Congratulations and welcome to first semester of the ADN Program!

My name is Laura DeFreitas. I am course coordinator for first semester in the ADN program. Your decision to become a registered nurse is the first step to a profession that is incredibly rewarding and fulfilling.

Previous students have commented that they didn’t realize how much of their own time was required to be successful. You must have daily access to a computer in your home so that you can access course information, announcements, discussions and other important information on Canvas. You will be required to frequently practice skills in the skills lab, and other activities on your own time. While waiting for the semester to begin, we encourage you to begin the health clearance process as outlined in this acceptance packet. Additionally, we recommend that you complete the Healthstream modules and study the prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations which are available as a link with your acceptance packet. The first week of school will be very busy, so if you can have the above items completed, your first week will be much more pleasant. Please, also evaluate your employment commitments. Many students find that they can work a few hours per week and still be successful. This must be a decision made by you that is dependent upon your life situation. The ADN nursing faculty are available to help you succeed, but you must be committed and responsible for your own learning.

I also want you to know ahead of time about our re-entry policy. Students who fail or withdraw from first semester ADN courses (N270 and/or N271) are NOT guaranteed re-entry into the ADN program. Students who exit the ADN program must make an appointment with the ADN program director or assistant director for an exit interview. A withdrawal for medical reasons must be substantiated by a physician’s note.

I want you to be aware of these factors early on, so that you understand the commitment required in first semester. Also, this early notice will give you time to plan accordingly with your family, employer, child care provider, etc.

1. Declaration of Intent:
   You have been given a link to the Declaration of Intent. Please read, sign, and submit this document as soon as possible so that we can include you in our plans for the spring semester. You must email your signed form back to Kendis Bettencourt at bettencourtk@mjc.edu. If we have not heard from you by November 9th at 4:30 pm, we will assume your plans have changed and we will offer your place to another applicant. The declaration of intent form also includes a link to the BLS certification information (see below under heading 3, BLS). You must choose one of the three sessions to attend. If you have concerns about your ability to enter the ADN Program at this time, please contact the Allied Health Office at 575-6569 or 575-6362 to discuss your options.

2. MANDATORY NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION:
   First semester students are required to attend orientation on Monday, December 18th from 0830 to 4:30 pm in Glacier Hall Room 201. You will receive your ADN Program Student Handbook, important information about the nursing program, participate in a tour of our facilities, take a picture for your Allied Health student file and your clinical badge, and have an opportunity to ask questions about the ADN program. One of the Health Services RNs will be available to give you detailed instructions on the process of completing your health clearance and to answer your questions.
There will be a 30-minute lunch break; we suggest you bring a bag lunch, as there is little time to leave campus.

A small reception will be provided for you at approximately 4:30 so please plan additional time as this gives you the opportunity to talk with nursing students from other semesters.

3. PRIMARY CLEARANCE: (Health Clearance, Drug Screen & Background Check, BLS Certification, Health Stream Modules) It is imperative that you begin immediately to do everything that is required so that you can meet the primary clearance deadline. It will take diligence on your part to ensure that you meet this deadline. Acute care facilities require all nursing students to complete health clearance, drug screen, background check, BLS certification, and Health Stream modules prior to entering the clinical setting. If a student is not in compliance by the deadline, the student may not be allowed to continue in the semester.

Health Clearance: The Health Clearance process consists of positive antibody titers and immunizations, 2-step TB clearance and a physical exam. Please download and print the 5 Health Clearance forms required for Allied Health Students. These forms consist of:

- History and Physical forms
- TST form
- Minimum Submission Requirements form
- Checklist of Forms to Turn In
- Flu Vaccine Form

You are strongly encouraged to begin the health clearance process by going to Modesto Junior College’s Health Services office. Hours of operation for fall 2017 are Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Weds 9:30 am – 5:00 pm. Please check Health Services website for time changes and for their schedule over the winter holiday. These are walk-in only consultations, so plan accordingly. You will eventually need a second consultation with a Health Services nurse to obtain your “Golden Ticket” (Final Health Clearance). Please bring to both meetings with the Health Services Nurse printed copies of all health clearance documents from the Allied Health website as well as your immunization records showing which vaccinations you have received in the past.

