

Preceptorship is an option for accelerated and traditional undergraduate nursing students during their final semester of the program. Instead of completing their clinical hours for NURS 476/482, students can apply to complete a preceptorship clinical. With this model, students are paired one-on-one with a registered nurse to get more hands-on experience and become more familiar with the nursing role. Eligible students will receive information on how and when to apply.

Each semester, preceptorship students will have the opportunity to nominate their nurse preceptor for the Preceptor Excellence Award. Excellent preceptors are those who promote critical thinking, provide students with practical, constructive feedback, enable critical decision-making, and model evidence-based practice.

Preceptor Excellence Award Winner Spring 2026



Kaitlyn Arlt, from St. Luke's Hospital, was nominated and voted as the recipient of the Preceptor Excellence for the Spring 2026 Semester! Her student nurse, Alaina Taylor, had this to say about her:

Kaitlyn embodies the strengths of an ideal preceptor. Since the first day on the unit, Kaitlyn has been nothing but welcoming and kind. She provides me with opportunities for growth, allowing me to complete any skill within my scope that I feel comfortable with. When performing patient assessments or discussing care, she will ask me what I think and we will discuss what we believe the patient needs to enable critical decision making. Not only does she answer questions about patient care that I may have, she invites me to see other patients on the unit with her that require procedures or use new equipment to help me learn. When in my critical care class, she would ask what I was learning and provided me with their unit ICU education book and explained how equipment like CRRT works. I never feel afraid to ask a question, and I've never felt like I was an obstacle in her workflow. She treats me as an individual, rather than just a student who was assigned to her. Kaitlyn is also very intelligent and wonderful with patients. I admire how she involves the family in every step of care and uses great therapeutic communication. I look forward to going to each clinical day, knowing that I will be utilizing my skills and working with an amazing preceptor. She is also a very funny person, and I thoroughly enjoy talking to her. I am very grateful for everything she has helped me with, and her guidance has made me confident to start my nursing career!

We are grateful for nursing preceptors, like Kaitlyn, who dedicate their time and expertise to helping our students thrive. Congratulations to Kaitlyn!