

CAROLINAS COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Section II - Academic/Student

SUBJECT: ACADEMIC AND GRADUATION AWARDS

REVIEWER(S): Dean of Student *Affairs* and Enrollment Management*
Provost

I. POLICY

Students enrolled in for-credit healthcare programs *and general studies* will receive formal commendation from the college for commendable semester and final grade point averages.

II. PROCEDURE:

A. Dean's List

1. Upon receipt of final semester grades, the registrar will calculate each student's semester grade point average based on a 4.00 scale.
2. The grade point average will reflect courses taken that semester at CCHS.
3. The registrar will generate the Dean's List comprised of students who were pursuing at least 6 credit hours at CCHS during the semester, and earned a semester grade point average of 3.50 *or better*.
4. The list will be forwarded to:
 - a) The provost.
 - b) Program directors.
 - c) The *college newsletter* for publication in the next edition.
 - d) Dean of student *affairs* and enrollment management for press releases.
5. The registrar will generate certificates of recognition for each student on the Dean's List. Certificates will be signed by the provost and deans and directors and be sent/presented to the students.
6. A notation of the award will appear on the student transcript.

B. Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society for two-year *colleges*, is open to exceptionally qualified students. Each candidate for membership must have completed 12 semester hours of associate degree coursework at Carolinas College with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25, be enrolled in an associate degree program, adhere to school conduct code, and possess recognized qualities of *good* citizenship.

C. Graduation Honors

1. Students with cumulative GPA of 3.24 or better will receive honors notations on their transcripts and at graduation as follows:
 - a) Cum Laude 3.24 - 3.499
 - b) Magna Cum Laude 3.50 - 3.749
 - c) Summa Cum Laude 3.75 - 4.00

D. Other Graduation Recognition

1. Histotechnology Program - The Golden Forceps Award is presented annually to an HTL graduate who best demonstrates academic achievement, clinical performance, leadership potential, and community service.
2. Medical Laboratory Science Program
 - a) The Charles U. Mauney Achievement Award is given annually to the graduating student with the highest scholastic achievement in microbiology.
 - b) The Spirit of Excellence Award is given annually to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence in clinical performance, service to the community, leadership potential, and scholastic achievement.

3. School of Nursing - The following awards may be given, as determined by course faculty:
 - a) Excellence in Acute Clinical Concepts Nursing Award is given to the graduating senior nursing student that demonstrates commendable nursing practice based upon the understanding of complex pathophysiology to include:
 - 1) Theory grade.
 - 2) Critical thinking clinical decision making skills.
 - 3) Incorporation of pharmacokinetics into their practice.
 - 4) *Identification of and response to* the psychosocial needs of the *patient* and family in the critical care setting.
 - 5) Open *participation* in the preceptorship seminar.
 - 6) Excellent teaching skills demonstrated during the community project and poster display.
 - 7) Excellent time management skills in the clinical setting and throughout Nursing 202.
 - b) Excellence in Adult Health Nursing Award is given to the graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical *and who*:
 - 1) *Earns commendable* theory grades.
 - 2) Exemplifies professional behavior and works in collaboration with peers, faculty, nursing staff, and *patients*.
 - 3) Shows initiative and seeks learning experiences in the clinical setting and demonstrates the ability to apply theory to practice.
 - 4) Excels in communication, both verbally and in written formats.
 - 5) Exhibits a caring, holistic and compassionate attitude when delivering *patient* care.
 - 6) Recognizes and responds to *patients'* and families' learning needs.
 - 7) Functions as a patient advocate in an interdisciplinary environment.
 - c) Excellence in Behavioral Health Nursing Award is given to the graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical and best exemplifies the core components of nursing practice in behavioral health. *Criteria include*:
 - 1) Professional behaviors - treats patients with dignity and respect, protects *patients'* rights, maintains strict confidentiality, dresses appropriately, completes all assignments on time.
 - 2) Communication - makes "contact" with his/her patients during the clinical day.
 - 3) Assessment - completes mental status assessments.
 - 4) Clinical decision making - turns in exemplary care map.
 - 5) Caring interventions - demonstrates self-awareness and ability to meet one's own needs.
 - 6) Teaching and learning - provides appropriate feedback during group process, instructs patients about their medication and/or disease.
 - 7) Collaboration - attends multidisciplinary meeting, reports significant information to staff in a timely manner and seeks assistance when appropriate.
 - 8) Managing care - prepares adequately for clinical and is knowledgeable about *patient's* condition.
 - 9) Commendable theory grade.
 - d) Excellence in Child-Adolescent Health Nursing Award is given to the graduating nursing student *who* exemplifies the core components of nursing practice in child-adolescent health *as evidenced by*:
 - 1) Commendable theory grade.
 - 2) Critical thinking/clinical decision-making skills.
 - 3) Ability to identify and act upon the psychosocial needs of the *patient* and family.
 - 4) Excellent teaching skills demonstrated during both the clinical experience as well as the clinical writing assignment presentation.
 - 5) Excellent time management skills in the clinical setting.
 - e) Excellence in Maternal-Neonatal Nursing Award is given to the graduating nursing student who exhibits commendable performance in theory and clinical as demonstrated by:
 - 1) Theory grade.

