



Clinical Placement for Nursing@Simmons Students

As a Nursing@Simmons student, you will gain valuable real-world experience through clinical placements that enable you to work under a chosen clinical preceptor. These placements are located at sites in or near your community and provide hands-on training that allows you to gain essential Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) skills.

WHAT IS A CLINICAL PRECEPTOR?

Clinical preceptors are experienced, highly skilled medical professionals who share their knowledge and experience with students in clinical settings. Throughout your development, preceptors will consult with Simmons faculty to discuss your progress and act as on-site guides. This includes:

- Helping you meet clinical objectives and develop a plan of action.
- Assigning patients whose health care needs are consistent with your level of knowledge and experience.
- Supervising patient health assessments and guiding you to develop critical thinking skills.
- Discussing patient needs and providing guidance in developing treatment plans.
- Identifying areas of strength and areas that may need improvement.
- Challenging you to grow as a clinical expert, scholar, and leader.
- Providing recommendations for professional placement.

While Nursing@Simmons students are asked to assist in identifying a clinical preceptor, the final selection will be made by the Nursing@Simmons Placement Team and approved by faculty.

WHERE CAN CLINICAL HOURS BE COMPLETED?

Clinical hours can be completed in a variety of health care settings in which FNPs play a key role, including family practice, family medicine and community health clinics, OB/GYN offices, pediatric offices, specialty clinics, nursing homes and long-term care centers, and urgent care clinics.

CLINICAL PLACEMENT TEAM SUPPORT

Each Nursing@Simmons student will be assigned a dedicated Clinical Placement Specialist who will assist them throughout the program. These specialists are here to support students by helping to secure a clinical placement site and a dedicated preceptor.

CLINICAL SCHEDULE

	MSN		RN to MSN	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Total Clinical Hours Required	672	672	836	836
Clinical Schedule	Terms 3, 4, 5	Terms 5, 6, 7	Terms 3, 4, 6, 7, 8	Terms 3, 4, 8, 9, 10
Rotations	Term 3: 224 Hours NURP 501A	Term 5: 224 Hours NURP 501A	Term 3: 84 Hours NUR 387	Term 3: 84 Hours NUR 387
	Term 4: 224 Hours NURP 502A	Term 6: 224 Hours NURP 502A	Term 4: 80 Hours* NUR 454	Term 4: 80 Hours* NUR 454
	Term 5: 224 Hours NURP 503A	Term 7: 224 Hours NURP 503A	Term 6: 224 Hours NURP 501A	Term 8: 224 Hours NURP 501A
Weekly Hours	Terms 3, 4, 5: 16 hours per week	Terms 5, 6, 7: 16 hours per week	Terms 3, 4: 6 hours per week	Terms 3, 4: 6 hours per week
			Terms 6, 7, 8: 16 hours per week	Terms 6, 7, 8: 16 hours per week

*40 hours spent with mentor and 40 hours spent conducting a leadership project

FAQs

1. Is clinical placement guaranteed to be arranged before the start of each clinical term? Although Nursing@Simmons does not guarantee clinical placement, our dedicated team provides a high level of placement support to each student. As a student, you are responsible for partnering with the Clinical Placement Team to secure placements, and once a location/candidate is identified, final approval must be given by Simmons faculty.

2. How do Nursing@Simmons Clinical Placement Specialists find placements across the U.S.? Our Clinical Placement Specialists use databases and established partnerships to find potential placements based on your location. Our specialists partner with you to pinpoint preceptors within your area. Our goal is to place you as close to your home base as possible, but you may be expected to travel to clinical sites up to two hours each way, and you may not turn down placements due to transportation.

3. Can I complete my clinical placement where I work? You may complete clinical hours where you work; however, you may not conduct hours within the same department or under your current supervisor.

4. Can I still work my regular job while I'm doing my clinical rotations? Most students continue their regular jobs while conducting clinical rotations. It is, however, challenging for most students to balance coursework, time in clinical rotations, and full-time employment. If you do maintain a full-time work schedule during clinical rotations, it is expected that you will follow the schedule of the clinical placement site. Placements will not be approved based on specific scheduling needs. It is crucial that an employer be flexible with your clinical placement schedule, as most offices operate on a Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. schedule.