

Clinical Placement in study programme "Nursing"

Procedure for applying for placements:

Students are nominated by a partner university through our website by the 15th of May or 15th of October. The nomination is then reviewed and either approved or declined. If approved, the student will receive information about the further application process.

In the Learning Agreement that needs to be included in the application form, information about the placement is required, such as the desired fields, number of hours, hours per day, evaluation, etc. After this information is provided, a detailed placement plan will be arranged with the hospitals and healthcare centers.

The Faculty of Pharmacy of RSU offers exchange students the opportunity to acquire experience in laboratory Research Work in Riga.

Placement could be arranged based on the speciality of a student training programme.

Clinical placement I (6 ECTS), - 2nd semester (**students are not admitted**).

Clinical placement II (6 ECTS), during the clinical placement the student improves and strengthens theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the basics of clinical care, clinical procedures, in accordance with the standard of the nursing profession, professional ethics, and the knowledge acquired in the 1st and 2nd year study programmes.

Clinical placement III (9 ECTS), during the clinical placement improves and strengthens theoretical knowledge and practical skills, integrates patient care and related clinical procedures, in accordance with the standard of the nursing profession, the principles of professional ethics and the knowledge acquired in the 1st and 2nd year of study in different contexts of clinical practice – inpatient (secondary and tertiary care) in the following sectors: infectious diseases, obstetrics and gynecology, outpatient and inpatient medical rehabilitation services for patients/clients of different age groups (children, adults, elderly).

Clinical placement IV (9 ECTS), during the clinical placement improves and strengthens theoretical knowledge and practical skills in patient care and clinical procedures related to care, in accordance with the standard of the nursing profession, principles of professional ethics and knowledge acquired in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year of study in different practice contexts – health promotion services in the municipality, social and vocational rehabilitation services in the institution – for patients/ clients in different age groups (children, adults, elderly), home medical care, primary health care/outpatient care.

Clinical placement V (15 ECTS), during the clinical placement improves and strengthens theoretical knowledge and practical skills, integrates patient care and related clinical procedures, in accordance

with the standard of the nursing profession, principles of professional ethics and knowledge acquired in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year study program in various fields – psychiatry and narcology, anesthesiology and resuscitation, pediatrics (t.sk. neonatal/perinatal care), in the field of emergency medical and disaster medicine at the pre-hospital stage.

Clinical placement VI (24 ECTS), during the clinical placement the student improves and strengthens theoretical knowledge and practical skills, integrates patient care and related clinical procedures in accordance with the standard of the nursing profession, the principles of professional ethics and the knowledge acquired in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of study in various fields – specializations of various branches of surgery (t.sk. traumatology, etc.), internal medicine, intensive and emergency care in the hospital stage.

Clinical placement VII (3 ECTS), during the clinical placement the student gets an idea of the functions of human resource planning in health care and nursing practice, their implementation and evaluability. The student develops skills in organizing, managing, evaluating the course of care and care support work management functions and preparing proposals for improving the implementation of functions.

Clinical placement VIII (12 ECTS), "rotation" practice is a practical and integrative/based format of nursing study organization in treatment and care teams. During the internship, the previous theoretical knowledge and practical skills, competences regarding the most common acute and chronic patient care in primary, secondary and tertiary health care institutions, acquired during different study years of the RSU department in different study courses, are consolidated and strengthened in order to prepare students for further practical work of nursing, integrating the students' previous theoretical knowledge and skills in clinical care work.

Placement in patient and public education (6 ECTS), the aim of the clinical placement is to develop pedagogical and communication skills in patient and public education, to integrate the acquired theoretical knowledge and pedagogical skills into practice and to apply them practically in the education of patients and the public. To participate in the educational work of patients and public health in various public educational institutions.

II Organization of the placement:

Placement in the professional bachelor's study programme "Nursing" are planned by the study course leaders in cooperation with the practice coordinators of the SVSLF and Liepaja branch and health and social health institutions, according to the concluded mutual agreements.

