



Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) Fall 2020 Semester Clinical/Preceptorship Guidance

The ABN recognizes the unique situation education programs and facilities continue to experience due to COVID-19. We realize that each nursing program has limitations due to the continuing challenges of colleges providing online and/or remote operations and restricted and limited access to direct care clinicals to students through the fall 2020 academic term. Both, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) has requirements for direct care hours, which cannot be waived but are allowed to be flexible over the course of the program. Therefore, in continued collaboration with Kenneth Kirkland, ACCS Director of Health Programs, the ABN issues the following guidelines for Fall 2020.

PRECEPTORSHIPS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The following recommendations are issued for nursing programs to utilize for the Fall 2020 semester with regards to student attainment of required clinical/preceptorship hours:

Below are examples, the Board would find acceptable, given the current circumstances. However, the responsibility for checking with your accreditation body remains with the program.

Students may meet their clinical competencies and course outcomes, including, but not limited, to physical assessment, medication administration, delegation, reassessment, and infection prevention strategies for Fall 2020, with the following guidelines:

- 1) **Clinical Activity (Direct Care) of 20% or more**, completed through live patient interaction in a healthcare facility, telehealth or an alternative care site, as appropriate to meet live patient encounters.

- 2) **Clinical Activity (Simulation) of no more than 80%**, completed through a combination of the following:
 - A) On-campus simulated clinicals utilizing high-fidelity manikins and/or standardized patients

AND/OR

- B) Virtual clinicals through proprietary software vendors (e.g. Swiftriver, ATI, etc.) and/or combination of other distance learning modalities (e.g. ZOOM, Blackboard Collaborate, etc.)

Attachments:

- Information Regarding Coronavirus Impact on CCNE Accredited Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs UPDATED May 14, 2020.
- ACEN Updated Guidance for Temporary Flexibility Related to Virtual site visits and Use of Distance Education