COLLEGE OF NURSING
SCHOLASTIC COMMITTEE APPEALS

Guidelines related to Montana State University - Bozeman and College of Nursing academic performance and expectations are clearly stated in the Montana State University - Bozeman Graduate and Undergraduate catalogue. The current catalogue can be found online at http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/nursing/

The College of Nursing Scholastic Committee has the authority to:

1) permit a variance in progression (curricular exception);
2) permit a student to continue in the College of Nursing curriculum following failure to achieve a grade of C or better on the second try in any required course; W grades are considered an attempt to take the course;
3) permit a student to be reinstated into the curriculum following removal from the curriculum due to academic failure OR other reasons.

Appeal forms should be sent to:

Montana State University-Bozeman
Undergraduate Associate Dean
Sherrick Hall, Room 111
P.O. Box 173560
Bozeman, MT 59717-3560

You are advised to make an appointment with your academic advisor and/or the Campus Director, who will work with you to facilitate your specific appeal. The student is accountable for requesting help and/or letters of support, and other supporting evidence as needed.

DEADLINES:

Deadlines for College of Nursing Scholastic Committee appeals to be received in the Associate Dean’s Office are August 1, December 1, and April 15. Generally, appeals will be heard by mid-August, mid-December, and mid-May. Students will be informed of the results in writing within a week following the Scholastic Committee meeting.

EXAMPLE of an Appeal:

Appeals are sometimes related to the Policy C-16 wherein students may not have more than 2 attempts (W is counted as an attempt) at pre-requisite coursework, regardless of the grade.

When a student takes a required pre-requisite course more than twice, the student is not eligible to continue in the nursing curriculum.

In this situation the College of Nursing has established some specific guidelines to assist the student who is considering an appeal to request re-admission to the College of Nursing.

1. Students may continue to work with their academic advisor and will not be required to do a change of curriculum out of nursing during the time you are working on the appeal process. However, the student will NOT be permitted to take lower-division nursing courses, which are restricted to nursing majors ONLY (those students with upper-division placement).
2. The elements of an appeal related to the cap on retakes were established to ensure an adequate base of knowledge and to predict success in nursing coursework, the Scholastic Committee must receive information from the student that will lead them to believe the student can succeed in the nursing program of study. Such evidence/explanations should include:

- Reason for retakes beyond 2 in the pre-requisite courses
- Steps the student has taken to correct the circumstances which led to either failing or insufficient grades and which explain why the situation will not occur in the future.
- Evidence of significant improvement (grades/behaviors/situation impacting student).

3. Sometimes it is to the student’s advantage to delay her/his appeal until he/she has demonstrated the ability to perform academically at a higher level. For example, the student who has received a D in CHEM 121 two times might have a strong case for an appeal after repeating CHEM 121 with a B or higher.

4. Students must complete this appeal process prior to enrolling in any lower division nursing courses.

NOTE: Transfer students are advised to initiate an appeal and request a decision prior to making a physical move to MSU-Bozeman or one of our other sites.