

**Manhattan Area Technical College
Institutional Policy and Procedure Manual
Division of Nursing Policy and Procedure**

Policy 5.1.7

Title: Nursing Program Clinical Compliance Screening	
Originated by: Director of Nursing Education	Originated Date: 7/29/2026
All Faculty Approval Date: 8/5/2026	
Revised by:	Revised Date:
Reviewed on:	

Policy Statement:

All students accepted into a Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC) Nursing Program must complete a criminal background check and negative drug screening through the designated vendor prior to beginning the nursing program. Acceptance into the program remains provisional until the criminal background check has been received and reviewed and a negative drug screening result has been verified. Students who do not meet these requirements are not eligible to begin the program or participate in required clinical learning experiences.

Rationale:

Ensuring the safety of patients, clients, students, and the healthcare environment is essential to nursing education. Criminal background checks and drug screenings are required to determine eligibility for admission, clinical placement, certification, and/or professional licensure. MATC complies with applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding the use and detection of drugs. Clinical agencies and regulatory bodies reserve the right to deny or restrict student participation in clinical experiences based on criminal background findings or the inability to provide verification of a negative drug screening.

Procedure:

1. All students accepted into the Associate Degree Nursing (AND) and Practical Nursing (PN) programs must complete a criminal background check and drug screening through the designated vendor identify by the Nursing Department.
2. Students must complete the required criminal background check and receive a negative drug screening result or Medical Review Officer (MRO) clearance within six weeks prior to the start of the nursing program.
3. Information regarding the designated vendor and required process will be provided during the Nursing Department Program Orientation prior to the start of classes.
4. Students are responsible for scheduling and payment of the required criminal background check and drug screening.

5. Students must sign the required release authorizing the designated vendor to provide criminal background check and drug screening results to the Director of Nursing Education or designee.
6. Criminal background check results will be reviewed by the Director of Nursing Education, Program Coordinator, and/or designee.
7. If a student receives a positive drug screening result, the designated vendor's Medical Review Officer (MRO) process will be followed. Students must receive MRO clearance or a verified negative result to be eligible for admission and clinical participation.
8. Students who refuse to complete the criminal background check or drug screening, refuse to comply with the MRO process, or have a confirmed positive drug screening may have their acceptance into the nursing program revoked. Fees and other out-of-pocket expenses associated with admission may not be refundable.
9. Students must notify the Director of Nursing Education of any criminal charge or conviction that occurs while enrolled in the nursing program.
10. Students with a criminal history finding that may affect program progression, clinical placement, certification, or licensure eligibility will meet with the Director of Nursing Education to determine an appropriate action plan based on applicable program requirements and state regulations.
 - a. Nursing students will be evaluated in accordance with applicable Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) regulations, including K.S.A. 65-1120.
11. Drug screening and criminal background check information will be maintained confidentially and released only as permitted by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
12. Complaints regarding the application or enforcement of this policy will be addressed through applicable MATC grievance policies and procedures.