The Primary Clearance Deadline for all first semester ADN students is Thursday, January 11, 2018. You will turn in your “Golden Ticket” and supporting documentation to Kendis Bettencourt in Glacier Hall room 111.

At New Student Orientation on Monday, December 18, you will receive additional detailed information about the health clearance process and have an opportunity to ask questions. However, please DO NOT wait to get started!

*** Please pay careful attention to the types of titers required for hepatitis, varicella and MMR. If you want to have your medical provider draw blood for your titers, please take the “MJC Allied Health Minimum Immunization Submission Requirements” form (a link on this webpage) that lists the necessary titers to them so that he/she will order the specific type of titer we require. All students must have bloodwork drawn for titers for Varicella and Measles, Mumps, and Rubella, as well as Hepatitis B (if you have previously received 3 Hepatitis B immunizations). Titers can be done through your doctor’s office or through Health Services at MJC. The Health Services nurses are available as stated above (hours of operation) to give you a lab requisition so that you can have your titers drawn.
Please see the link on the Allied Health website that lists the price of the various titers and be prepared to pay with exact cash. It can take up to a week to get your results and your titers may indicate that you need to receive one or more immunizations before school starts.

****An important note: Varicella and MMR vaccines cannot be obtained until after the 2-step TB testing is completed. These are live vaccines and will nullify the TB skin test results. It is imperative, however, that you receive your Varicella and MMR vaccines (if needed) as soon as we read your second TB skin test. Otherwise you may not have enough time to complete your health clearance by the first week of the semester.

Tuberculosis Skin Testing (TST) In order to receive a free TB skin test, you MUST BE REGISTERED for your classes and bring your MJC ID card with a fall 2017/spring 2018 sticker. This skin test must be placed on a Monday or a Tuesday by a Health Services RN on West Campus in the Health Services office during fall/spring office hours (see above). The test must be read at least 48 hours after it was placed.

The second step of the TB testing must be placed no earlier than 7 days after the first was read, also on a Monday or Tuesday, West Campus Health Services office during office hours (see above). This second step must also be read by a Health Services RN in their office at least 48 hours after it was placed.

Both TST tests may be obtained through the Public Health Department or through your physician. In either of these cases, please download and print the form for the 2-step TST testing process from the link provided with your acceptance packet so that he/she will perform this test according to our protocol: the second TB test must be placed no earlier than 7 days after the first TB test was read.

COLUMBIA students: you must have each TB test administered and read at the same place, either Modesto or Columbia.

*Also, students may receive the T-spot or Quantiferon Gold, which eliminates the need for a two-step TB test.

For students in either Modesto or Columbia, if you are submitting proof of a previous TST from an employer, you do not need to have them use our form. They must, however, abide by the 10 day policy between placement of the first and second test.

****Remember: Varicella and MMR vaccines cannot be obtained until after the 2-step TB testing is completed.

After looking over the Minimum Submission Requirements form found under the Health Clearance link provided on this website, if you have questions about your specific situation, please bring all documents to a Health Services RN at your initial consultation appointment.

A criminal record may prevent students from continuing in a nursing program. Please see me if you have concerns about this.
Drug Screen and Background Check: See the Certified Background information sheet on this website for information on completing the drug screen and background check. **Start this as soon as possible.**

You are responsible for turning in completed copies of everything listed on the “Check-list of Forms to Turn In” **on the clearance date, which is Thursday January 11, 2018 at 5pm.** The consequence for failure to complete these requirements **may result in failure to proceed in the ADN program.**

**Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification:** ALL nursing students must have current certification from the American Heart Association (AHA) BLS for Healthcare Providers, which **may not lapse** during the four semesters of the program. You must register for one of the classes listed on the link provided on your Declaration of Intent form. The book and the BLS card will be included in the price of the class. The cost of the class is $55.00. **DO NOT BE LATE,** as you are already representing the MJC Nursing Program. Please wear comfortable and appropriate attire, as you will be bending over manikins.

**MODESTO:** Professional CPR 1620 N. Carpenter Rd. Modesto. Suite D57-A
- Tuesday, August 22nd, 2017, 8 am to 12 pm
- Wednesday, August 23rd, 2017, 8 am to 12 pm or 1 pm to 5 pm

**COLUMBIA:** Sonora Regional Medical Center; Education Department, 1000 Greenly Road, Sonora. You will be notified of cost and location when you submit your Declaration of Intent.
- Friday August 18th, 2017, 9 am - 1 pm.