- 2) Critical thinking and clinical decision-making skills.
 - 3) Appropriate nursing interventions to meet the psychosocial needs of *patients* and families.
 - 4) Excellent teaching skills appropriate to *patients* and families in all four clinical areas of maternal-neonatal health.
 - 5) Creativity in post-conference presentation of journal article.
 - 6) Excellent time management skills in the clinical area.
- f) Leadership Award is given to the graduating nursing student *who* demonstrates leadership and management qualities which include:
- 1) Service as a board member or committee chair for SNA, SGA, Phi Theta Kappa *Student Ambassadors, or a college committee.*
 - 2) Leadership skills within *one or more of those* organizations.
 - 3) Effective collaboration with peers and faculty to accomplish tasks of the organization or committee.
 - 4) Facilitation *of* group cohesiveness and decision-making within the organization or committee.
 - 5) Exhibits role model behaviors:
 - ~ well respected by peers and faculty;
 - ~ able to clearly communicate with individuals and the large group;
 - ~ interaction with others exemplified ethical and professional standards of nursing;
 - ~ Scored above average in the NUR 202 group project.
4. Radiologic Technology Program
- a) The Spirit of Excellence Award recognizes strengths in areas such as leadership, motivation, and perseverance.
 - b) The Highest Scholastic Achievement Award recognizes the student who achieves the highest GPA. *In a tie, the number of credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program personnel will determine additional criteria.*
5. School of Surgical Technology
- a) The Perioperative Award is given to the graduating student who the faculty has determined best exemplifies the role of a surgical technologist by:
 - 1) Demonstrating clinical competence.
 - 2) Exhibiting the ideals and professional attitude that promotes responsibility as a health care provider.
 - b) The Highest Scholastic Achievement Award is given to the graduating student with the highest grade point average. *In a tie, the number of credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program personnel will determine additional criteria of outstanding scholarship.*
6. Radiation Therapy Program
- The *Levine Cancer Institute Academic Excellence Award* is given to the graduating student who has earned the highest overall GPA in program-specific clinical and didactic courses. *In a tie, total credit hours attempted will be considered. If still tied, program faculty will determine additional criteria.*
7. General Education
- The Excellence in General *Studies* Award is given to up to two graduating students who exhibit commendable performance related to one or more of the four general education learning outcomes. Nominations for and selection of the awardees are made by general education faculty members.
- E. Other awards and recognition may be given as deemed appropriate and agreed upon by the college leadership team.

F. Awards will be announced during an appropriate graduation event. Recipients will receive a recognition denoting the award.

G. The Academic and Graduation Awards Policy will be reviewed bi-annually.

III. APPROVAL

Name: _____ Title: President Date: _____