

UAMS College of Nursing

JULY PRECEPTOR *Newsletter*



NEW PRECEPTOR HUB



The UAMS College of Nursing is excited to announce the launch of its new **Preceptor Hub**, a centralized online resource designed to support current and prospective preceptors throughout their preceptorship experience.

The Preceptor Hub provides easy access to essential information, including how to become a preceptor, eligibility requirements, and a comprehensive Preceptor Handbook. It also features a variety of professional development resources, such as free continuing education modules, national preceptor training programs, and the monthly UAMS College of Nursing Preceptor Newsletter.

In addition, the hub highlights the many benefits of serving as a UAMS preceptor, including opportunities for adjunct faculty status, access to preceptor-focused educational events, monthly newsletters, verification of preceptorship hours, and guidance on using the Typhon clinical tracking system.

Preceptors are vital to preparing the next generation of advanced practice registered nurses by providing meaningful clinical learning experiences that bridge classroom knowledge with patient care. The Preceptor Hub was created to make it easier than ever for preceptors to access the resources, support, and recognition they deserve.

We invite current and future preceptors to explore the new Preceptor Hub and discover the tools available to enhance the preceptorship experience.



Understanding Our Nursing Pathways. As a preceptor, you play an important role in preparing the next generation of nurses and advanced practice providers. The UAMS College of Nursing offers a variety of educational pathways designed to support students at every stage of their professional journey. The guide below provides a quick overview of our degree programs based on current qualifications and career goals, helping you better understand the educational pathways available to the learners you mentor.

Current Qualifications	Career Goal	Recommended UAMS College of Nursing Program
High school diploma or some college credit	Earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and become a registered nurse	Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) – Little Rock campus
Bachelor's degree or higher in a field other than nursing (not a registered nurse)	Earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and become a registered nurse	Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) – UAMS Northwest Regional Campus (Fayetteville)
Registered nurse (RN) license without a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)	Earn a master's degree in nursing administration or case management	RN-to-Master of Nursing Science (MNSc)
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and registered nurse (RN) license	Earn a graduate degree to become a nurse administrator, nurse educator, nurse	Master of Nursing Science (MNSc)

	practitioner, or nurse-midwife	
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and registered nurse (RN) license	Begin preparation to become an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)	Post-BSN-to-Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and registered nurse (RN) license	Earn a research-focused doctoral degree	Post-BSN-to-Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Nursing
Master's degree in nursing and current advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) certification	Obtain a second nurse practitioner specialty certification without earning another degree	Post-Graduate Certificate Program
Master's degree in nursing and current advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) certification	Prepare for advanced leadership roles or earn certification in a new advanced practice registered nurse specialty	Post-Master's-to-Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
Master's degree in nursing and registered nurse (RN) license	Earn a research-focused doctoral degree	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Nursing

PRECEPTOR SPOTLIGHT

Outstanding Preceptor - Heather Heady



The UAMS College of Nursing is proud to recognize Heather Heady, Family Nurse Practitioner, as a valued

Student Testimony -Jennifer Cooper

Heather Heady, FNP, is my preceptor at Mercy Women's Health Clinic in Carthage, Missouri. During this rotation, I have had the opportunity to care for women across the lifespan with a wide range of gynecologic, obstetric, and reproductive health concerns. I have gained experience performing comprehensive women's health assessments, developing differential diagnoses, and participating in the evaluation and management of common conditions, preventive care, contraception counseling, menopause management, and routine well-woman visits. This

preceptor for the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program. Heather has made history as the program's first preceptor in the neighboring state of Missouri, expanding clinical learning opportunities for our students and strengthening partnerships beyond Arkansas.

Heather currently practices with Mercy Health, where she specializes in women's health. Drawing from her previous experience in primary care, she provides comprehensive, patient-centered care while bringing a broad clinical perspective to the education of future nurse practitioners. Her diverse background allows students to gain valuable experience in health promotion, disease prevention, chronic disease management, and women's health across the lifespan.

As a preceptor, Heather is committed to creating a supportive learning environment that encourages students to build confidence, strengthen clinical reasoning, and develop the skills needed to provide compassionate, evidence-based care. She generously shares her knowledge and professional experiences, helping students bridge the gap between classroom learning and clinical practice.

The expansion of clinical partnerships into Missouri represents an exciting milestone for the UAMS College of Nursing. Heather's willingness to serve as the inaugural Missouri preceptor for the FNP Program reflects her dedication to advancing the nurse practitioner profession and investing in the next generation of advanced practice providers.

We are grateful for Heather's commitment to student learning and clinical excellence. Her mentorship exemplifies the vital role preceptors play in preparing highly skilled family

rotation has strengthened my clinical reasoning and increased my confidence in applying evidence-based guidelines to patient care. Heather has fostered a supportive learning environment by remaining open to thoughtful clinical discussion and providing valuable teaching that has enhanced my knowledge and confidence as I continue to develop as a future Family Nurse Practitioner.



nurse practitioners to serve patients and communities throughout the region.

Do you know someone who would be a great preceptor?

Support the Next Generation:
Preceptor Inquiry



Preceptorship goes beyond instruction—it is a partnership that promotes growth for both the preceptor and the student. Preceptors provide opportunities for real-world clinical experiences that simultaneously enhance students' leadership, communication, and clinical reasoning skills. It reinforces best practices, promotes reflection, and encourages continuous professional development for both the student and preceptor.

Preceptors play a pivotal role in shaping the future of nurse practitioner practice by fostering mentorship that develops clinical decision-making, builds confidence, and increases competence needed for advanced practice. In addition to positively affecting future nurse practitioner providers, precepting allows for academic recognition and professional opportunities, including adjunct roles, networking, and access to educational resources.

Free Online Education Modules

Explore on-demand CE modules designed to strengthen your teaching skills.

Mastering Feedback

Novice to Competent

Prime NP

Time Management During Preceptorship

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