

August 10, 2017

*Dear Post-LPN Bachelor of Nursing student:*

**This letter contains critical information for all students in the Post-LPN BN program. Please read the entire document.**

We appreciate that due to a number of changes within the Post-LPN Bachelor of Nursing program, the past few months may have been stressful for some of you. We strive to be transparent and supportive as you progress through the program, so are sending you this information update.

**As of September 1, 2017, Program GPA will be used for course prerequisite requirements for all students.**

Your Program GPA is displayed in your DegreeWorks profile at myAU. You can also calculate your Program GPA using the Office of the Registrar's GPA Calculator at [registrar.athabascau.ca/gpa/gpa.php](http://registrar.athabascau.ca/gpa/gpa.php). To learn more about what is included in your Program GPA, read the AU Grading Policy available at [ous.athabascau.ca/policy/registry/undergraduategradingpolicy2002.pdf](http://ous.athabascau.ca/policy/registry/undergraduategradingpolicy2002.pdf).

**Please review all course prerequisite requirements prior to any course registration.**

### **New Prerequisite Added for NURS 437**

On January 1, 2018, NURS 434 (Community Health Promotion) will become a prerequisite for NURS 437 (Professional Practice in Family Health Promotion) in addition to the current NURS 436 (Family Health Promotion). This is not an additional course in the program and responds to feedback from students and health care partners that the knowledge from both courses is important for a successful community health clinical experience.

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## Earlier Completion of NURS 401 (Medication Math Exam)

Responding to student feedback, NURS 401 (Medication Math Exam) will be completed before the clinical portion of the course. This means the exam will be written in September for the Fall term, in January for the Winter term and in April for the Spring/Summer term.

**Please note that starting next year, the Spring/Summer term for NURS 401 only will be April 1 – July 31** in order to accommodate the May or June clinicals. Please refer to the NURS 401 (Professional Practice with Adults Experiencing Health Alterations) course syllabus for more information: [athabascau.ca/syllabi/nurs/nurs401.php](http://athabascau.ca/syllabi/nurs/nurs401.php).

## Reminder: Proof of Annual CLPNA Licensure is required

Post-LPN BN students are required to provide proof of active registration with the CLPNA on an annual basis in order to continue in the program see [fhd.athabascau.ca/programs/undergrad/lpn-bn/regulations.php](http://fhd.athabascau.ca/programs/undergrad/lpn-bn/regulations.php) "Regulated (Practicing) Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta. Proof of active registration/licensure must be submitted at time of application and maintained while completing the program.") The deadline for submission of your 2017 practice permit is November 1, 2017. The deadline for submission of your 2018 practice permit is February 1, 2018.

**Please submit a copy of your CLPNA active practice registration into the Moodle "course" drop box: Annual Nursing Practice Permit. Failure to provide annual proof of current registration will result in removal from the BN program.**

## Changes to Clinical Processes are Coming

Please watch for revisions and updates to the Clinical Process: Post LPN BN Professional Practice (Clinical) Preparation Guide, Clinical Preparation Moodle "courses" and NURS 441 placement request process. Student feedback is helping to determine the best process possible given the realities of working with external health care agencies, academic partners and contractual agreements.

The new Guide will be posted in the early Fall and updates to the Clinical Preparation and NURS 441 placement request process will be reflected in the January 2018 modules, opening this month.

A few important highlights to note:

- Effective January 2, 2018, all final grades for prerequisite courses must be showing on transcripts before students are eligible to sign up for clinical courses (September 1, January 2 and May 1).
- The sign-up order on clinical eligibility lists is no longer visible. Students will be given priority based on a combination of factors, including (in no particular order): date of prerequisite course completion, number of previous sign-up attempts and program end date.
- A formal waitlist process is being developed.



We appreciate that this new information may have implications for you and may be challenging. Please reach out to the BN Advisors at [bnadvisor@athabascau.ca](mailto:bnadvisor@athabascau.ca) and if you have specific questions, to [bnclinical@athabascau.ca](mailto:bnclinical@athabascau.ca).

After you have communicated with the BN Advisors and/or the BN Clinical team, if you still have unanswered questions, please feel free to contact Dawn Mercer Riselli, Program Director, Clinical Affairs, at [driselli@athabascau.ca](mailto:driselli@athabascau.ca).

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