grade less than B (3.0) in a single semester (See [Dismissal](#) below);
- is in danger of exceeding their [time limit to degree](#).

A student who receives a semester warning will be required to meet with an advisor in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services and concentration coordinator prior to registering for courses for the subsequent term.

Academic Probation

A student is placed on Academic Probation as a result of a:

- Cumulative GPA is less than 3.0
- A student who receives a semester warning will be required to meet with an advisor in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services and concentration coordinator prior to registering for courses for the subsequent term.

Dismissal

Graduate students are expected to maintain a minimum 3.000 grade point average (GPA). A graduate student who receives more than 8 credit hours of grades less than B (3.000) is subject to dismissal. A graduate student who receives more than 4 credit hours of grades lower than C (2.000) is also subject to dismissal.

A dismissed student has the right to [appeal the dismissal](#). Appeals should be addressed to the Associate Dean of Graduate Programs.

Extension of Time Limits

The [Time Limits for Graduate Programs](#) policy states that Students must complete a master's degree or certificate within six calendar years starting with their term of admission. If extension of the time limit is necessary and appropriate, the student may request an extension by filing the Application for Extension of Time Limits in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services. The request will be reviewed by concentration coordinator, and the Associate Dean of Academics.

Requests for extensions of longer than one year must be approved by the Associate Dean of Academics . The student, advisor, and concentration coordinator or director are advised of the decision in writing.

Students requesting an extension of time limits should also familiarize themselves with the [Time Limit for Graduate Nursing Courses](#) policy.

Leave of Absence

A leave of absence is granted for degree-seeking graduate students in active status who must be away from their studies for one or more semesters for personal, family, financial or other compelling reasons. There are several exceptions and exclusions to a Leave of Absence. Students should consult the University Catalog policy [Leave of Absence for Graduate Students](#) for a full description of the policy

Students eligible for a leave of absence must complete the Request for Graduate Leave of Absence form found on Flashline. At the conclusion of the leave of absence, the student is required to complete the Application for Graduate Re-Enrollment before he/she can register for classes. Re-enrollment forms must be obtained from the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services

ACADEMIC COMPLAINTS

The University policy for [Academic Complaints](#) is outlined in the University Policy Register, Section 4-02.3. As described in the policy, the student should first attempt to resolve the issue with the course faculty. If this attempt is not successful, the student should contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. It is also recommended that the student contact the [Student Ombudsman](#) for assistance; information about this can be accessed at [student wishes to lodge a formal complaint](#) after discussing the matter with the Associate Dean, a written formal complaint can be filed according to the procedures and timelines outlined in the university policy.

CURRICULAR CHANGES

The College of Nursing is committed to assuring graduated students have the requirements to sit for certification. Students will be notified via email of any curricular changes such as practicum hours or additional required courses not listed in the student's current program plan.

PROGRAM PLANNING AND ADVISING

Program Plan

All graduate students pursuing an MSN degree or certificate from the CON are required to have a program plan in KSU's Graduate Planning System (GPS). The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services enters a standardized plan of study in the GPS Planner for each student upon admission. Once entered, students must review their plans regularly and prior to registering for subsequent terms and follow them to ensure their enrollment in required courses. Students wishing to update or modify their plans must meet with the graduate advisor in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services or their concentration coordinator/program director.

To access the GPS plan:

- Log onto Flashline
- Select "Student Menu"
- Select "Resources"
- Select "Advising and GPS"
- The GPS Audit lists all courses completed, are enrolled in, and still need to complete.
- The Plans tab lists courses to be taken in the future.

Timely enrollment in courses is required. Students who delay their enrollment may become closed out of required courses, which can result in a delayed graduation date. If a student takes a Leave of Absence or changes concentrations, the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services will update the student's GPS Planner.

Advising

Student advising is a shared responsibility between the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services and the concentration coordinators.

The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services

The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services assists students with enrollment, development of GPS plans, provision of registration overrides as needed, completion of required University forms (e.g., leave of absence, re-enrollment, transfer credits, extension of time limits, change of program), and in some cases provision of supporting documentation for financial aid. Alterations of students' program plans in the GPS are carried out by the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services in collaboration with concentration coordinators and program directors. The Office of Academic Advising and Student Services is also responsible for admissions processing, graduation clearance, and monitoring student adherence to the [Clinical Compliance Policy](#).

