

**NATIONAL STUDENT NURSES  
ASSOCIATION**



**MERCY COLLEGE OF OHIO  
HANDBOOK**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Mercy College of Ohio Student Nurses Association.

## **ARTICLE II - Purpose and Function**

### **Section 1. Purpose**

**A.** To assume responsibility for contributing to nursing education in order to provide for the highest quality of health care.

**B.** To provide programs representative of fundamental interests and concerns to nursing students.

**C.** To aid in the development of the whole person, including his/her professional role, his/her responsibility for health care of people in all walks of life.

### **Section 2. Function**

**A.** To have direct input into standards of nursing education and influence the education process.

**B.** To influence health care, nursing education and practice through legislative activities as appropriate.

**C.** To promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards health care and the resolution of related social issues.

**D.** To represent nursing students to the consumer, to institutions, and other organizations.

**E.** To promote and encourage students' participation in interdisciplinary activities.

**F.** To promote and encourage recruitment efforts, participation in student activities, and educational opportunities regardless of a person's race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, marital status, lifestyle, disability or economic status.

**G.** To promote and encourage collaborative relationships with nursing and health related organizations.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERS**

### **Section 1. School Constituent**

**A.** School constituent membership is composed of active or associate members who are members of the NSNA and the state association when one exists.

**B.** (School association) shall be composed of at least 10 members from (school) or the total school enrollment if less than 10. There shall be only one chapter on this school campus.

**C.** For yearly recognition as a constituent, an officer of the (school association) shall submit annually the Official Application for NSNA Constituency Status which shall include the following areas of conformity: purpose and functions, membership, dues, and representation.

**D.** A constituent association that fails to comply with the bylaws and policies of NSNA shall have its status as a constituent revoked by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors, provided that written notice of the proposed revocation has been given at least two months prior to the vote and the constituent association is given an opportunity to be heard.

**E.** (School association) is an entity separate and apart from NSNA and its administration of activities, with NSNA and (state association) exercising no supervision or control over these immediate daily and regular activities. NSNA and (state) have no liability for any loss, damages, or injuries sustained by third parties as a result of the negligence or acts of (school association) or the members thereof. In the event any legal proceedings are brought against NSNA and (state association), (school association) will indemnify and hold harmless the NSNA and (state association) from any liability.

## **Section 2. Categories of Constituent Membership**

**Members of the constituent associations shall be:**

### **A. Active members:**

1. Students enrolled in state approved programs leading to licensure as a registered nurse.
2. Registered nurses enrolled in programs leading a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.
3. Active members shall have all the privileges of membership.

### **B. Associate members:**

1. Pre-nursing students, including registered nurses, enrolled in college or university programs designed as preparation for entrance into a program leading to an associate degree, diploma or baccalaureate degree in nursing.

**\*\*Associate members shall have all of the privileges of membership except the right to hold office as president or vice president at state and national levels..**

## **Section 3.**

**Active and associate NSNA membership may be extended six months beyond graduation from a student's program in nursing, providing membership was renewed while the student was enrolled in a nursing program.**

## **ARTICLE IV. - Board of Directors**

### **Section 1. Composition**

**A.** The Board of Directors will consist of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Projects Chairperson, and Newsletter Correspondent.

## **Section 2. Responsibilities**

### **A. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for:**

1. Transacting business of the association between membership meetings and shall report such transactions at the next regularly scheduled membership meeting.
2. Filling vacancies in any office by two-thirds majority vote of Board of Directors except the office of President.
3. Reviewing monetary disbursements, acquisitions and fund raising activities and shall be responsible for procuring persons for audit of all accounts on an annual basis.

**Section 3. Quorum.** A quorum for the board meetings shall be the president, vice president, three other board members and one faculty advisor.

**Section 4.** Duties of the Board of Directors shall consist of:

### **A. President**

1. Shall preside at all meetings of this association, appoint special committee as needed, perform all other duties pertaining to the office and represent this association in all matters to the local state nurses association, the local league for nursing, state nursing student association, National Student Nurses' Association, and other professional and student organizations.
2. Shall serve as chairperson of the Board of Directors

### **B. Vice President**

1. Shall assume responsibility of the office of President in the event of the vacancy occurring in the office until the next regular election.
2. Shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President.
3. Shall assist the President as delegated and act as advisor to the President.

