

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Preceptor General Guidelines

Thank you for precepting for the University of Colorado Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC PNP) program. We greatly appreciate your time and service to both our students and to the CU College of Nursing. On a local scale, you are critical to the success of our students and program. On a larger scale, teaching new learners is essential to the success of our healthcare system. Through our joint efforts, we can translate classroom teaching, current evidence-based practice guidelines, and lab experiences into tangible skills that will prepare students for advanced nursing practice, administration, and clinical care. This document is intended to provide you with a general review of the process and basic fundamentals you can expect when precepting an AC PNP student from the CU College of Nursing.

Clinical placements are arranged by the specialty director and our Experiential Learning Team (ELT) 6-18 months in advance, depending on the setting. Following placement confirmation, our ELT team will provide a letter of good standing for the student. Electronic Health Record (E.H.R) requirements are set by each clinical and will be completed by the student prior to starting clinical per site direction. Scheduling of clinical days is site specific. We want our preceptors to set a schedule that works best for both their own needs, the needs of the practice, and that creates the best learning environment. We expect students to attend clinical per the schedule set by their preceptor unless there are extenuating circumstances. In general, our clinical rotations are 60-120 hours per rotation and students complete a minimum of 585 hours over five semesters of clinical. Typically, our students graduate with closer to 630 clinical hours of direct patient care time in the provider role.

We hope that preceptors can provide us with an overview document for the rotation that includes suggested resources the students can use to help ensure they are prepared for their clinical rotation. Students are expected to share with their preceptor both individual and course objectives. The student and preceptor should ensure that students are progressing towards meeting the expected competencies for their clinical level throughout the semester. Clinical Practicum Evaluation forms will be provided to preceptors prior to the clinical rotation and students will have them available at all times as well. Competency examples include health assessment, physical examination, diagnosis, management, evaluation, communication skills, evidence-based practice, and critical thinking. During their graduate education, we help students transition to the role of the nurse practitioner and learn to collaborate with interdisciplinary team members. Suggested AC PNP skill acquisition includes performing both comprehensive and system targeted physical examination techniques, data gathering, presenting patients on interdisciplinary rounds, working with interdisciplinary team members, educating families, participating in, and performing acute care skills, and basic laboratory and radiology interpretations. Please complete and electronically submit an objective evaluation of the student at the close of the clinical rotation. To do so, you will be sent a link via email during the final week of the student rotation. If you have questions or concerns about a student and/or clinical expectations/experiences at any time, please do not hesitate to contact their clinical faculty or the ACPNP program specialty director.



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Thank you again for your time and your commitment to APRN education and excellence in patient care.