

# RN to BSN Degree Completion Option Practicum Handbook NR-447M: Collaborative Leadership in Healthcare (for Washington Students)



## WELCOME TO THE NR-447M: COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE

As you begin preparing for your practicum experience, I want you to be aware that the required assignments have been developed to facilitate learning and the expansion of your knowledge base, providing evidence of development toward your professional goal. Review your syllabus very carefully and discuss the assignments with your practicum mentor and instructor to avoid missing a deadline.

Enjoy your practicum experience and take advantage of every opportunity to apply your new knowledge and skills.

Sincerely,

**Amy Sherer, DNP, MSN, RN**

Dean, RN to BSN Degree Completion  
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## PRACTICUM GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

### I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

The NR-447M Collaborative Leadership in Healthcare course offers you an opportunity to apply and to relate theoretical content to practice situations. During this unique practicum course, you will master an understanding of theoretical foundations of Collaborative Leadership in Healthcare nursing. This concentrated professional experience will help to further prepare you for a role in collaborative healthcare nursing. On a larger scale, it allows you to enhance your skills in communication, teamwork, critical thinking and professionalism.

You are responsible for identifying a mentor during Week 1 of the course. You must select a mentor with recent expertise in collaborative leadership healthcare nursing to provide guidance and direction for attainment of your learning outcomes and goals. This may be the same preceptor/mentor you are using in the NR-435 Community, Public, and Population Health Nursing practicum as long as the criteria are met. Additionally, the mentor must have an active and unrestricted license in the state of Washington. In the event, the student is completing the practicum in a non-resident state, proof of current RN licensure will be required.

During the practicum, you must advise your mentor of course requirements and course outcomes. Each assigned faculty member is responsible for evaluating your performance and all associated assignments completed during the practicum experience.

You are responsible for completing a minimum of 10 hours of mentored practical experience. NR-447M uses experiential learning assignments as the foundation for these hours. Hours spent researching, completing the assignments, as well as time spent with your mentor, discussing, collaborating and learning can also be counted in the 10 hours. Students will document time spent on their practicum log which will be submitted in the course. Documentation must demonstrate activities related to course outcomes.

You will also participate in an online class that will include discussions and assignments in addition to the practicum hours.

### II. ELIGIBILITY FOR CLINICAL PRACTICUM

#### 1. Prerequisite Requirements

- Completion of NR-351 and NR-361

#### 2. Mentor Requirements

All mentors must be approved. In the event a mentor approval form is not completed, a delay in starting the practicum will occur.

#### 3. Ethical Behavior

You are expected to demonstrate professional demeanor, behavior and communication at all times. You are bound by the American Nurses Association

Code of Ethics and must agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the state in which you are practicing.

### III. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 1. Faculty Role

During the course, the instructor should be available via email or telephone to provide support to you and the mentor. Given the nature of the practicum, the role of the instructor becomes a combination of facilitator, organizer, professional relations coordinator, role model, coach and counselor. The instructor's role is to maintain ongoing and effective communication throughout the practicum experience. The instructor is responsible for the final evaluation of your learning. Upon completion of the practicum, the course instructor will complete a mentor evaluation.

#### 2. Responsibilities of Chamberlain University

- Identifies course outcomes to be addressed during practicum assignment
- Ensures you have met all eligibility requirements prior to beginning the practicum
- Suggests activities to enhance the educational experience
- Provides a faculty member to act as instructor and facilitator
- Considers promptly any complaints by you or your mentor
- Maintains communication with you and your mentor during the course
- Agrees not to discriminate by race, creed, color, religion, sex or national origin
- Evaluates your academic performance in the course

#### 3. Responsibilities of the Mentor

- Provides proof of licensure and completes and submits any other Chamberlain or state-specific forms required during Week 1 of the NR-447M course
- Thoroughly reviews the Mentor Resource Manual for orientation to the role and responsibilities
- Completes electronic signature confirming receipt of the Mentor Resource Manual
- Demonstrates collaboration with Chamberlain University to promote RN to BSN student success via collaboration with the course faculty via phone or video conferencing by Sunday in Week 2 every session to discuss expectations for the practicum course
- Complete a student evaluation in Weeks 4 and 8
- Serves as a nursing role model and education
- Provides suggestions that will assist and improve student performance to achieve course outcomes

- Contacts course faculty member concerning any issues that may arise
- Remains available to the student throughout the course
- Provides feedback to the College regarding practicum learning activities and makes suggestions for improvement
- Refuses to disclose any personal, student-identifying information or records of your participation except as set forth by an agreement or required by law
- Agrees to not discriminate by race, creed, color, religion, sex or national origin
- Responds to practicum course faculty requests for updates
- Provides feedback to Chamberlain as requested

#### 4. Your Responsibilities as a Student

- Meets eligibility and course requirements
- Meets deadline dates for all practicum coursework and activities
- Assists in the facilitation of an initial meeting between you, the practicum course by Friday of Week 2
- Demonstrates compliance in practicum logs and forms
- Maintains communication with course faculty
- Evaluates the practicum experience
- Funds all travel arrangements and any associated expenses
- Provides proof of active and unrestricted licensure if requested
- Completes evaluation of mentor

#### 5. Mentor Receipt of Handbook

The student will email a copy of this handbook to the mentor to ensure that they understand course requirements. The mentor will also be receiving a copy of the Mentor Resource Manual from the instructor.

You may direct all questions about the mentor practicum to your instructor.

