

7.12 Calculation of Clinical Hours for BSN Students

(Approved 8/12/19, revised 6/12/2022, reviewed 11.23)

Persons Involved: UT Tyler School of Nursing (SON) BSN Students and Faculty

Purpose: To define the methodology used to calculate hours spent in clinical experiences

Definition: Clinical hours – actual hours of practice and approved clinical learning experiences

Policy:

1. Clinical practice hours include actual hours of practice in nursing skills and computer laboratories, simulated clinical experiences, faculty-supervised hands-on clinical care, clinical conferences, and observational experiences (Texas BON rules 214.9 and 215.9).
2. Clinical hours for each course are outlined in the course learning management system. The faculty are responsible for determining the number of hours per shift (e.g., 12-hour shifts) and clinical experiences needed to attain the required total clinical hours for the course.
3. In the hospital setting, daily clinical hour calculation begins no more than 15 minutes before the start of the shift unless authorized by clinical faculty. Time spent managing patients after the expected end of shift is included in the daily total clinical hours.
4. Lunch breaks are **not included** in the calculation of clinical hours.
5. Students are responsible for maintaining a log of clinical hours for each course to include time in, time out, and time off the clinical setting for lunch. Clinical conferences, simulations, and other faculty-approved observational experiences should be noted on the Clinical Log.