**Student Covid-19 Vaccination Policy 3.18**

**Original Implementation: January 2022**

A student entering any agency for any reason must meet all compliance requirements of that agency, including COVID vaccination, if that is a requirement.

Students are required to complete all clinical hours as designated in the course syllabus in the timeframe outlined for each course. Special consideration and placement will not be granted to students that fail to meet agency COVID-19 vaccination requirements. Failure to meet clinical requirements may result in students being required to take an incomplete for a course. Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) (2020) rule 215.10 states that:

> Programs may use up to 50% of simulation activities in each clinical course. This requirement ensures that programs will include adequate hands-on clinical practice with actual patients in each content area to prepare the nursing students for safe, competent nursing care in different settings. (para. 9-10).

Therefore, alternate clinical experiences to include simulation, virtual simulation, or case studies are not allowed to fulfill this requirement.

Students may apply for medical or religious exemption for the COVID-19 vaccine from the DeWitt School of Nursing. Necessary exemption forms must be submitted to the director in a timely manner to ensure that students are granted exemption prior to clinical placement. Failure to submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination, obtain an exemption prior to scheduled clinical experience, and/or comply with clinical agency requirements will result in students being out of compliance to attend clinical with subsequent consequences per course and program policies. Students should abide by the following procedure to submit vaccination proof or obtain a vaccine exemption. Exemptions are not guaranteed upon submission of paperwork. The decision for granting exemption will be made on a case-by-case basis by the director.

The School of Nursing will follow each agency policy. Therefore, if an agency is not honoring student exemptions from the DeWitt School of Nursing, students may not be able to attend clinical at that agency if COVID-19 vaccination is required. Students declining vaccination may also be asked to test periodically for COVID-19. The School of Nursing will uphold these requirements, with the expense and scheduling burden of testing being the students’ responsibility.

**Procedure:**

1. Students that have received the COVID-19 vaccination should submit a completed copy of their official COVID-19 Vaccination Card as directed by the course coordinator and by the date and time communicated by program administrators and/or course faculty. Vaccination cards must include name, date of birth, type of vaccine(s), lot number(s), date of vaccination(s), and location(s).
2. Students that are declining vaccination should submit a completed SFASU SON Request for Medical Exemption of COVID-19 Vaccination Form or a completed SFASU SON Request for Religious Exemption of COVID-19 Vaccination Form to the Director of the SON at least one week prior to scheduled clinical experience.

References:
https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/education_pdfs/education_nursing_guidelines/3.8Clinical_Learning_Experiences/3-8-6-a.pdf

Forms:
Student Request for Medical Exemption of Covid-19 Vaccination
Student Request for Religious Exemption of Covid-19 Vaccination