



Rio Grande Valley College

2026

Nursing Program

Agreements of Understanding

Please read & sign
(Must be turned in as instructed)



Statement of Understanding

I have read and understand the Student Handbook provided by Rio Grande Valley College for the Nursing Program and agree to abide by the rules and regulations contained in the handbook.

I am also aware that by participating in a health care occupation that there is an inherent risk of infection.

I do understand that the scholastic and attendance policies of the Nursing department.

I do understand the steps to follow in accordance with a grievance policy in the student handbook.

I have read and understand all the rules and regulations as they pertain specifically to the Nursing Program.

I have read and understand the investigative questions that are asked by the Texas Board of Nursing and understand that affirmative answers on any of these questions could affect the possibility of candidates being able to take the NCLEX examination.

I have read and understand the following Texas Administrative Code rules that relate to the Texas Board of Nursing:

- §213.27 Good Professional Character
- §213.28 Licensure of Persons with Criminal Offenses
- §213.29 Criteria and Procedure Regarding Intemperate Use and Lack of Fitness in Eligibility and Disciplinary Matters
- §213.30 Declaratory Order of Eligibility for Licensure
- §217.11 Standards of Nursing Practice
- §217.12 Unprofessional Conduct
- §97.64 Required Vaccinations for Students Enrolled in Health-related and Veterinary Courses in Institutions of Higher Education
- §97.65 Exceptions to Immunization Requirements (Verification of Immunity/History of Illness)

Student Name (*print*)

Student Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.

Program Director



Dress Code Contract

Dress Codes are in place so that students, during their training, can understand and learn how to meet the dress standards of their profession. Clinical facilities are particular and very strict about student's dress code and make no exceptions. The school dress code complies with clinical facility requirements.

Complete uniforms are to be worn at all times unless otherwise instructed.

1) Hair

- a) No "bling" hair accessories or hair extensions may be used.
- b) Hair should be neatly kept away from face. Male students must keep beards above the neckline and maintain neatly trimmed mustaches, or be clean-shaven. Facial hair shall not be longer than 1 inch. If a clinical site determines a student cannot pass the N95 mask test, the student will be sent home, hours deducted, and may not return until their beard meets requirements.
- c) Hair must be clean, well-groomed, above the collar, and away from the face per infection control standards. Hair accessories must match hair or uniform color; ribbons, scarves, colored clips, hats, and alligator clips are not permitted.
- d) Hair must be worn in a bun. Bangs must be pinned back away from the face. Hair must be 1 inch above the collar.
- e) Hair color – No distracting dye colors (blue, pink, green, purple, orange and/or stripes etc.)

2) Jewelry

- a) Only a minimum amount of jewelry should be worn. This provides safe, comfortable, and sanitary conditions for the patient and the care provider. The student may wear:
 - One earring per ear lobe of small studs.
 - No other body jewelry should be visible in the clinical setting.
 - Rings, one plain band only – **NO STONES**, no grooves or carvings and/or no other designs.
 - One wristwatch with a second hand. **NO SMART WATCHES ALLOWED.**
 - No necklaces or bracelets allowed.

3) Tattoos

- a) If tattoos are visible, they must be covered while in the classroom or clinical setting. Tattoos will have to be covered even if the student is wearing a long sleeve lab jacket. Examples: arms, wrist, chest, forearms.

4) Fingernails

- a) Nails may not be polished and are not to exceed the tip of the fingers in length. Artificial fingernails, shellac, glitter, or overlays are not allowed.

5) Hygiene

- a) Maintain good oral hygiene and personal cleanliness, free of odors.
- b) Makeup should be minimal and natural-looking; false eyelashes are not permitted.

6) General Classroom Attire

- a) Uniforms must be worn to class. (See policy on uniforms)
- b) Name badge must be worn at all times and visible at eye level.

7) Spirit Shirt Days

- a) Fridays (DAY Program) and Mondays (EVENING/WEEKEND Program) are designated spirit shirt days. Students may wear jeans (not torn), a school-approved spirit shirt, and shoes no higher than 2 inches (no sandals or flip-flops). Hair may be worn down. All other dress code policies apply. Navy lab coats or fleece may be worn as needed. Additional t-shirts may be permitted for approved awareness days.

If the student opts not to participate in Spirit Shirt Day, they shall wear their school uniform. All other attire policies apply. If the student is scheduled for clinical or in house clinical, all clinical policies apply.

8) Cell phones and/or all-in-one electronic devices disrupt lectures and clinical experiences and are not allowed in classroom or clinical settings. Place on a silent mode (**not** vibrate) or turn off. Personal cell phone calls or response to texts may be done only while on break. Students using cell phones for personal calls of any type or taking pictures in the classroom, nursing laboratory, or clinical site (unless sanctioned by the nursing department) will face disciplinary action that may include permanent dismissal. Electronic devices for reference purposes must be strictly limited to this purpose and must be approved by the instructor before use. Cell phones must be turned off during testing.