Concentration Coordinators and Program Directors

Concentration coordinators assist students with role transition and socialization as graduate students and with advanced role adoption. Students work with concentration coordinators or program directors, and program faculty to identify preceptors and practicum experiences that best fit the needs of the respective courses. Concentration coordinators and program directors work with students and advisors in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services to make alterations in their program plans. Concentration coordinators also complete the appropriate certification exam documentation and other licensure forms.

Change in Program or Concentration

Policies and procedures for changing the study plan are outlined in the University Catalog. Students considering a change to another concentration or program within the CON should discuss their plans with both their current and proposed concentration coordinators/program directors. If the student wishes to proceed with requesting the change, he or she should contact the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services for assistance in completing and submitting the Change of Program of Study form. An updated CV and goal statement must also be submitted. Change of concentration requests are evaluated at the beginning and end of each academic term, and at the time new applicants are considered for admissions each fall and spring. Change of concentration requests are made on a space available basis and utilizing the same evaluation method as new applicants to the University.

PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS

For complete information on practicum placements, refer to the Practicum Information tab on the Graduate Student Nursing (GSN) Canvas Learn course.

Orientation to First MSN or Certificate Practicum Course

Students entering their first practicum courses will be expected to attend a mandatory first practicum orientation. You will receive a notification about the orientation from your concentration coordinator. Orientation sessions will be held 4 to 6 months before the start of the

first practicum course. Students are encouraged to become familiar with the GSN Canvas Learn course described below much sooner than the mandatory orientation.

GSN Canvas Course

The CON's GSN Canvas Learn course contains resources for all graduate students to assist in locating preceptors, meeting agency standards for onboarding, and meeting the CON Clinical Compliance Policy, which is outlined below. Students are responsible for meeting all requirements by posted deadlines. Students may not begin practicum experiences until all requirements are met. Practicum experiences cannot be started in advance of the first date of the semester, unless approved by your concentration coordinator. An exception to this guideline is when students may meet with preceptor(s) and complete agency onboarding requirements before the semester starts. Practicum experiences must end by last day of the semester, or earlier.

Typhon

The Typhon database is utilized by students in the MSN/Certificate. It requires a one-time fee which is payable by credit card upon initial login. The fee provides access to the system while you are enrolled as a student and for 5 years after you graduate.

Typhon is a student practicum experience tracking system, featuring a comprehensive data base of practicum sites and preceptors, student profiles, practicum encounters, patient logs, student portfolios, and evaluations. The CON uses two Typhon data bases as follows:

- [Nurse Practitioner concentrations.](#)
- [Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Educator, and Nursing Administration and Health Systems Leadership concentrations](#)

Documentation of practicum experiences (e.g., time logs and case logs) must be entered into the Typhon database no later than 15 days after the date of the practicum experience.

Directions for this are contained in each practicum course syllabus and in the Graduate Student Guide for practicum Placements, which is on the College of Nursing GSN Canvas Learn site.

Preceptor/Practicum Agency Selection

All students in the MSN/Certificate and DNP programs are required to complete practicum hours as a component of practicum courses. Selection of practicum agencies and preceptors is a mutual process among student, faculty, and preceptor, with final approval by faculty and concentration coordinators. Students are responsible for identifying qualified preceptors in appropriate practicum agencies and confirming with practicum faculty. Students who are entering their first practicum course are assisted by their respective concentration coordinators to find a practicum site and preceptor during the semester prior to start of the first practicum course. Some practicum sites do not allow students to contact preceptors directly; complete information and instructions for these agencies is on the GSN Canvas Learn course. Students may only complete hours at facilities that have a current affiliation agreement with the CON. Affiliation agreements are arranged between the KSU CON and the facility, **not** by students. Course faculty, concentration coordinators and the DNP program director are available to assist students in securing preceptors as needed.

Clinical Compliance Policy

All graduate students must adhere to the [Clinical Compliance Policy](#) outlined in the KSU Catalog MSN and Certificate students must be compliant with the all components of the clinical compliance policy prior to the beginning of their first practicum course. Students will not be allowed to enroll in the first practicum course until all components of the clinical compliance policy have been met. Students will not be allowed to complete any practicum hours until they are compliant with the policy.

