

Le Moyne College FNP Clinical Site/Preceptor Information

1. The Le Moyne College, Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program is based on the concepts of primary care. Students graduate from this program with knowledge and clinical skills necessary to provide primary health care for individuals across the life span within the context of family and community. According to the Institute of Medicine (1994), primary care is defined as “the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health services, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community” (p. 15).
2. Students are strongly encouraged to network for clinical preceptors. Developing a relationship with a preceptor prior to clinical coursework provides a much more rewarding experience for the student. If you have a clinical site/preceptor in mind, you must seek approval from the clinical coordinator to confirm that it is an appropriate selection and a contract is in place.
3. The clinical coordinator will facilitate clinical sites for students in need of placement but these sites may be up to 60 miles from Syracuse.
4. The primary consideration should be securing a high quality clinical experience that meets the course objectives. Keep in mind that under no circumstances, will students complete the clinical portion of any course under the guidance of their work supervisors or family members. Students may complete clinical experiences in the institution where they are employed when the selected preceptor does not have input into annual work performance evaluations and the physical unit where the clinical hours are completed is NOT the unit where the student is employed. Family members of students cannot be selected as preceptors for any course.
5. The ideal clinical site is a family practice setting and the ideal preceptor is a family nurse practitioner. Students are required to spend at least one full semester (135+ hours) during the program with an advanced practice NP. Although physicians and physician assistants (PAs) can offer valuable experiences, it is important for NP students to observe the NP role. Sites other than a family practice site work well and these include other NPs and physicians in women’s health, pediatrics or adult practices. A PA can also offer a valuable clinical experience as a preceptor. However, due to different practice models, education and licensure/ credentialing, PAs do not role model an NP’s practice. Their use as preceptors should be limited when possible and their contracts must be signed by the MD Supervisor.

Preceptor Qualifications

Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant preceptors should have a minimum of 2000 hours or one year of full-time clinical experience in the role.

