

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Throughout the program, students have a variety of resources to enhance their progression and completion of the nursing program. The following resources are available to assist them toward successful achievement of learning outcomes:

- Scheduled test reviews, case studies and tutorial concepts in nursing courses.
- Resources located in the Health Sciences Library/Computer Lab.
- Reference sources and internet access in the Health Sciences Library
- Test taking, time management and study skill sessions provided by the Academic Admissions Coordinator/Recruiter and Associate Director.
- Clinical skills can be practiced in the Skills Lab.
- The faculty will have office time to provide individualized academic advisement.
- A referral can be made for personal counseling to the Conemaugh Behavioral Medicine Department.
- Faculty provides test reviews and discusses rationale of theory.
- The student can be provided with problem-based learning activities.
- A Faculty Resource person is assigned for assistance.
- Volunteer assistance from upper classmen is offered.
- Scheduled use of the Human Patient Simulator.
- For college courses the college has Academic Support Services. The student needs to contact the college course faculty for available resources.

TIPS FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Timely attendance of all classes, labs and clinical activities.
- Study first, and have fun with friends second.
- Read the textbooks and outline essential content.
- Utilize diverse resources available in the Health Sciences Library.
- Review Anatomy and Physiology.
- Practice medication dosage calculation.
- Stay focused in class by sitting in the front of the room.
- Highlight important test dates and project due dates in every course on a calendar. Avoid waiting to the last minute to devote time for two or more events scheduled in the same day or week.
- Make time to study in a place with few distractions. Avoid studying in front of the TV, lying in bed, or in a place where you can readily socialize.
- To lessen confusion, group studying or quizzing should only occur when you have a good grasp of the material.
- Time management is very important if you work in an outside job.
- Take sample NCLEX questions.
- Utilize achievement test results to correct areas of weakness.
- Take advantage of remediation opportunities.
- Review unit exams on a one-to-one basis with the course faculty.
- Limit social networking with friends and gaming activities.

COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE ASSISTANCE

1. **Definition** - Counseling and guidance service is provided to students to assist them in meeting their situational needs (professional and academic) through use of available resources. Services become available following self, faculty, Academic Admissions Coordinator/Recruiter referral and/or Student Health Nurse.

2. **Objectives**

- A. Assist students with academic, personal, social, and professional matters.
- B. Utilize effective problem solving and decision-making skills.

3. **Resource Personnel whom can refer students to appropriate agencies for situational needs.**

A. *Administrative Faculty*

- 1. Provides individual counseling to students in the areas of academic and professional growth and development.
- 2. Provides group counseling on the NCLEX-RN examination, test taking skills, study skills, time management, clinical preparation, stress management, interviewing skills, and resume writing.

B. *Conemaugh Employee Assistance Program*

Provides personal service through the Conemaugh Behavioral Medicine Department

- 1. Health Nurse for Students is the point of contact for any referral to the Employee Assistance Program.

C. *Nursing Faculty*

- 1. Provides professional and academic guidance as needed
- 2. Refers students to the Administrative faculty or the student health nurse when appropriate

D. *Faculty members of the Pennsylvania Highlands Community College* provide academic counseling and guidance when needed. Tutoring services and study skills/test taking education are also available.

E. *The student's personal physician* provides physical and mental health counseling.

F. *The Health Nurse for Students* can provide basic personal counseling, health counseling, and initiate referral to appropriate resources.

4. **Procedures**

- A. Referrals are made by faculty via a "Referral of Concern" form to the Associate Director, who sends a letter to the student.
- B. Faculty can make verbal referrals.
- C. Conferences may be requested by the faculty and/or student. Students may ask for Counseling Services.