

Washburn University School of Nursing

Post-Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program
Clinical Placement Guidelines

Based on student's needs and prior level of experience students would be able to see patients with varying levels of independence while direct patient care remains under the ultimate responsibility of the preceptor.

Note: The student would not be providing services as a substitute for the clinical staff but would work with the preceptor participating in patient care.

In order to provide clarification to the preceptor and guide in the development of the students clinical experience, clinical experiences may be viewed as three different levels.

Level I Clinical experience: Students who are currently licensed as either Family Nurse Practitioners or Adult Nurse Practitioners with their primary clinical practice having been in a Primary Care Setting with limited or no experience with specialized psychiatric services.

It is anticipated that students at this level may need to see patients in conjunction with the preceptor and be provided time to adequately process these encounters with the preceptor following patient encounters or at the end of the day.

Level II Clinical experience: Students who are currently licensed as Family or Adult Nurse Practitioners who do have significant experience with psychiatric services as well as Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist who have limited direct patient care experiences.

It is anticipated that students at this level may initially need to see patients in conjunction with the preceptor to determine ongoing need for direct supervision and be provided processing time following these encounters but who will progress to seeing patients more independently and present their findings to their preceptor with the focus of broadening their practice expertise.

Level III Clinical experience: Students who are currently licensed as Psychiatric Clinical Specialists with extensive experience and current practice in this specialty area.

It is anticipated that students at this level will need initial orientation to the clinical setting and then be able to see patients independently and present their findings to their preceptor. Special focus will be on students identified areas to broaden practice expertise and collaborate with their preceptor to achieve these.

It is anticipated that students will enter at various level of clinical experience need but progress to Level III by the time they have finished the program.