

Background Check Information for Applicants

Thank you for your interest in the De Anza College nursing program. As you are aware, if you are accepted in the program, you will be required to complete both coursework and the clinical placement/ preceptorship requirements in order to participate in the program and to graduate.

The De Anza College nursing program is a comprehensive program that consists of both classroom work and real work experience through clinical placements and preceptorships. To successfully complete the De Anza College nursing program, a student must satisfy both the class work component of the program as well as the clinical placement/ preceptorship component of the program.

A growing number of the hospitals and clinics that host student nurses require a background/drug check of all students. The background/drug checks are mandated by these hospitals. As such, the hospitals determine what information may exclude a student from participating in a clinical rotation or preceptorship at their location. Information that may exclude a student includes certain felony convictions, Medicare/ Medi-Cal fraud, sex offender/predator charges, drug usage and/or sanctions by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General. (Please see the Nursing Board's webpage at www.rn.ca.gov for further guidance.)

Please be aware that a hospital may reject you for the information contained in a background/drug check on you, thus preventing you from being placed in that clinical placement or preceptorship. You may not be able to successfully complete the De Anza College nursing program, and therefore not graduate.

If you have any concerns regarding the information such a background/drug check may disclose about you, please consider that such information could preclude you from participating in a clinical placement or preceptorship. If the student record is not clear, it is the student's responsibility to obtain further documentation to have the record corrected. Receipt of a background check that reveals criminal or other problematic history may result in: a) rejection from particular placements; b) a possible change in the planned placement and/or: c) not locating a placement at all, which would prevent you from completing the nursing program at De Anza College. **Please note that De Anza College is not required to provide a clinical placement other than those contracted for the particular specialty.**

Please also be advised that background checks are a component of licensure by the California Board of Registered Nurses. Completing and graduating from the nursing program does not guarantee licensure. The authority of the California Board of Registered Nurses to issue RN licenses is beyond the scope of the De Anza College's control or authority.