

Policy Name: Clinical Attendance
Policy Number: IMG 8.11
Title of Policy Owner: Campus Director & Dean of Academic Affairs - SCHS
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I. Policy

It is the policy of Bon Secours Southside College of Health Sciences (SCHS) that students are expected to attend clinical assignments.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clinical hours, attendance tracking, rules regarding absences, and define penalties for policy infractions.

III. Scope

This policy applies to all Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography SCHS students.

IV. Definitions

None

V. Policy Details

Clinical Hours

Clinical hours are 7:00am - 4:30pm, unless otherwise indicated.

Students are expected to be ready to begin their clinical experience when they clock in (i.e., students assigned to the OR should be in OR scrubs before clocking in). Students should refrain from clocking in more than 7 minutes prior to the start of the clinical assignment; however, students who choose to clock-in early will not be allowed to end the clinical assignment early.

Variations

DMS clinical sites have variable start and end times and those times are noted at the bottom of the semester clinical schedule.

Clock-in/Clock-out Procedure

Students are required to follow policy RAD 8.09 for the clock-in and clock-out process.

Time Bank

Because illness or emergency situations occasionally make it impossible to attend clinical assignments, SCHS provides students a time bank of hours each DMS students are given 16 hours semester 2 and 24 hours semesters 3 & 4 semester that can be missed without incurring a penalty (see course syllabus for specific time bank allotments).

All time missed from clinical, regardless of the reason, will be deducted from the allotted time bank in increments of 15 minutes (rounded).

Time missed beyond allotted time back in a semester will impact the **semester** clinical grade as follows:

1. There is no penalty for time missed up to and including the stated time bank allotted for each semester.
2. An additional 7 hours and 59 minutes of time missed, student incurs a drop of one letter grade (highest numeric value of letter grade) and a written letter of warning is placed in the student file.
3. An additional 15 hours and 59 minutes of time missed, student incurs another drop of one letter grade (highest numeric value of letter grade) and a written letter stating probation for the remainder of the semester will be placed in the student's file.
4. An additional 24 hours or greater of time missed, student will automatically earn a final grade of "F" for clinical.

*Clinical records are updated weekly; therefore, student notification may be delayed, but does not nullify the incurred penalty.

Tracking Attendance

Student attendance is tracked through Trajecsyst, the College's clinical record system, and it is the student's responsibility to clock-in and clock-out through the Trajecsyst system, which is the only method of clock-in and clock-outs accepted. Failure to properly clock-in or clock-out through Trajecsyst will be treated as clinical time missed (tardy or absence). Only clock-ins and clock-outs recorded at the students' assigned clinical site will be accepted (i.e., if a student is scheduled at MRMC but clocks in at SMH, the time recorded will not be recognized).

Planned Absences

Students that know in advance that they are unable to attend a clinical assignment (i.e., unable to reschedule an appointment), should complete and submit a Clinical Time Off Request via Trajecsyst, at least one full clinical day prior to the day requesting off. The Program Clinical Coordinator or designee will then approve or disapprove the request. Students can view the status of a Clinical Time Off Request through their Trajecsyst account.

Students who wish to observe a religious holiday that will conflict with clinical assignments will follow the policy as stated above.

Unplanned Absences

Students who are going to be absent from a clinical assignment and have not completed a Clinical Time Off Request and received approval, (i.e., woke up sick) must notify the Clinical Coordinator or designee and the clinical site prior to the start time of the clinical assignment. Students must follow the procedure identified below:

1. Affiliated Clinical Site

Students are required to call the clinical site and inform them of their absence and obtain the name of the person they informed.

2. School via e-mail:

Students are required to email the Program Clinical Coordinator and inform them of their full name, their absence, their clinical assignment location, and the name of person they informed at the clinical site.

Leaving Early

The only acceptable reasons for leaving early from a clinical assignment are an illness or emergency. Any other cause for early departure from the clinical assignment requires pre-approval from the College (see above for planned absences). Students needing to leave for illness or an emergency, must follow the procedure identified below:

1. Affiliated Clinical Site

Students are required to notify a Clinical Preceptor or Supervisor at assigned clinical site that they need to leave early due to sickness or an emergency.

2. School via e-mail:

Students are required to email the Program Clinical Coordinator and inform them of their full name, their need to leave early and reason why, their clinical assignment location, and the name of the person they informed at the clinical site.

Failure to follow proper procedure for notifying the College or clinical site for both calling in or leaving early will result in an unexcused absence.

Sanctions for Unexcused Absence(s)

Unexcused absences are accumulated for the entire length of program.

An unexcused absence has occurred when the student fails to notify the College and/or clinical site of an absence or leaving early according to the preceding absence or leaving early procedure. Occurrences remain a part of the student's permanent record throughout the entirety of the program.

Also, a clock-out that occurs prior to end of a scheduled clinical assignment, without prior approval, will result in the student losing time from their will be from the time of the clock out to their scheduled end time.

Sanctions for unexcused absences are as follows:

1. First occurrence; a written letter of warning.
2. Second occurrence; 5-point deduction from the final clinical grade and a written letter stating probation for the remainder of the semester in which the second violation occurred.
3. Third occurrence; student automatically earns a final grade of "F" for the clinical course in the semester in which the violation occurred.

Tardiness

A student who is going to be late for a clinical assignment due to an unforeseen circumstance must:

1. Notify the clinical site by phone.
2. If circumstances change and the student determines they will not be able to attend clinical, the student must follow the procedure for an unplanned absence.

Sanctions for Tardiness

If a student arrives after the start time of their clinical assignment or arrives late from meal break, the time missed will be deducted from the allotted time bank in increments of 15 minutes. Example: A clock in that occurs between 8:01am-8:14am: 15 minutes is deducted from the student's time bank and the student incurs a tardy for that semester. Late arrival will also result in a documented tardy. Also, **any missed punches will be treated as a tardy** and subject to the sanctions below.

Sanctions for tardy incidents are as follows:

1. First and second tardy incidents in one semester are documented.
2. Third tardy incident in one semester will result in a written letter of warning.
3. Fourth tardy incident in one semester will result in a drop of one letter grade (highest numeric value of letter grade) and a written letter of warning.
4. Fifth tardy incident in one semester will result in automatically earning a final grade of "F" for the clinical course.

VI. Attachments

None

VII. Related Policies

RAD 8.10 Clinical Leave

VIII. Disclaimers

Nothing in this policy creates a contractual relationship between Bon Secours Southside College of Health Sciences (SCHS) and any party. SCHS, in its sole discretions, reserves the right to amend, terminate or discontinue this policy at any time, with or without advance notice.

IX. Version Control

Version	Date	Description	Prepared by
1.0	7/1/2022	New Template & Revisions	Program Coordinator
2.0	6/8/2023	New Template & New Numbering	Program Coordinator
2.1	8/21/2024	Compliance Update	CDDAA
3.0	3/21/2025	New Template & Revisions	CDDAA