

IMPORTANT NOTICE

NURSING PROGRAMS SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Many federal and state laws are now in effect to protect the safety of patients. Healthcare agencies are now charged with certain actions to protect the safety of the public from employees who are working under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol or who have criminal backgrounds. Students in nursing and healthcare occupations must be in compliance with these agency stipulations in order to participate in clinical experiences/externships.

To comply with our agency contracts, drug plus alcohol screening is incorporated into the health status evaluation required prior to admission to the Nursing Program.

Positive test results will result in denial of admission/readmission.

The student will incur the cost of drug plus alcohol screening. The Nursing Department contracted with an outside agency to conduct these services: American Data Bank (\$95)

January 2004 Governor Granholm signed a law that says “it is now a misdemeanor punishable by up to 180 days in jail and/or a maximum fine of up to \$1,000 to be a drunk healthcare provider who conducts any part of his or her practice with a blood alcohol level of 0.05 or higher”. Therefore, OCC reserves the right to drug plus alcohol screen nursing students when behavior or conduct makes staff/faculty suspect substance abuse. The student will incur the cost of any drug plus alcohol screening.

Note: Some health care agencies used for clinical experiences are initiating random drug plus alcohol screening for staff and students assigned to their agency.

Refusal to allow mandatory or requested drug plus alcohol screens in the clinical agency will result in disciplinary actions.