### **C. Secretary**

1. Shall record and distribute the minutes of all meetings of this association as directed by the President.
2. Shall keep on file as a permanent record all reports, papers and documents submitted to the Secretary.
3. Refer to duly appointed committees the necessary records for the completion of business.
4. Forward minutes to the state nursing student association board as well as the names and addresses of all officers and committee chairpersons after their election or appointment.
5. Deliver to the newly elected Secretary all association papers.

### **D. Treasurer**

1. Shall serve as chairperson of the budget/finance committee.
2. Submit financial reports to the membership as directed by President.
3. Prepare financial reports submitted at the monthly Board of Directors Meeting.
- 4.. Remit payment for approved debits according to the following:
  - a) Disbursement of Funds**
    1. Requests for disbursement of funds shall be made in writing to the Board of Directors.
    2. No funds will be disbursed without prior approval.

### **E. Projects Chairperson**

1. Serves as chairperson of Projects committee.
2. Attend student activities council meetings.
3. Be accountable to the membership for notification of pending student activities.

## **Section 5. Absences**

- A.** Members of the Board of Directors who have missed more than two regularly scheduled meetings of any current term year without prior notification to the Board of Directors and who offer no valid reason for such absences may be removed from office by a plurality vote of the current membership present at the next scheduled meeting. The officer in question will be

notified in advance of the meeting.

- B.** An officer may also be removed from office by a plurality vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting called for that purpose if that officer is deemed negligent in the functions of that office as stated in these bylaws.
- C.** Prior notification of two weeks shall be given to the individual in question and a special Board of Directors meeting shall be held to review the circumstances.

## **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

### **Section 1. Membership Meetings**

- A.** Meeting dates shall be set by a plurality vote of members present at each previous meeting.
- B.** Meeting location and time will be voted on and approved by a plurality vote of members present and voting at each previous meeting.
- C.** The President shall have the authority to convene a special meeting as such time as is deemed necessary and shall notify the general membership of such meeting, location, and time.

National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.  
Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct

PREAMBLE

Students of nursing have a responsibility to society in learning the academic theory and clinical skills needed to provide nursing care. The clinical setting presents unique challenges and responsibilities while caring for human beings in a variety of health care environments. The Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct is based on an understanding that to practice nursing as a student is an agreement to uphold the trust with which society has placed in us. The statements of the Code provide guidance for the nursing student in the personal development of an ethical foundation and need not be limited strictly to the academic or clinical environment but can assist in the holistic development of the person.

A CODE FOR NURSING STUDENTS

As students are involved in the clinical and academic environments we believe that ethical principles are a necessary guide to professional development. Therefore within these environments

we;

1. Advocate for the rights of all clients.
2. Maintain client confidentiality.
3. Take appropriate action to ensure the safety of clients, self, and others.
4. Provide care for the client in a timely, compassionate and professional manner.
5. Communicate client care in a truthful, timely and accurate manner.
6. Actively promote the highest level of moral and ethical principles and accept responsibility for our actions.
7. Promote excellence in nursing by encouraging lifelong learning and professional development.
8. Treat others with respect and promote an environment that respects human rights, values and choice of cultural and spiritual beliefs.
9. Collaborate in every reasonable manner with the academic faculty and clinical staff to ensure the highest quality of client care
- 10.

Use every opportunity to improve faculty and clinical staff understanding of the learning needs of nursing students.

11.

Encourage faculty, clinical staff, and peers to mentor nursing students.

12.

Refrain from performing any technique or procedure for which the student has not been adequately trained.

13.

Refrain from any deliberate action or omission of care in the academic or clinical setting that creates unnecessary risk of injury to the client, self, or others.

14.

Assist the staff nurse or preceptor in ensuring that there is full disclosure and that proper authorizations are obtained from clients regarding any form of treatment or research.

15.

Abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages or any substances in the academic and clinical setting that impair judgment.

16.

Strive to achieve and maintain an optimal level of personal health.

17.

Support access to treatment and rehabilitation for students who are experiencing impairments

related to substance abuse and mental or physical health issues.

18.

Uphold school policies and regulations related to academic and clinical performance, reserving

the right to challenge and critique rules and regulations as per school grievance policy



I, \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day, in the \_\_\_\_\_ month, and in the year \_\_\_\_\_, here by acknowledge and will abide to the above rules, regulation and by-laws of the Mercy College of Ohio National Student Nurses Association.