

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 2006-2008 Montana State University - Bozeman Graduate and Undergraduate Bulletin, pp. 59-65 and 171-175. 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
College of Nursing Scholastic Committee
Sherrick Hall, Room 110
P.O. Box 173560
Bozeman, MT 59717-3560

You will want to make an appointment with your academic advisor and/or the Campus Director, who will work with you to facilitate your specific appeal. It is up to you to request help and/or letters of support 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 May 1**. 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. (Students who have urgent situations are usually contacted by telephone following the meeting.)

EXAMPLE of an Appeal:

Appeals are sometimes related to the "only one repeat" rule. When a student takes a required course two times and fails to achieve a grade of "C" or better (C- is not acceptable and W grades count as an attempt), 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. You may continue to work with your 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, you will NOT be permitted to take lower-division nursing courses, which are restricted to nursing majors ONLY (those students with upper-division placement).

2. You need to be aware of the elements of an appeal related to the “only one repeat” rule. Since the rule was established to ensure an adequate base of knowledge and to predict success in nursing coursework, the Committee must receive information from the student that will lead them to believe the student can succeed in nursing. Such evidence should include:
 - Why did the failure to achieve a grade of “C” or better occur?
 - What has the student done to correct the circumstances which led to the failure situation so it will not occur in the future?

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” and then achieving a “C” or better in BCHM 122 the first time taken. However, students must complete this appeal process prior to enrolling in any lower division nursing courses.

NOTE: If you are at a transfer institution, you will want to initiate an appeal and request a decision prior to your physical move to Bozeman.