



RURAL CALIFORNIA NURSING PRECEPTORSHIPS  
A Unique Clinical Nursing Experience That Builds Confidence & Competency

www.csuchico.edu/rcnp  
Chico State Enterprises  
Chico, California 95929-0301

## Clinical Faculty Student Assessment Form

*Please complete and SAVE on your desk top. ATTACH to an e-mail and SEND to: sclaiborne@csuchico.edu*

RCNP Applicant (Name): \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Current Semester: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

*Please rate applicant using a rating scale of 1-5, (1 signifies Weak; 5 signifies Strong)  
Compare the applicant to other students with a similar level of experience and exposure.  
The contents of your assessment will be held in strict confidence by the RCNP Office.*

Asks for help when needed..... \_\_\_\_\_

Ability to make sound judgments..... \_\_\_\_\_

Level of confidence..... \_\_\_\_\_

Communication Skills ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Accountability ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Ability to accept direction and suggestions..... \_\_\_\_\_

Ability to handle stress ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Level of self-awareness ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Showed improvement over the semester..... \_\_\_\_\_

Tolerance of other lifestyles, cultures, religions ..... \_\_\_\_\_

In which of applicant's nursing school semesters did you work with applicant in the clinical setting? \_\_\_\_\_ (please indicate semester number)

Comments (optional):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Professional Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



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# INFORMATION FOR FACULTY

## WHAT IS RCNP?

The Rural California Nursing Preceptorship (RCNP) program provides a unique experience for high functioning undergraduate nursing students. Designated preceptors work with students on a one-on-one basis. No academic credit is available.

## WHAT ROLE DOES FACULTY PLAY?

First and foremost, interested students are required to obtain Assessments from two clinical faculty members. Faculty insight into student performance is a critical part of the selection process. The RCNP Program Manager seeks students who are at the *top of their class*. RCNP is not a remediation program. In addition, desirable candidates: 1) work well with minimal supervision, 2) have strong clinical reasoning skills 3) are mature and accountable, 4) have a strong sense of self-awareness, and 5) are eager to learn and grow. In BSN programs, applicants are eligible who will be seniors at the time of participation. In ADN programs, applicants are eligible to participate when they will have completed 3 semesters or 4 quarters prior to participation.

## WHERE DOES RCNP PLACE STUDENTS?

Clinical experiences are provided in numerous facilities throughout Northern California. Placements are made in cities as far south as Bishop, in Inyo County, and northward up to the Oregon border. The territory is vast and offers great diversity in experiences and facilities.

## WHEN IS RCNP AVAILABLE?

Placements are available twice yearly. Students are placed during winter and summer breaks.

## WHAT TIME IS INVOLVED?

Most students complete their preceptorships in 4 weeks (150 hours). Students work full-time and normally work 12-hour shifts.

## WHO ARE THE PRECEPTORS?

Preceptors are professionals with a minimum of one year experience in their specialty area who have a desire to teach and mentor students. A preceptor can be an RN, (BSN or ADN graduate). They are selected by a supervisor or clinical educator at the chosen facility and are expected to be available to the student throughout the shift. Preceptors will

complete a written evaluation of the student at the end of the placement.

## HOW DO STUDENTS BENEFIT?

- Experience nursing and patient care in a less hectic, more student-friendly environment.
- Gain confidence and expertise in clinical skills.
- Explore the hospital culture in a rural or semi-rural facility in an area of California that may be of interest to the student.

## WHAT ARE THE COSTS TO THE STUDENT?

Depends on the placement of the student.

- Rural Hospitals: \$500
- Semi-Rural Hospitals: \$1000
- Suburban and Urban Hospitals: \$1800

## WHAT KINDS OF EXPERIENCES ARE AVAILABLE?

- *Acute Care Facilities* - Hospitals available in RCNP placement areas range in size from 25 – 370 beds. At the smaller sites, students will experience the multi-dimensional roles of the rural nurse and understand more fully the importance of cross-training.
- *Specialty Areas* – Include: Med/Surg, Peds, OB, ER, ICU/CCU, NICU, and OR. These areas offer students concentrated time in a specialty area where the student may have a strong interest. *Some specialties are only available in larger facilities.*

## WHAT IS RCNP's ROLE?

The RCNP Program Manager assists in identifying qualified preceptors. The Program Manager works with the students to help them achieve their learning objectives. In addition, an orientation, a mid-placement visit (done remotely for some locations), and continual telephone availability will be provided for each student.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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