Placement plans can be customized according to the interests of students. The work schedule can be adapted to the specifics of the internship site (working hours, breaks, etc.). Students must follow the rules of internal order and ethical norms of the institution. Communication with practice managers is possible in English, but communication with patients in English is not always possible, so support from staff or local students may be required.

1st year of studies:

- Clinical placement I – 4 KP (6 ECTS).

2nd year of studies:

- Clinical placement II – 4 CPs (6 ECTS);
- Clinical placement III – 6 CP (9 ECTS).

3rd year of studies:

- Clinical placement IV – 6 CP (9 ECTS);
- Clinical placement V – 10 CP (15 ECTS);
- Placement in patient and public education – 4 CP (6 ECTS).

4th year of studies:

- Clinical placement VI – 16 KP (24 ECTS);
- Clinical placement VII – 2 CP (3 ECTS);
- Clinical placement VIII – 8 CP (12 ECTS).

III Requirements for Students when performing at the Placement

The student participates in the clinical training process in accordance with the procedures laid down in regulatory enactments regarding clinical training and during clinical practice observes the basic ethical principles in accordance with the RSU Code of Ethics³, the Code of Ethics for Nursing⁴, the Law on the Rights of Patients⁵, the Medical Treatment Law⁶ and the Personal Data Protection Law⁷. The head of the study course organizes an introductory lesson for students and informs students about the procedures for the course of clinical practice and the goals and deadlines to be achieved.

The necessary prerequisites for clinical practice are specified in the study course guides of the study programme "Nursing". According to the RSU Study Regulations⁸, attending clinical practice classes and taking examinations is mandatory for a student, and action in case of class delays is in accordance with the RSU Study Regulations.

When starting clinical practice, the student must perform the following activities in a medical treatment or social care institution:

- get acquainted with the requirements of the hygienic and counter-epidemic regime in a medical treatment institution and comply with the requirements of the medical treatment institution regarding the rules of procedure for workwear;
- familiarize yourself with the internal rules of procedure of the place of clinical practice;
- get acquainted with and undergo fire safety and labor protection briefings instead of clinical practices;

- become acquainted with the personal data protection regulations⁷ and the confidentiality of the information obtained in a medical treatment institution in accordance with the procedures laid down in regulatory enactments;
- During clinical practice, it is mandatory to use the student's identification card.

IV Placement evaluation

At the beginning of each stage of the placement, the student fills out the list of goals of the clinical placement, which serves as the basis for cooperation with the clinical placement manager. At the end of the internship, the student conducts a self-assessment, and the practice manager gives his assessment.

During the internship, the student prepares a daily work report (working hours, patient data, actions performed). The student also can work with documentation at the place of internship.

The students must demonstrate knowledge and skills in accordance with the objectives of the course. The practice manager provides an interim and final assessment. The student conducts self-assessment.

At all stages of practice, the student analyzes and prepares patient case descriptions, demonstrates the selected methods of assessment and therapy, and answers additional questions.

Specific requirements, documentation and evaluation criteria may be specified before starting a traineeship.

¹ <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/268761-noteikumi-par-otra-limena-profesionalas-augstakas-izglitiba-valsts-standartu>

² <https://registri.visc.gov.lv/profizglitiba/dokumenti/standarti/2017/PS-144.pdf>

³ https://www.rsu.lv/sites/default/files/imce/Dokumenti/general/rsu_etikas_kodekss.pdf

⁴ <https://www.masuasociacija.lv/masu-etikas-kodekss/>

⁵ <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/203008-pacientu-tiesibu-likums>

⁶ <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/44108-arstniecibas-likums>

⁷ <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/300099-fizisko-personu-datu-apstrades-likums>

⁸ https://www.rsu.lv/sites/default/files/imce/Dokumenti/studijas/studiju_reglaments_i_23112021.pdf