

SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS COLLEGE

NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES

DIVISION POLICIES

PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE

Acceptance into nursing and allied health (NAH) technology programs is competitive, and all students who apply for acceptance may not be admitted in the semester of application. NAH students will not be officially accepted for a seat in a specific program until program prerequisites have been met and the program application procedures are completed. See individual program descriptions for specific requirements. Placement is given to those candidates who, in the opinion of program faculty, best meet the published requirements for acceptance into the programs. Students who are accepted for a specific program will be notified by the NAH Division.

FUNCTIONAL ABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Due to the nature of health care professions, there are functional ability requirements for acceptance and progression. Applicants with special needs due to a disability must make this fact known and request accommodations prior to being accepted into the program. Individuals with certain physical limitations may not meet the functional ability requirements for safe clinical practice. Functional abilities are those physical and mental activities and attributes needed by a nurse or health care practitioner to practice safely in terms of essential functions, with or without accommodations. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has identified Uniform Core Licensure Requirements for nurses and professionals.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/667.htm>. The Nursing & Allied Health Division also has adopted basic functional standards as requirements for all Nursing & Allied Health students. Included in the functional ability category requirements are physical (fine and gross motor skills, physical endurance and strength, mobility, hearing, visual) and mental (emotional stability) activities and attributes. See the documents

(www.seark.edu/sites/default/files/documents/nah/NursingFunctionalAbility.pdf):

- “Functional Ability Requirements for Nursing and Allied Health Students” and
- “Common Activities Required of Nursing and Allied Health Professionals”

For acceptance and progression in the curriculum, students must be able to perform all of the functional activities, either with or without accommodations. The College will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of the program. A physician’s statement will be required.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Students enrolled in NAH programs are preparing to become professionals. Each student’s personal conduct must reflect behavior appropriate to the profession. Unsatisfactory conduct in the classroom or clinical setting may result in probation and/or dismissal from the program according to Progressive Discipline Policies of the division. Students are expected to follow the policies of the NAH Division, clinical agencies, and the College as outlined in the College Catalog and Student Handbook.

GRADES

NAH programs use a grading scale that differs from the College's grading system. If a grading scale used for individual NAH programs is different from below, it will be included in the course syllabus; otherwise, the following scale is adhered to:

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
*75 – 79	C
74 – Below	Failing

* Less than a "C" constitutes failure in all NAH courses.

Evaluation: In addition to theory grades, students are evaluated in clinical. The tool used for clinical evaluation is included with the respective clinical course syllabi and is graded according to the above scale. Students taking a course for audit must also perform satisfactorily. Unsatisfactory clinical performance during an audited course may result in non-progression.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) STATEMENT

Students enrolled in Nursing and Allied Health Technology programs will be privy to confidential information. In accordance with the HIPAA, the students are not to disclose Protected Health Information (PHI) that is obtained while in the clinical setting to anyone who does not have a legal need to know. Information that cannot be disclosed under HIPAA guidelines includes the patient's PHI, name, social security number, address, and insurance information. PHI should only be used for the student's learning. Any student who violates this standard will be subject to dismissal from the program and possible federal prosecution. Individual programs will cover the issue of confidentiality in more detail.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Clinical agencies may require criminal background checks prior to allowing students to engage in clinical experiences. Persons in Nursing and Allied Health programs who have been convicted of certain crimes may not be allowed to participate in clinical or to sit for state/national licensure/certification examinations. All fees associated with background checks are at the student's expense. Criminal background information may be shared with clinical agencies and/or national licensing agencies.

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) requires that all applicants for licensure submit to Arkansas State Police and FBI criminal background checks prior to graduation. All students accepted into a nursing program will be required to have these background checks and will pay all associated fees.

