

## FAQs for NSG 377 Clinical Experience

### **Q: When should I get started?**

**A:** Today! The earlier you start looking for a site/mentor, the earlier you will find one leading to a less stressful experience for you.

### **Q: How do I even get started looking for a clinical site/mentor?**

**A:** Start with where you work. You may complete your hours at the health care organization where you work, so long as you complete the hours in a separate department. See below for some ideas.

### **Q: What is the focus of this clinical experience?**

**A:** The focus of the clinical must be community health, but that includes a wide range of health care. For example, you might find a mentor in:

- Employee Health Department
- Any outpatient health services
- Prenatal classes
- Diabetes education
- Smoking cessation
- Substance abuse prevention
- Weight management
- Cancer care

### **Q: Is there anyone that can help me with finding a clinical site/mentor?**

**A:** Your supervisor is likely to have a whole range of nursing contacts, both within your organization and in nearby facilities, and might be able to suggest a good experience. Or, if you have already identified a department within your organization, your supervisor might be able to help you get your foot in the door. You should also consider asking your work colleagues and friends. Network, network, network!

### **Q: Are there any qualifications for my mentor?**

**A:** Yes!

- Your mentor must have a BSN or higher.
- Your mentor must have unencumbered, active licensure.
- The focus of the clinical must be Community Health.

### **Q: What does the 80 hours of clinical entail?**

**A:** The 80 hours of clinical hours can be library research hours, online research hours, or project planning for your clinical site. It does not have to be all hands-on clinical practice. It could also include meeting with experts and/or community leaders. It could include time and a variety of activities that are not generally as heavy-duty as hospital nursing.

### **Q: I found a mentor/clinical site. Now what?**

**A:** Before you can attend your clinical, you must submit a formal request and CV of your mentor to the School of Nursing for approval. [Click here for more information](#). All students must also [complete a set of health requirements](#).

### **Q: When do I start these clinical hours?**

**A:** You will complete these 80 clinical hours in NSG 377, which is the third quarter of your program.