



Manual: POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Section: ADMISSIONS

Number: 001.2

Policy Procedure

Title: **Criminal Background (Convictions) & Drug Screen Policy (Enrolled Students) - ADDENDUM 1.2**

Originator: Sheila Scroggins, Director of Nursing	
February 18, 2011	
(signature)	(Date)
Committee Member:	Date Approved: Full Faculty (2/18/11)
(signature)	Approval Date for Survey Votes (Quorum):
(Date)	April 12, 2011
Current Content Expert: NA	Nursing Director: Sheila Scroggins
(signature)	(signature)
(Date)	(Date)
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Enrolled Student Criminal Background, Criminal Convictions, and Drug Screening Policy

It is the policy of the Yuba College Department of Nursing to adhere to all state and local regulations and Joint Commission policies, as well as the policies of the clinical facilities with which the college affiliates for student clinical learning experiences. Accordingly, students will be required to adhere to the following policies addressing drug screening tests, criminal background checks, and criminal convictions.

Drug Screening Tests

All students in the nursing clinical programs are subject to drug screening for cause, if in the opinion of a faculty member and the Director of Nursing, the student exhibits behavior or a pattern of behavior that may indicate that the student is using drugs. Such a student will be informed of the request for a drug screening test by the Director of Nursing and will be given both written and verbal instructions including a deadline for the test at that time.

Students are responsible for all costs associated with the drug screening. The college will designate the company to do the drug screening and will not accept drug screening results from any company other than the one designated. Student must further agree that all results will be released to the Director of Nursing and/or the Director's authorized designee.

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A positive drug screening result or failure to comply with the instructions for the test will result in the student’s immediate removal from the nursing clinical program in which he or she is enrolled. Such students are not eligible to reapply to the program. A dilute drug screen will require a repeat screen with costs covered by student. A second dilute drug screen will be considered a positive screen.

(Note: The California Supreme Court has ruled that prescriptions for marijuana do not exempt users from workplace rules, and they may be fired for a drug test that is positive for marijuana. Accordingly, any student who tests positive will not be eligible for admission as defined in this policy).

LEGAL DRUGS - *Clinical Agencies prohibit students who are taking, (or under the influence of) any (DEA) Schedule II, and some Schedule I, III and IV drugs from participating in a clinical setting--even with a valid prescription. If a student is using a legal psychoactive drug at the direction of a health care provider, the student is required to report to the Director of Nursing for review of the information prior to the start of the program, or course in program. Such information will be maintained in a confidential, secured file by the Director of Nursing. This information may preclude the student from participating in clinical, but will be discussed with the student individually. Students who are determined by the Clinical Agency as “ineligible” due to the use of legal drugs, will have their progression evaluated on a case by case determination by the Director of Nursing.*

Criminal Background Checks

In accordance with the policies of the clinical facilities with which the college affiliates for student clinical learning experiences, as well as other state and federal regulations, all students will have completed a criminal background check as detailed in the pre-admission criminal background and drug screening policy. This policy is intended to ensure that any criminal convictions in the student’s past are of such an age or nature that they will not interfere with the student’s ability to participate at all clinical sites.

In the event that convictions that were not uncovered during the background check are proved to have occurred, and those convictions are of such an age or nature that they preclude the student from participating at all clinical sites, the student will be removed from the nursing clinical program in which her or she is enrolled. Such students are not eligible to re-apply to any Yuba College clinical program.

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Criminal Convictions

A student convicted of a criminal offense while enrolled in a nursing clinical program must report the conviction to the Director of Nursing within five days of the conviction. Such convictions are likely to render the student unable to participate at any clinical site, in which case the student will be removed from the nursing clinical program in which he or she is enrolled.

Note: Even if a student is convicted of a criminal offense while enrolled in the nursing clinical program and succeeds in completing the program because he or she did not disclose this conviction to the Director of Nursing, he or she will be subject to further background checks prior to testing for licensure and may be prevented from ever becoming licensed.

Any student having any concerns about drug screening, criminal background checks, or criminal convictions is encouraged to contact the Director of Nursing for a confidential advising.