

Oct.27th, 2017

Practical Nursing Program
Nova Scotia Community College
Lunenburg Campus
75 High Street
Bridgewater, NS B3K 2T3

Dear Student:

Re: Practical Nursing Program Information Package

Welcome to the School of Health and Human Services at the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), Lunenburg Campus. You are about to begin on a journey – a learning journey. I am delighted that you have chosen a career in the area of Health and Human Services. All NSCC faculty and staff are here to support you to be successful along the way.

The following information requires your immediate attention, as there **are requirements that you must address before you come to the College in January**. All students in Health and Human Services programs have specific program requirements that are to be met prior to the beginning of, or within the first weeks, of your program. We refer to these requirements as **MILESTONES**.

The **MILESTONES for Practical Nursing include:**

1. Immunizations
2. CPR Level C and First Aid
3. OHS/WHMIS
4. Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check and Child Abuse Registry Check

You must begin immediately to meet these milestones if you have not done so already.

The following information must be completed and submitted to the Faculty/Academic Chair, Lunenburg Campus **NO LATER THAN Jan.5th, 2018 (with the exception of OHS/WHMIS, to be completed by Jan. 31, 2018)**. Bring the **ORIGINAL** completed documentation as one package. Failure to submit **ALL** required documentation on this date **WILL** jeopardize your continuing in the program.

1. IMMUNIZATIONS

Failure to meet this milestone by the date set will result in your inability to continue attending classes, labs or placements.

- Many immunizations require several visits to your physicians' office; some may require blood tests to determine immunity. As immunizations take time to complete, it is imperative that you start now. If your current immunizations are ten or more years old, booster immunizations will be required.

- Documented immunity to Hepatitis B is required **prior** to the start of your placement at any Nova Scotia Health Authority site. Proof of immunity is obtained through a blood test. If you have never received Hepatitis B vaccinations, the process may take up to 10 months to complete including the blood test to ensure immunity. The blood test can be done no earlier than 1 month following the final vaccination. Please discuss the vaccination schedule with your health care provider. Nova Scotia residents may have received this vaccine if they graduated from high school in 2004 or later. Failure to show proof of immunity by the date set will result in your **inability** to proceed to placement.

The links for the NSCC Immunization Information Sheet and Immunization Form are as follows:

https://www.nsc.ca/docs/admissions/admissions_health_requirements.pdf

https://www.nsc.ca/docs/admissions/immunization_form.pdf

Please print this information and have your physician complete the immunization form.

Completed Immunizations forms will be collected at the Campus on **Jan. 31, 2018**.

2. OHS/WHMIS CERTIFICATE

Failure to meet this milestone by the date set will result in your inability to continue attending classes, labs or placements

- Must be completed online through NSCC on or before Jan. 31, 2018.
- Students who have not completed OHS/WHMIS by this date **will not** be permitted in any of the learning labs.

If you have already completed OH&S and WHMIS, please bring your **original** certificate to the Registrar's Office.

For more information about OHS and WHMIS, please go to:

<http://access.nsc.ca/safety/index.htm>

3. CPR LEVEL C and FIRST AID

Failure to meet this milestone by the date set will result in your inability to continue attending classes, labs or placements

- Sessions are offered in various community locations.
- Emergency First Aid, on-line or other levels of CPR **are not acceptable**.
- Check with your Campus for available sessions.

If you have already completed the Level "C" Standard First Aid and CPR Course, please bring the original valid certificate.

- For more information about CPR and First Aid, please go to:

4. CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK, VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK AND CHILD ABUSE REGISTRY CHECK

*Failure to meet this milestone by **Jan. 5, 2018** will result in your inability to continue attending classes, labs or placements*

As a Practical Nursing student, you are required to complete a **current criminal record check, vulnerable sector check and a Child Abuse Registry check in each year** of the program. **These checks are done at your local RCMP or local police detachment.** This may require that you complete this check prior to relocation to the Lunenburg Campus area. Please make sure, when you fill out the form for a criminal background check that you tick off the “**Vulnerable Persons**” **check box**. If unsure, please ask the police detachment where it is located on the form.

- Students are responsible for obtaining the required checks and having them available for the work place partners upon their request.
- Students with a convictions or finding on any of these checks will be referred to the Academic Chair. A conviction or finding may prevent you from obtaining a work placement.
- The work placement partner has the final decision on whether to accept a student for placement.
- Inability to secure a work placement will impact your ability to complete the program requirements and proceed through to graduation.

Again, welcome to the Practical Nursing Program. We look forward to seeing you in January.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanford, Academic Chair
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