No person shall be eligible to receive or hold a license issued by the Board if that person has pleaded guilty or no contend ere to, or been found guilty of, any of the following offenses by any court in the State of Arkansas, or of any similar offense by a court in another state, or of any similar offense by a federal court:

- (1) Capital murder, as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
- (2) Murder in the first degree and second degree, as prohibited in §§ 5-10-102 and 5-10-103;

- (3) Manslaughter, as prohibited in § 5-10-104;
- (4) Negligent homicide, as prohibited in § 5-10-105;
- (5) Kidnapping, as prohibited in § 5-11-102;
- (6) False imprisonment in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-11-103;
- (7) Permanent detention or restraint, as prohibited in § 5-11-106;
- (8) Robbery, as prohibited in § 5-12-102;
- (9) Aggravated robbery, as prohibited in § 5-12-103;
- (10) Battery in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-13-201;
- (11) Aggravated assault, as prohibited in § 5-13-204;
- (12) Production of controlled substance into the body of another person, as prohibited in § 5-13-202;
- (13) Terroristic threatening in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-13-301;
- (14) Rape and carnal abuse in the first degree, second degree, and third degree, as prohibited in §§ 5-14-103 - 5-14-106;
- (15) Sexual abuse in the first degree and second degree, as prohibited in §§ 5-14-108 and 5-14-109;
- (16) Sexual solicitation of a child, as prohibited in § 5-14-110;
- (17) Violation of a minor in the first degree and second degree, as prohibited in §§ 5-14-120 and 5-14-121;
- (18) Incest, as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
- (19) Offenses against the family, as prohibited in §§ 5-26-303 - 5-26-306;
- (20) Offering the welfare of incompetent person in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
- (21) Offering the welfare of a minor in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-27-203;
- (22) Permitting child abuse, as prohibited in § 5-27-221(a)(1) and (3);
- (23) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 - 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403;
- (24) Any adult abuse, as prohibited in § 5-28-103;
- (25) Theft of property, as prohibited in § 5-36-103;
- (26) Theft by receiving, as prohibited in § 5-36-106;
- (27) Arson, as prohibited in § 5-38-301;
- (28) Burglary, as prohibited in § 5-39-201;
- (29) Any violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act §§ 5-64-101 – 5-64-608, as prohibited in § 5-64-401;
- (30) Motion of prostitution in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-70-104;
- (31) Talking, as prohibited in § 5-71-229; and
- (32) Criminal attempt, criminal complicity, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy, as prohibited in §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202, 5-3-301, and 5-3-401, to commit any of the offenses listed in this subsection.

Persons may request a waiver by the Board, but not until after completion of the nursing education program. Circumstances for which a waiver may be granted shall include, but is not limited to:

- (A) The age at which the crime was committed;
- (B) The circumstances surrounding the crime;
- (C) The length of time since the crime;
- (D) Subsequent work history;
- (E) Employment references;
- (F) Character references; and
- (G) Other evidence demonstrating that the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of children or other clients.

DRUG TESTING POLICY

The Student Drug Testing Administrative Rule of Southeast Arkansas College requires some safety sensitive programs in the Division of Nursing and Allied Health (NAH) and technical studies programs to require drug-testing for admission to the program and conduct random drug testing while enrolled. The drug policy applies to the following NAH programs: Emergency Medical Sciences EMT/Paramedic, Practical Nursing, Generic Registered Nursing, and Licensed Practical Nursing/Paramedic to Registered Nursing Transition, Surgical Technology, Respiratory Therapy, and Radiologic Technology. The drug policy applies to the following technical studies programs: Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Early Childhood Paraprofessional Technology, Electrical Mechanical Systems Technology, and Welding. All applicants to those programs must complete a drug screen prior to entry. Random drug screening of students in these programs will be conducted during the academic year. Failure to consent to any requested test will result in immediate withdrawal of the student's offer of admission or recommendation for expulsion from the College. Students enrolled in the College may be required to submit to a drug and/or alcohol test when it is determined that there is reasonable suspicion that the student is using drugs and/or alcohol. Reasonable suspicion is defined by the College's Drug-Free Campus Policy. Nursing and Allied Health (NAH) programs require drug testing prior to acceptance into any NAH program. Technical studies programs require drug testing prior to registration of any technical course listed in the degree plans mentioned above. Random drug testing may be utilized at any time during the course of any of these programs at the student's expense.