



## SMART START – CHATHAM PRACTICAL NURSING – YEAR 2

Dear Nursing Students,

Congratulations, after a lot of hard work you are officially a second-year Nursing Student!

On behalf of the faculty and staff of St. Clair College School of Nursing, we welcome you back. The second year of the Nursing Program is an exciting time full of new challenges and opportunities to develop as caring, effective, efficient, critical thinking professionals. We look forward to working with you towards the achievement of your professional and personal goals.

Attached is information and instructions to help you navigate the influx of information you will receive in preparation for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please see the [St Clair College Student Hub](#) for lots of helpful information about getting started at the College. I also encourage you to review the [Practical Nursing Program](#) website for more specific program information.

Every nursing student needs to meet clinical clearance requirements to attend the clinical placement sites. Your clinical clearance information is posted on the St. Clair College the [Practical Nursing Program](#) website under the “Admissions” tab. For the second year of your program, you will not need to renew your First Aid training, however, your Vulnerable Sector Police Check and CPR with BLS requires annual renewal, while your N95 mask fit is good for 2 years. All of this information can also be found on the [Clinical Placement Requirements](#) website under the “Practical Nursing (H863/K963)” link. It’s vital that you review these requirements as early as possible to ensure your requirements are met well in advance of your first clinical placement.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend my personal wishes for your continued success as you prepare for a rewarding career in your chosen Nursing field.

Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Watson".

Linda Watson  
Chair, School of Nursing St. Clair College  
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## Welcome to Year 2 of the Practical Nursing Program!

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*Here is some information to help you prepare for your return in September.*

### GETTING STARTED

**Due to the COVID-19 virus the determination regarding in-person classes or virtual online classes will be decided later this summer. An announcement will go out to all students as soon as the decision has been made.**

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Classes begin** Tuesday September 7, 2021
- **Thanksgiving Holiday** Monday, October 11, 2021
- **Exam Week** Monday December 13 – Friday December 17, 2021. Students are expected to be available for all the days during exam week as exams are scheduled at different times and dates. Please do not book appointments or vacation during this week.

### MEDICAL AND NONMEDICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CLINICAL PLACEMENT

Clinical clearance is required before any student can attend the clinical setting. There are medical and non-medical requirements that must be met. Please refer to the [Clinical Placement Requirements](#) website under the Practical Nursing (H863/K963) link for detailed information. Your requirements will be clearly explained there as well as the process to electronically submit your documents for clearance. Second year medical clearance usually only involves your annual TB skin test.

Many of our clinical placement sites are requiring students to have their first COVID vaccine, as a minimum, to be eligible to attend clinical placement. Please note that COVID vaccination status will become a part of the clinical placement clearance requirements for fall 2021. A COVID vaccination is not a requirement to attend St. Clair College, however a vaccination may be required prior to attending clinical placement. Students without their vaccination cannot be guaranteed a clinical placement for their program and therefore will not be able to complete their programs.

The Health Centre at St. Clair College can provide the physical exam and all other vaccinations except for the COVID vaccine. To obtain the COVID vaccination, Students must arrange an appointment through Public Health, a participating pharmacy, or their health care provider.

If you have any questions, please contact our St. Clair College Health Centre at **519-972-2727 ext. 4484 (in Windsor)** or **519-354-9100 ext. 3729 (in Chatham)**.

Police Clearance letters and application forms for Police Clearance are available for you to download from the [Clinical Placement Requirements](#) website under the Practical Nursing (H863/K963) link as well. Vulnerable sector police check is an annual requirement.

**\*Please note:** If you have notations, charges, etc. on your police clearance this may prevent you from attending a clinical practice site. Any concerns with your police clearance will be communicated to the Chair of the School of Nursing. It is at the discretion of the administration of our partner clinical sites to allow or disallow students from attending clinical in their facilities. If your police clearance is not “clear”

you may have to withdraw from the practical nursing program as you will not be able to fulfill the clinical requirements of the program.

CPR with BLS and N95 Mask fitting can be completed through any external organization that offers them. CPR cannot be completed entirely online. The practice and assessments for the course must be in person. If you are looking for a one stop shop for all of these, Second Chance at <https://www.sccpr.com/> can help.