### IV. COURSE OUTCOMES

- CO1: Apply leadership concepts, skills and decision making in the provision of quality nursing care. (PO 2)
- CO2: Apply the nursing process to quality improvement of patient-centered care outcomes (PO 4, 7)
- CO3 Explain the use of evidence-based practice by leaders and managers (PO 2, 8)
- CO4: Describe interprofessional communication and collaboration strategies (PO 2, 3)
- CO5: Summarize legal, ethical and professional competencies utilized by nursing leadership (PO 6)

## V. PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1. Provides individualized comprehensive care based on theories and principles of nursing and related disciplines to individuals, families, aggregates and communities, from entry to the healthcare system through long-term planning.
2. Demonstrates leadership and collaboration with consumers and other healthcare providers in providing care and/or delegating responsibilities for health promotion, illness prevention, health restoration, health maintenance and rehabilitative activities.
3. Communicates effectively with patient populations and other healthcare providers in managing the healthcare of individuals, families, aggregates and communities.
4. Integrates clinical judgment in professional decision making and implementation of the nursing process.
5. Demonstrates responsibility for continued personal and professional development through enrollment in graduate education, continuing education degree programs, professional reading and participation in professional organizations and community service.
6. Implements professional nursing standards by practicing within the legal definitions of nursing practice and acts in accordance with the nursing code of ethics and American Nurses Association (ANA) standards of practice.
7. Practices in established professional roles consistent with entry-level BSN graduates to provide cost-effective, quality healthcare to consumers in structured and unstructured settings.
8. Incorporates evidence-based practice in the provision of professional nursing care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities.

## MENTOR INFORMATION

As the student, you have the responsibility to identify a qualified mentor. Chamberlain University defines a mentor as an experienced and qualified nurse who supports students in the attainment of the course outcomes. Mentors are qualified individuals who work one-on-one with students through experiential learning during the course. Ongoing collaboration occurs with practicum faculty to evaluate student learning through mastery of course outcomes.

Mentors are not nursing program faculty, do not need to meet State Board of Nursing minimum qualifications for faculty and are not considered when determining faculty/student ratios. In addition, a mentor does not receive financial compensation from Chamberlain. If the preceptor, mentor and/or field instructor you are submitting for Chamberlain University's review and approval was found using a student-arranged third-party preceptor matching service, please be advised that Chamberlain University will not reimburse any fees you may have incurred.

## I. CRITERIA FOR MENTOR SELECTION

- Must have recent experience and expertise in the area of collaborative leadership in nursing. This may be the same preceptor/mentor you are using in the NR-435 Community, Public, and Population Health Nursing practicum as long as the criteria are met. Some roles considered are Nurse Managers, Director of Nursing (DON), and Charge Nurse
- BSN prepared for at least 2 years
- Have an active RN license in the state of Washington
- Have reliable access to the internet and the willingness and ability to communicate electronically and via telephone with the course faculty
- Possess strong communication skills
- RN to BSN students may have working relationships in the field and may use their networks to determine an appropriate mentor

NOTE: Mentors cannot be family member, relative or personal friend. Preceptors/mentors cannot be responsible for supervision of the student as an employee; the student cannot be responsible for supervising the preceptor/mentor in the work place.

## II. PRACTICUM HOURS REQUIREMENT

You are responsible for completing a minimum of 10 hours of practical experience. NR-447M uses experiential learning assignments as the foundation for these hours. Hours spent researching, completing the assignments, as well as time spent with your mentor, discussing, collaborating and learning can also be counted in the 10 hours. Students will document time spent on their practicum log which will be submitted in the course.

Documentation must demonstrate activities related to course outcomes. You will also participate in an online class that will include discussions and assignments in addition to the practicum hours.

## III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The course instructor will be available via email or telephone to provide support to the student and the mentor. During the first two weeks of the course, the student will arrange a conference call with instructor, student and mentor. Please direct any further questions during the course to the instructor.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

You may direct all questions about the practicum experience to the course faculty.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR CLINICAL PRACTICUM

#### 1. When can I take NR-447M?

- After completion of NR-351 and NR-361.

### FINDING THE MENTOR

#### 2. When do I find a mentor?

The deadline for finding a mentor is in Week 1 of class. All of the information is available in preview week.

#### 3. How do I know if the mentor I have selected will be appropriate for my practicum experience?

The course faculty will answer any questions you have about the practicum and will help guide you in mentor selection as needed.

NOTE: You must have an active and unrestricted nursing license in Washington and in the state where you wish to complete the practicum. If you are completing their practicum in a different state from where you reside, proof of proper nurse licensure will be required prior to practicum registration.

#### 4. Can my mentor be my supervisor?

No. Mentors cannot be family member, relative or personal friend. Preceptors/mentors cannot be responsible for supervision of the student as an employee; the student cannot be responsible for supervising the preceptor/mentor in the work place.

### MENTOR QUESTIONS

#### 7. Does my mentor have to have a Master's degree?

No, the minimum requirement for a mentor is having an unrestricted RN license in Washington, have a BSN for at least 2 years, and possess expertise in collaborative leadership in nursing. Some of the roles considered nurse managers DON's, and charge nurses.



## Our Mission:

To educate, empower and embolden diverse healthcare professionals who advance the health of people, families, communities and nations.





## THE RN TO BSN CLINICAL PRACTICUM TOOLKIT

### LITERATURE

-  [Catalog](#)
-  [Viewbook](#)

### FORMS & WORKSHEETS

-  [RN to BSN Curriculum Grid](#)
-  [Academic Calendar](#)

For more information, email [elc@chamberlain.edu](mailto:elc@chamberlain.edu)



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