

March 21, 2025

To: Academic Nursing Program Partners

From: MedStar Health, Nursing Academic-Practice Partnerships

Subject: **DC Board of Nursing Suspension of Clinical Placements for Distance Learning Programs**

We recently learned that on January 8, 2025, The DC Board of Nursing (DCBON) issued an immediate suspension of clinical placements for distance learning programs. During the DCBON meeting on March 5, 2025, this suspension was clarified as impacting **all distance learning programs not already approved** to operate in the District of Columbia. A distance learning program is defined by the DCBON as any program where the didactic component of the course is administered online.

This suspension is effective as of January 8, 2025, and will continue until further notice.

**Suspension Directive:** *“Nursing education subcommittee upon review of applications providing distance learning and clinical placement of nursing students from higher learning institutions not approved to operate within the District of Columbia is recommending suspending distance learning until a comprehensive review of Title 17, DCMR, Chapter 56, Section 5611 has been conducted.”*

**Key Points to Note:**

- According to the guidance received from the DCBON March 5, 2025 open session, clinical placements in progress, even those recently halted, and those confirmed (and not started) for Spring semester 2025 will be permitted to continue. However, academic partners are required to contact Dr. Jacqueline Newsome at [jacqueline.newsome-williams@dc.gov](mailto:jacqueline.newsome-williams@dc.gov) to ensure compliance and confirm approval. Consider including [education.bon@dc.gov](mailto:education.bon@dc.gov) in your email.
- All distance learning clinical placements scheduled for after the Spring 2025 semester, whether previously approved or pending by MedStar Health, are suspended until further notice.
- As a result of this directive, MedStar Health requires academic partners receive written confirmation of approval from the DCBON before student placement is requested. Proof of confirmation must be included with student placement request that is submitted to MedStar Health
- Confirmations can be sent to the MedStar Health Washington, DC entity coordinator you are working with for faster turnaround or email them to [academicpartnerships@medstar.net](mailto:academicpartnerships@medstar.net).

For more information, please refer to the official DC Health website at <https://dchealth.dc.gov/bon>. Here is a direct link to DCBON’s open meeting minutes: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/event/board-nursing-monthly-meeting-agenda>.

Please direct any questions about MedStar Health’s requirements to our team at [academicpartnerships@medstar.net](mailto:academicpartnerships@medstar.net).