Various components in the clinical compliance policy may expire while a student is still completing practicum coursework, such as the annual TB testing and influenza vaccine. You cannot complete any practicum hours until you complete this process and meet all components of the clinical compliance policy.

Professional Liability Insurance

While students are in their practicum courses, KSU provides liability insurance. This coverage includes a substantial out-of-pocket deductible. Students may, but are not required to, obtain their own student liability insurance. A copy of the liability insurance form can be found in GSN Canvas.

Student Conduct in Practicum Settings

Behavior in the practicum setting must always reflect standards of practice for professional nursing and the graduate student role. Standards of professional behavior are reflected in the American Nurses Association's, *Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* and professional and legal codes for nursing practice (e.g., Ohio Board of Nursing, NONPF, NACNS).

Agency guidelines and consideration for patient safety and well-being must always be adhered to. This includes strict adherence to confidentiality and privacy laws (e.g., HIPAA). Students with direct patient contact must maintain appropriate documentation on patients' clinical record throughout the semester within the scope of the student role and practicum agency guidelines. Students must complete any required training for access to patient records and for documentation privileges, according to agency policies.

Students must maintain the schedule for practicum hours and notify preceptor and course faculty of absences and plans for makeup.

Failure to adhere to these conduct guidelines may result in a grade of "F" for the practicum course, regardless of grades earned through course assignments or other evaluation criteria.

Appearance Standards

The faculty of the College, our partner practicum agencies, and the clients we serve expect that students present a professional well-groomed appearance that reflects the nature of the program, profession, and facility. Safety and cultural awareness are also vitally important to consider in standards of appearance. Both faculty and students are to follow both the CON standards, and any additional standards of the practicum, educational or research settings to

which they are assigned. Certain faculty, agencies, or specific units may establish additional appearance standards to those listed below.

Cleanliness

Personal cleanliness and hygiene are essential both to portray a professional appearance, and to safeguard the health of clients, agency staff, and other students. Hygiene maintenance requires attention to odors. Students must use only fragrance-free body products since scented products (e.g., perfumes, colognes, lotions, deodorants, after shaves) can be offensive or allergenic to many people. Students should also be cognizant of body odor and bad breath and take measures to avoid both. Students who smoke should have no detectable odor of smoke on their person when in practicum setting.

Attire

Attire appropriate to the type of experience (e.g., lab coat, scrubs) and agency requirements must always be worn during each practicum experience except in selected areas such as obstetrics, community health, and psychiatric/mental health, where scrubs or street clothes are worn. Specific apparel requirements for these areas are provided by the affiliating practicum agencies, the course syllabus, and/or the faculty. All clothing worn should fit appropriately and at no time should breast or gluteal cleavage be visible. Clothing should meet the standards of the agency, be appropriate for professional appearance, and the College name badge should be worn. The College name badge should not be worn outside of the practicum experience in the program. Below is information related to how to obtain a badge and what information to include on the badge. To register for a badge go to Practicum Module in The College of Nursing GSN course on Canvas for specific instructions.

- **The following information must appear on all name badges (See below):**
 - First and last name
 - Concentration Name
 - College of Nursing
- **The following should NOT appear on name badges:**
 - Affiliations
 - Degrees

Hair

Hairstyles for men and women must be neat and clean. Beards and mustaches must be neatly trimmed. When in contact with patients, long hair must be pulled back and fastened by a clip or elastic band so that it does not fall forward over the shoulders or face. In nursing units that require covering of hair, such standards will be followed.

Jewelry

A watch, a single pair of plain gold or silver posts worn in the lower ear lobe of pierced ears, and a wedding band are the only acceptable jewelry. Visible piercings with jewelry in places other than the lower ear lobes (e.g. upper ear, nose, tongue, eyebrows) are not permitted in the practicum area. All open piercings must remain empty. Spacers are not permitted while attending practicum experiences.

Nails

Artificial nails are not permitted during direct contact with patients in any practicum setting. This includes wraps, inlays, decals, and artificial nails. Natural nails are to be clean and less than one-quarter inch beyond the fingertip when in contact with patients. Nail polish, if worn, must be clear in color and not chipped or cracked.

