



State of Maryland

**Maryland
Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems**

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Emergency Medical
Services Board*

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To: Deans and Directors
Maryland's Schools of Nursing

From: Theodore Delbridge, MD, MPH

Date: January 11, 2022

Re: Clinical Externs – Nursing

I am asking for your assistance in making your nursing students aware of an opportunity to be recognized as a clinical extern.

You may recall that earlier in the COVID-19 pandemic, with your help, we initiated a clinical extern program. It continued through the end of the governor's first state of emergency declaration. More than 1500 nursing students were ultimately credentialed. We believe that the vast majority accepted employment opportunities in the health care system at some point. We have heard from hospital leaders how valuable they were in helping to provide quality care.

In accordance with the new state of emergency declared by Governor Hogan on January 4, we are again authorized to credential clinical externs. The goal is to provide students with a credential that may be easily recognized by potential health care employers, facilitating matching the externs with appropriate opportunities for their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

To refresh your memory, attached please find the qualifications and associated competencies for Clinical Extern – NURS. Also attached is a letter for you to share with your students. It describes the application process. I am hoping you may be willing to distribute this letter or one of your own.

In advance, thank you very much for your support. If you have questions, I am available at tdelbridge@miemss.org. Logistical questions can also be addressed to Ms. Barbara Goff at bgoff@miemss.org. Both of us can be reached at 410 706-5074.

Thank you.

Enclosure

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
in collaboration with
The Deans and Directors of Maryland's Schools of Nursing

Clinical Extern / NURS

Qualifications & Criteria in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Credential	Qualifications	Anticipated General Competencies	Commensurate with:
Clinical Extern / NURS 1	Successful completion of Fundamentals or Foundations of Nursing course(s) including a first clinical experience	Vital Signs Intake and Output measurement Height and weight measurement Activities of Daily Living (ADL) care Mobility and transfer assistance Basic physical assessment Infection control/PPE	Certified Nursing Assistant
Clinical Extern / NURS 2	Successful completion of Basic and Intermediate Medical-Surgical nursing courses including lab skills and clinical experiences	All above-listed skills Comprehensive and focused physical assessment, reassessments Management of tubes and drains, tube feedings Ostomy care Glucometer checks Wound and dressing change treatments Medication administration including oral, nasogastric, ocular, otic, topical, inhalation, rectal, and vaginal routes. Also including subcutaneous and intramuscular injections. Also including basic IV fluid management; not including IV piggy back, IV push, blood product administration, and heparin or other medication drip infusions	Practical Nurse functioning under supervision of a registered nurse
Clinical Extern / NURS 3	Currently enrolled in and earning a passing grade for the final nursing curriculum courses with expectation of graduation at the end of the semester for entry into practice as a registered nurse	All above-listed skills Nursing care planning and management for stable medical-surgical patients, not intensive care patients, not sub-specialty patients such as pediatrics, maternal-newborn, or mental health.	[Almost] Nursing Graduate functioning under supervision of a registered nurse