

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**POLICY # D-6**

**TITLE:** CLINICAL SITE VISITS AND PERFORMANCE IN REQUIRED GRADUATE CLINICAL NURSING COURSES

**POLICY:** Course Instructors (MN) and Clinical Faculty (DNP) evaluate the clinical performance of each assigned graduate student.

Visits to clinical sites of MN students are encouraged. Clinical site visits by Clinical Faculty (or a proxy preapproved by the Associate Dean for Graduate Education) are required for each DNP clinical course; minimum of one site visit each for Advanced Clinical I, II, III, and IV). Virtual site visits will be considered on a case by case basis in coordination with the course lead and clinical coordinators.

“Satisfactory” clinical performance is defined as achievement of all clinical objectives at a satisfactory level. “Unsatisfactory” clinical performance is defined as failure to meet one or more clinical objectives at a satisfactory level or the student requires more faculty or preceptor supervision than other students at a similar level.

If the student’s clinical performance remains “Unsatisfactory” at the end of the term, the student receives a grade of F in the course regardless of theory grade.

**RATIONALE:** The Clinical Faculty and Course Instructors are experienced clinicians with the expertise to evaluate clinical expectations. To achieve competency as an advanced practice nurse or advanced generalist, graduate nursing students must demonstrate satisfactory clinical performance. Role development is facilitated through application of theory to clinical situations in clinical courses.

**Reviewed/Approved by:**

**Level I:** GAAC (February, 2005); approved (January, 2013; amended October, 2015, April 2018)

**Level II:** Associate Dean for Graduate Education: approved (March, 2005); approved (April, 2013; October, 2015, April 2018)