Body Art

Tattoos or other body art must be covered as much as possible in the practicum setting.

Medical Marijuana

Marijuana is not recognized as a legitimate treatment by the federal government. All Marijuana use is prohibited by our healthcare partners.

Other

Excessive makeup is not acceptable and gum chewing is not permitted in the practicum or research setting.

Clinical Incident Reports

If involved in an incident during a practicum experience involving self, a patient, family member, or staff member, the student must notify the preceptor and course instructor and complete a clinical incident report as soon as possible.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

The CON encourages and supports graduate student engagement in research and scholarship activities throughout their academic studies. Both the College and University provide support for students.

Center for Nursing Research

The [Center for Nursing Research \(CNR\)](#) aids students pursuing nursing research and scholarly endeavors. In coordination with the student faculty advisor, the CNR can provide students with relevant consultation and assistance with all aspects of the research or scholarly project. We can help with grant development, proposal review, project budgets, and potential funding opportunities.

Center for Nursing Research staff are available to work with students on manuscripts and publications (outside of class assignments). CNR staff provide editorial review and assistance with manuscripts by ensuring that manuscripts follow each journal's author guidelines, adhere to the required style guide, contain well-developed and organized ideas, and are as error-free as possible.

Other services offered include assistance with conference-related abstract submissions, presentations, and statistical support for projects, as well as help accessing PIVOT to search for funding opportunities.

Funding is available for nursing research and innovation through various donor supported funds.

Students and faculty who are interested in accessing these funds should apply for funding through the Research and Innovation Advisory Board. Applications are available through the CNR and aim to support projects that have potential to lead to additional funding through national funders (HERSA, NSF etc). Applicants will be asked to provide numerous supporting documents and are encouraged to have dialogue with members of the advisory board throughout the process. For any inquiries about the board, application process or available funds, please reach out to the Center for Nursing Research.

Graduate College

The [Graduate College](#) and [Graduate Student Senate](#) offer a number of opportunities for research and scholarly support. The Graduate Student Senate Research Award is a competitive award that supports research or project-related expenses. This award is offered twice per year with application deadlines in the Spring and Fall semesters. Students are eligible to receive one Research Award per academic year.

The Graduate Research Symposium is one the largest annual research events on campus. The event itself features oral and poster presentations by graduate students from a wide variety of disciplines.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND CON COMMITTEES

The CON encourages graduate students to participate in student organizations and committees.

College of Nursing Committees

Several CON faculty committees (e.g., Graduate Curriculum Committee, Academic Complaint Committee) invite students to serve as members. Interested students should contact the Office of Academic Advising and Student Services.

Graduate Student Senate

The [Graduate Student Senate](#) offers opportunities for networking, research and travel funding, and socialization.

Sigma Theta Tau International

The [Delta Xi Chapter](#) of the Honor Society of Nursing, [Sigma Theta Tau International](#) (STTI), has been recognizing excellence in academic achievement and supporting student success at KSU CON since 1980. STTI is dedicated to advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. Its members are nurses and nursing students committed to the pursuit of excellence in clinical practice, education, research, and leadership. Sigma Theta Tau is the second largest nursing organization in the United States and one of the five largest in the world.

Student membership is selective and by invitation only. Awarding membership recognizes, encourages, and actively supports nursing excellence and scholarship by advancing professional development, scholarly pursuit, leadership, creativity, and commitment to nursing. Members receive honor cords to be worn at commencement, are recognized in the commencement program as honor society members, and receive benefits of membership in the organization, including career counseling, networking opportunities, conferences, subscription to the

organization's journal and other literature, chapter activities and service. Delta Xi offers an academic year internship to work with the chapter, chapter leaders, and undertake a project consistent with the STTI mission. Research grant opportunities are also available. [Email](#) Delta Xi For more information on any of these opportunities, email

Table 3: Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Xi Chapter Eligibility Criteria

Criteria	BSN	RN-to-BSN	MSN & Doctoral (PhD & DNP)
Minimum number of <u>nursing</u> (NURS) hours completed	½ of program total	½ of program total	1/4
Minimum number of overall program hours completed	N/A	12 (NURS or non-NURS)	N/A
Minimum overall GPA	3.5	3.5	3.5