For more information about the nursing COOPerative education experience, contact:

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Visit the College of Nursing Cooperative Education web page
Or Blackboard Org when in semester 3, 4 or 5
What is COOPerative Education?

COOPerative education at the University of North Dakota College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines is an education experience which allows students to integrate classroom and laboratory learning with practical, professional experience in a health care agency. It is based on the philosophy that learning extends beyond the classroom and that the combination of classroom and practical experience is a superior method of education. Students are paid employees of the health care agency while earning an elective credit for this clinical experience, based on an agreement with the ND Board of Nursing. Students perform skills learned in prior and concurrent nursing courses while under the guidance of facility nurses and supervision of a clinical instructor.

Individual clinical experiences are made according to student academic and work history along with the needs of the employing agency.

Eligibility

- Admitted and enrolled in the College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines
- Satisfactory completion of Nursing 371/Nursing 321
- GPA of at least 2.5/4.0 in nursing
- Good academic standing

Credits

Students may choose to register for 1 or 2 elective credits, NURS 379.

- 1 credit: 120 to 300 work hours per semester (8 to 20 hours/week)
- 2 credits: 301 to 600 work hours per semester (21 to 40 hours/week)

Benefits

For Students: The COOPerative education experience provides the student with the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge and skills to real life situations and to reinforce competence and confidence. The agency staff provides guidance and supervision in the clinical setting.

For Agencies: A COOPerative education nurse provides agencies with additional nursing staff. Another advantage is recruitment and training of potential employees.

Types of COOP Experiences

For Nursing Students

Parallel: Student works part-time (often weekends) while attending regular classes during the fall and spring semester.

Summer: Student is enrolled in a COOPerative education work experience rather than classes during the summer.

Note: Students enrolled in COOPerative education are considered to be full-time.