Clinical begins almost immediately in Year Two of the Practical Nursing Program and clearance is required before you attend the clinical setting. As a result, in order to communicate student clearances to the hospital placement coordinator in a timely fashion, all second year PN students need to be fully cleared for clinical by August 31<sup>st</sup> at the latest. Failure to be cleared by August 31<sup>st</sup> may result in a delay in attending clinical and a risk of being unsuccessful in the course.

## TEXTBOOKS

It is important for students to have access to the required textbooks for each course to ensure success in each course. The Elsevier Clinical Learning Suite will continue to be utilized in your courses.

- PNR 308 - Leifer (2019). *Introduction to Maternity and Pediatric Nursing (8<sup>th</sup> Edition)*.
- PNR 309 - Lewis et al. (2019). *Medical-Surgical Nursing in Canada (4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition)*.
- PNR 315 - Stanhope et al. (2017). *Community Health Nursing in Canada (3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Edition)*.

## BLACKBOARD

Check blackboard for **PNR 316** mid-August for any posted information or updates. The nursing student will be automatically enrolled in this resource when they receive their St. Clair One access.

Students will be required to complete two 'attestations' on their Student Information System (SIS) prior to getting access to their individual course Blackboard sites in the fall. Please review the instructions for completing the attestations at this [link](#).

Check Blackboard and emails at least **twice a day**. Blackboard courses are generally activated a week prior to the start of the semester.

- If you are having difficulty accessing your blackboard account (and you have completed your acknowledgements on the SIS) or email, please contact the IT department at ext. 3275 or 3276 or use the "Quick Links" found on the St. Clair College home page at the following link: <https://www.stclaircollege.ca/it-services>
- Blackboard courses are generally activated a week prior to the start of the semester

## CLINICAL GROUPS

- Students will be placed on either inpatient surgery, medicine or rehab/continuing care.
- Final clinical groups and the clinical rotation schedule will be posted on blackboard in by mid-August – **under PNR316**

### **SEMESTER 3 CLINICAL (PNR 316)**

- Mandatory Math Test and Clinical Orientation Week 1 (AM or PM. Room TBA, see blackboard for schedule)
- Clinical is every other Thursday/Friday or Sat/Sun
- Each shift is an 8-hour shift – days (0700 – 1500h) or evenings (1500 – 2300h)
- SIMULATION LABS will fall on Tuesdays or Thursdays (med/surg, maternity & paed)
- Information will be posted on blackboard in August
- Lab is part of clinical, therefore students are expected to follow the uniform policy as per clinical.

### **SEMESTER 4 CLINICAL (PNR 411)**

- Clinical for semester 4 will be every week either Tuesday/Wednesday or Thursday/Friday or Saturday/Sunday, also 8-hour shifts, rotating days and evenings.

### **SEMESTER 5 CLINICAL (PNR 513)**

- 5<sup>TH</sup> semester is a 400-hour (40 hour/wk X10 weeks) placement with a preceptor.
- Students can only be placed in Chatham-Kent or Windsor-Essex. Placements outside the region will not be permitted.
- **Students are not to arrange their own placements or contact placement sites independently.** More information will be announced during the year.
- Orientation to 5<sup>th</sup> semester takes place the week between the winter and spring semester. Please do not schedule vacations during this time as it is mandatory for comprehensive placements.

### **CLINICAL AND LAB HOURS**

- 100% attendance is expected to maximize the opportunity for success.
- All missed time requires a physician's note.
- There is no schedule for making up missed clinical/lab hours in second year of the PN program.
- All students are responsible for their own reliable transportation to and from clinical.

### **UNIFORM POLICY**

- Same as previous semesters - green scrubs with St. Clair College embroidered on the sleeve (need 2 sets), white or black sweater (no sweatshirts, no hoods) and white/black shoes and socks (no logos, etc).

## Registered Practical Nurse Association (RPNAO) of Ontario Student Membership

- St. Clair College encourages you to join this professional organization.
- Benefits of Joining
  - Savings and discounts
  - Educational opportunities
  - Career-building services and support
  - Communications and Information
  - Looks great on a resume and portfolio assignment in 4<sup>th</sup> semester

### WeRPN Student Member Application

<https://members.werpn.com/step-1/>