**Health Stream modules:** See the link on this website to access information on completing the mandatory Health Stream modules. You will submit two certificates (Rapid Regulatory I and II) on the clearance date of **January 11, 2018 by 5 pm.** The cost of each module is $3.50.

**4. REGISTRATION FOR NURSING COURSES:**
Students must have daily access to a computer in their home. Please register for your nursing courses using our online system, PiratesNet at [www.mjc.edu](http://www.mjc.edu) **on your registration date.** Your name will be submitted to Enrollment Services by November 1st. Please do not try to register for classes until November 3rd or later. Your position will be held for you as long as we have received your Declaration of Intent. Your registration date is supplied to you by the college and sent to your school e-mail. When registering, you must set up your MJC student email account. This account will be used to notify you of important MJC information. Register for the following:
- **MNURSE 270; Section number 9270** Nursing Process: Pharmacology 2 units
- **MNURSE 271; Section number 9271** Nursing Process: Fundamentals 6.5 units
- **MNURSK 800; Section number 8000** Nursing Skills Development 0 units

**Your fees are due 10 days after you register.**

**5. COURSE INFORMATION, HOURS, AND LOCATION:**

Nursing Process: Fundamentals (MNURSE 271).
- **Skill sets** – Mondays & Tuesday 0830 to 1300 weeks 1-7. **Please Note:** for the first day of school, January 8th class will be from 0830 to 1600.
  Please refer to the calendar and skill set schedule on Canvas for specific dates.
**Modesto students**: Glacier Hall, Room 201, and the nursing skills lab.
- **Columbia students**: In Modesto for the first day of the semester (see calendar and schedule), and then, Columbia College: Redbud Room 17.

- **Skills lab** – In addition to class time, students are expected to spend 5-8 hours on their own time, practicing skills in the Skills Lab each week throughout the semester.

- **Theory** - Wednesdays 0830 am to 1155 am for the entire semester.
  - **Modesto students**: Glacier Hall, Room 201.
  - **Columbia students**: Columbia College: Redbud Room 17.

- **Clinical** – You must be flexible; you will be placed in a clinical rotation schedule at a local acute care facility. Your clinical days could be on Monday and/or Tuesday, but there is a possibility of Friday and/or Saturday. Times and places to be announced during or before the first three weeks of school.

**Nursing Process: Pharmacology** (MNURSE 270).
- Thursdays: 0830 am to 1045 am for the entire course
  - **Modesto students**: Glacier Hall, Room 201,
  - **Columbia satellite students**: Columbia College, Redbud Room 17.

6. **CANVAS**:
The N270 & N271 syllabi, course information, and calendars will be available for download and print from Canvas. You will be given instructions and an access date to download and print documents at New Student Orientation.

7. **TEXTBOOKS**:
Textbooks may be purchased at the Pirates Bookstore. You will find a list of the first semester textbooks you need to purchase on this website. Please note: the bookstore no longer accepts personal checks. Please call the bookstore at 575-6840 or look at their website for dates and times of operation. It is advised that you NOT purchase books until after orientation as you will be given a reading list with the first 2 weeks reading assignments. You will need to purchase the entire Book Bundle, which consists of both print and E-books, available through the bookstore beginning August 14th.

8. **UNIFORMS and SUPPLIES**:
The official ADN program uniform and patch must be purchased from Scrubs & Beyond. The store is located at 2225 Plaza Pkwy. Ste. C-15/16 Central Valley Plaza Modesto, CA. You may not substitute other uniform tops or pants, even if similar in appearance. Scrubs & Beyond have the item numbers for you to try on and order. Please be proactive in ordering uniforms as there is an approximate 3 weeks turn-around time for ordering, embroidering, and delivery. White leather shoes with closed toe and heel must be worn with the uniform. You must have your complete uniform by the date of your hospital orientation. Please refer to your student handbook for additional uniform information and you are welcome to ask questions at the orientation on December 18th, 2017.
In addition, you will be responsible for purchasing your own stethoscope and penlight. Scrubs & Beyond have both items in stock, but you may also purchase these items elsewhere.

I am excited to meet each of you as we embark on this journey together.

Laura E. DeFreitas, RN, MSN
First Semester Course Coordinator
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