Students will not be allowed to attend class, lab, or clinicals if they fail to comply with the dress codes and will be marked absent.

Student Name (*print*)

Student Signature

Date

 Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.
Program Director



Laboratory Safety Rules

1. Familiarize yourself with the lab procedures before beginning.
2. Carefully follow directions, both written and oral. Do only the steps described in the procedure, or that are described and/or approved by the instructor. If you are in doubt about any procedure, ask your instructor for help.
3. Everyone should be alert and always proceed with caution in the laboratory. Students must remain at their assigned lab station while performing procedures and exercise caution to avoid contact with others.
4. **DO NOT** engage in horseplay such as tickling, throwing objects, squirting water, waving exposed needles, etc. Some of the most serious lab accidents have resulted due to this type of behavior. Inappropriate behavior may result in removal from the classroom and loss of participation in future labs and activities.
5. Appropriate uniform attire and badges **must** be worn at all times in the laboratory. Hair must be worn up and above the collar at all times.
6. Accidental puncture with a used needle **must** be reported to the instructor immediately.
7. Hand washing and gloves **must** be worn when performing venipuncture procedure.
8. Learn the location of the eye wash fountain and /or water faucets in your school lab. If a substance is splashed in your eyes, immediately use the eye wash or water faucet to rinse your eyes.
9. **Never** recap a needle. Disposal of used needles are to be in the Sharps Container **only**. Never in the trash can.
10. **Wear** the appropriate PPE dependent on the activity.
11. Follow any additional rule, guideline, advice and/or precaution set forth by your instructor or supervisor.



Student Name (*print*)

Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.

Program Director





Universal Standard Precautions

The CDC's infection control guidelines include the following points:

1. Take blood and bodily fluid precautions with all clients.
2. Put on gloves before touching mucous membranes, broken skin, blood, or other bodily fluids. Wear a gown and protective eye wear or a face shield during procedures likely to generate bodily fluid droplets or cause splashing.
3. Immediately wash your hands after removing gloves, as always, also wash your hands when they become soiled and between clients. Thorough hand washing remains the best safeguard against spreading infection.
4. Take special care to avoid injuring yourself with needles and other sharp instruments. For example, never break or recap a needle. Instead, place the syringe and needle in a puncture-resistant container.
5. If you have open skin lesions or weeping dermatitis do not give direct client care or handle client care equipment.
6. When on duty, always carry a pair of gloves in your pocket should an emergency need arise.
7. All contaminated linens, dressings, food utensils, and bodily secretions are to be disposed of according to institutional policy.

As a nursing student in the Rio Grande Valley College San Antonio Nursing Program, I fully understand the importance of observing these precautions and agree to implement them in my clinical practice.

Student Name (*print*)

Student Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.

Program Director



Patient/Client Confidentiality Policy

In accordance with the Rules and Regulations relating to Standards of Nursing Practice in Rule 217.11 (1 E)* regarding unprofessional conduct, “*Respect the client's right to privacy by protecting confidential information unless required or allowed by law to disclose the information*”; the faculty of the Nursing Program has adopted the following policy:

1. Except in a teaching-learning situation, all aspects of the patient/client’s medically related information and/or data shall not be discussed with any other person or persons under any circumstance.
2. Failure to honor this basic ethical right of the patient/client may result in the immediate dismissal of the student from the Nursing Program.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above stated policy. I further understand that any breach in this policy may result in my immediate dismissal from the Nursing Program. Furthermore, I understand that a copy of this confidentiality form with my signature will become a part of my student nursing file.

Student Name (*print*)

Student Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed. RN.

Program Director

* Texas Administrative Code and Statutes Regulating the Practice of Professional Nursing, Texas Board of Nursing, November 15, 2007



Rio Grande Valley
College

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

I understand that to be eligible to meet the graduation requirements for the Nursing Program at Rio Grande Valley College San Antonio, I must successfully complete each course with a minimum grade of 78% and meet all financial obligations.

Students are encouraged to participate in the institution's graduation ceremony. Each student is responsible for obtaining their graduation regalia, including cap and gown, nursing lamp, and pin.

Student Name (*print*)

Student Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.

Program Director



**Rio Grande Valley
College**
San Antonio

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understand the Rio Grande Valley College Nursing Program Policy on Safe Medication Administration.

Student Name (Print)

Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed, RN.

