

FNP Clinical FAQ for Practicum (MSN and BSN-DNP) & Internship (Post-MSN Certificate)

1. Does my preceptor have to be an NP?

- No, they can be Certified Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, MDs and DOs may serve as a VCF
- FNP students may **not** complete hours with a Physician Assistant or Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Students may not complete clinical hours with family members, even by marriage
- Students must spend at least 150 hours with a NP (If the student is a practicing NP, this requirement of at least 150 hours with a NP does not apply.)
- Students must spend time with a minimum of three different preceptors across all Practicum/Internship courses in order to complete the program. (For Post-MSN Certificate students who are practicing NPs, they must have a minimum of two different preceptors.)

2. Is there any specific order I have to complete the population focus requirements?

- Students may complete clinical hours in any order across Practicum/Internship courses
- The accompanying didactic courses (ANNP8060 **OR** ANNP8062/ANNP8063) are prerequisite to any pediatric or women's health clinical experience.

3. What is the minimum number of hours I must work with each preceptor?

- Students must complete a minimum of 60 hours with each preceptor, any less will not count toward program requirements. This can be broken up between semesters if not all 60 hours can be completed in one semester.

4. Can I complete hours in an urgent care/retail clinic/fast track ED/ER setting?

- Yes, students may complete hours in these clinical settings with the following requirements:
 - Total maximum **120 hours** in an urgent care, fast track ED, retail clinic or ER/ED
 - Traditional ER/ED setting may only occur in facilities with no designated fast track or minor area. FNP students are expected to see only patients with primary health concerns and no critical or acute care encounters. **All traditional ER/ED sites must be approved by program coordinator.**
 - E.g.: Could work 120 hours in one of the 4 settings listed above, or divide the hours between 2 of those settings (E.g.: 60 UC and 60 retail, totaling 120)

5. Can I complete hours in a specialty setting?

- Yes, a maximum of 90 hours of the 322 required adult primary care hours may be in an outpatient/ambulatory specialty clinic (e.g. ortho, dermatology, cardiology, psych) a maximum 100 of the 200 required pediatric hours may be in an outpatient/ambulatory specialty

clinic, and a maximum 60 of the 150 required women's health hours may be specialty, ambulatory care.

6. What is the maximum number of hours I can complete each week?

- Students may complete a maximum of 40 hours per week.

7. Can I complete more hours than required in a specific Practicum/Internship and deduct those hours from future semesters?

- Yes. Students may complete a maximum of 30 additional hours in each of Practicums 1 and 2 or Internships 1, 2 and 3, and count toward cumulative program total.

8. Can I attend clinical when school is not in between academic terms?

- No - Due to malpractice coverage, students may only perform clinical rotations during the actual academic semester dates.

9. Can I complete clinical at my place of employment?

- Yes - Students can secure a preceptor at their place of employment. However, the preceptor cannot be in the same department/unit or have direct supervision over the student.

10. Will I receive confirmation that Critical Requirements have been received?

- No – Students are responsible to track and maintain Critical Requirements. Students can log into Castle Branch to view and update current submissions. Castle Branch will also send email reminders when something will be due or if it is overdue.
- College of Nursing staff monitor critical requirement compliance and students must be compliant in order to attend clinical.

11. How do I make sure my preceptor submitted his/her VCF Packet?

- Once the application is processed, the Clinical Site Coordinator (CSC) will send an email confirming receipt of the VCF packet. You can expect this email approximately 4-6 weeks prior to the start of the preceptor's scheduled term. If students wish to check the VCF packet status sooner, please contact the CSC for the specified program via email and include preceptor's name.

12. What if my site requires a completed Educational Affiliation Agreement (EAA) prior to completing a VCF packet?

- If the clinical site requires an EAA first, please contact the CSC for the specified program via email to facilitate. Please include contact information, including email address, of the individual requesting the agreement at the clinical site.

13. Do I need a lab coat for clinical and badge? What other professional attire do I need?

- The college of nursing does not require use of a lab coat, only student UC ID card. However, please check with the clinical site for the proper clinical attire.

14. Do I have to submit VCF/preceptor's VCF packets for all my clinical courses before the first clinical deadline?

- No - students only need to submit the VCF packet for the upcoming term by the designated due date. We cannot guarantee completion of EAAs (if needed) for any delinquent or late packets.

15. What is eMedley?

- eMedley is a web based clinical data management system. As a student using eMedley, you will utilize the system to document clinical hours and patient encounters, develop a learning Portfolio, collect performance assessments, and respond to evaluations. Instructions for eMedley will be provided in preparation for your clinical experience.

16. Can I use my preceptor more than one term?

- Yes. However, please keep in mind that students must have a minimum of three preceptors throughout the three practicums or four internships (Post-MSN Certificate students) in order to have a diverse educational experience. If students choose to use preceptors in subsequent practicums, please contact the CSC with the preceptor's name to ensure the student database accurately reflects the student schedule.

17. Do I have to be licensed in the state I'm completing clinical hours?

- Yes. All students must have a valid RN license in the state where they are performing clinical.

18. What types of hours do I need to obtain the Women's Health hours?

- Outpatient women's health care which includes paps, pelvic exams, well pregnancy, and the similar.