

Henry Ford College
Nursing Program Admission Advisement
Clinical and Classroom Requirements and Recommended Time Management

The classroom and clinical requirements of the Henry Ford College (HFC) Nursing Program are very time consuming and demanding. Every semester involves clinical requirements. Clinical is required time spent in health care agencies where students engage in learning experiences that allow application of learned material. This means that you will be taking care of real clients. If a student fails to follow agency policies and procedures and, therefore, is released from the agency, the student will also be released from the corresponding nursing course. Thus, they cannot complete the clinical course requirement and would fail the course. It is critical that you are rested, alert, focused and prepared. Our agency partners expect this, the client expects this, the client's family expects this and the HFC Nursing Program expects this. Client safety is impacted by a student's physical well-being, emotional well-being, as well as their ability to transfer skills and knowledge. It is typical to have six and one half (1st semester) and thirteen (2nd – 4th semesters) hours of clinical time per week scheduled.

Additionally, the expectation for study is that each student spends two (2) study hours for every classroom hour. It is common to have eight (1st semester) and seven (2nd – 4th semesters) content hours per week scheduled. If you add the associated study time for seven content hours, a student should schedule another 14 hours into their weekly planning. For example, second semester Nursing courses total 11 credit hours, this includes 6 in-class content hours, 1 online content hour, and 13 clinical hours. Your credit hour fee does not equal the total required content and clinical hours. In such a case, the hours expected are as follows:

7 content hours you attend on typically two different days a week plus online course

work, plus 14 study hours, plus

13 clinical hours you attend typically on two different days or nights each week (one clinical day first semester only), plus 4 hours for any practice hours, travel time, and other program requirements

Total = 38 hours per week

Students are not advised to work throughout the program of study and if they do so, for reasons stated above, work hours should be minimal. We want you to realize the commitment that is necessary and expected of you once you enter the HFC Nursing Program. Please consider this when making personal decisions.

Clinical placements are not flexible. Agency placements are within one hour driving time from the HFC campus. Academic factors are considered when clinical assignments are made, student preferences are not. The Nursing Program cannot arrange clinical rotations around personal schedules. Clinical assignments are typically Monday through Friday on a day or evening shift. Some rotations are on weekends. Students are expected to be available for clinical rotations between 6:00 am and 12:00 midnight.