Program Director



Vocational Nursing Program Online Expectation Agreement

Program Expectations

Your responsibility as a student:

1. Students must have consistent access to a personal laptop for program use. Chromebooks, iPads, tablets, and phones are not permitted, and devices may not be shared among individuals in the same household.
2. Have reliable internet access
3. Be present – share your thoughts and discuss topics appropriately with faculty and peers
4. Be disciplined and utilize effective time management – develop a method for completing discussions and assignments
5. Get organized and have a plan for each course
6. Be creative and use critical thinking skills
7. Post online responses that demonstrate you have acquired knowledge from assignments
8. Reflect on what you have learned from your readings, lecture presentations, ATI, and assignments in your designated courses.
9. Secure support from family, friends and employer to ensure success and flexibility

Participation Expectations:

- A. Students are required to:
1. Read emails, course assignments, syllabus and all instructor communication
 2. Complete assigned readings and homework
 3. Participate in the online discussion classrooms and discussion forums
 4. Complete required projects, assignments, ATI and learning resource assignments

- B. Students are required to participate in course activities as described in the course syllabus. Methods of participation, frequency, and relation of participation to course grade are detailed in the course syllabus.
- C. Each course hour requires a minimum recommendation of 2-3 hours of outside student preparation. (Example: 3-hour course = 4-6 hours recommended hours of preparation)

Course Pre-Requisites

1. Students are encouraged to review and become familiar with textbooks, online resources, and Canvas prior to the first day of class.
2. Before the start of the first course, students will review and read the VN Student Handbook located on the home page of Canvas.
3. There may be courses requiring written assignments. Written assignments must be written legibly and uploaded into Canvas. All written documents, whether an assignment or a discussion posting, must include support references. Copyright infringement will not be allowed and may lead to student termination from the nursing program.

I have received a copy of the RGV College Vocational Nursing Program Student Expectation Agreement and Requirements on the date listed below. I understand and acknowledge that I am expected to read it in its entirety and will be accountable to meet these expectations for my personal academic success. Additionally, I will submit a signed copy of this Acknowledgment of Receipt and retain a copy for myself. I understand a copy of the acknowledgement will be retained in my student file and reviewed by the Program Director.

Student Signature

Date

Maria Valladares, MSN-Ed.RN.
Program Director



Study Room Rules and Regulations

RGV College has three study rooms available, the study room is intended to be an environment conducive to learning, and violation of the guidelines will result in a declination for reservation. Please keep the door closed at all times! RGV College reserves the right to deny the use of the Group Study Rooms to anyone that fails to adhere to the rules and restrictions.

The following restrictions apply:

- Occupancy may not exceed 6 students
- No cell phones, food or drinks
- Noise levels must be kept at a minimum
- Reservations can be made once per day (per group) not exceeding 2 hours
- Rooms are reserved on a first come first serve basis
- Reservations begin at 8:45 a.m. for the day and cannot be made days in advance. Request must be submitted at least 1 hour in advance.
- Daytime students will not be allowed reservation past 5:30 pm.

Reservations

When requesting to reserve the study rooms, please make sure to include your name, names of those in your group, program and/or cohort# and the time you are requesting.

Scan the QR code below to place a reservation.



By signing, I agree that I have read the above policy and agree to adhere to the rules and regulations.

Student Signature _____ Date _____



Program Director

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Student Electronic & GPS Attendance Tracking Agreement

Program: _____
Student Name: _____
Cohort: _____
Date: _____

The purpose of this agreement is to outline the requirements and expectations regarding the use of electronic and GPS-based attendance tracking as part of program compliance, accountability, and accreditation standards.

Attendance Tracking Requirement

As a condition of enrollment and continued participation in the program, students are required to use the institution-designated electronic attendance system, which includes GPS/location verification.

Student Responsibilities

By signing this agreement, the student acknowledges and agrees to the following:

1. Mandatory Participation

Participation in electronic and GPS attendance tracking is mandatory. Failure to comply may result in attendance discrepancies, disciplinary action, or consequences as outlined in the student handbook or program policies.

2. Device Requirement

- The student must maintain access to a functioning smartphone capable of running the required attendance application.
- Location services (GPS) must be enabled at the time of clocking in and clocking out to verify physical presence.

3. Location Accuracy

Attendance must be recorded only while physically present at the approved instructional site, clinical site, or designated location. Clocking in or out from an unauthorized location is prohibited.

4. Academic and Professional Integrity

- Students may only clock in and out for themselves.
- Clocking in or out on behalf of another student, allowing another student to clock in or out on one's behalf, or attempting to manipulate the system in any way is considered a violation of academic and professional integrity standards.

5. System Integrity

Any misuse, falsification, or intentional circumvention of the attendance tracking system may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program.

6. Technical Issues

Students are responsible for ensuring their device is charged, functional, and properly configured. Technical issues must be reported immediately according to program procedures and do not automatically excuse attendance violations.



Privacy Acknowledgment

The student understands that GPS/location data is collected solely for attendance verification purposes and will be used in accordance with institutional policies and applicable privacy laws.

Acknowledgment and Agreement

By signing below, the student confirms that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with the electronic and GPS attendance tracking requirements as outlined above.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Program Representative Signature: _____ **Date:** _____