Addendum to the ADN Student Handbook 2019-2020 For COVID 19 Pandemic

In line with the Academic Continuity Plan as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the courses offered in the ADN Program of South Texas College, and in compliance with the “Shelter in Place” order of Hidalgo and Starr Counties, CDC recommendations and the Texas Department of State Health Services, the following changes were adapted after thorough and thoughtful deliberation by the ADN Department.

These changes are in line with upholding the academic standards based on the Texas Board of Nursing and ACEN guidelines with utmost regard of students’ safety, well-being, welfare and benefit in successfully completing the courses for Spring and Summer 2020.

To support and assist students in their courses, the faculty staff and Support Services are available to ensure student success. Flexibility and creativity will be exercised on a case-to-case basis in addressing internet connectivity concerns, delivery of didactic, clinical and skills classes, and evaluation methodologies. This includes the following and will be updated as necessary:

A. An Academic Continuity Plan will be followed in the delivery and evaluation of every course in the program, prepared and adapted by the faculty. This includes the transition to the online platform utilizing the current existing programs and software used such as but not limited to Blackboard LMS, Blackboard Collaborate, Pronto, ATI software, LWW CoursePoint+ and the Respondus Lockdown Browser for test administration, among others.

B. All RNSG courses will be delivered in an online platform for Summer 2020 semester.

C. Students must observe online Netiquette at all times during virtual meetings. Student must be dressed appropriately and maintain a non-distractive environment.

D. Math, Dosage and Calculation Exam Questions in the Unit Exams will be replaced by alternative format questions. These questions are in addition to the existing alternative format questions that are in place for each course.

E. HESI and ATI End-of-Course Exams for RNSG 1301, RNSG 1513, RNSG, 1341, RNSG 2213, RNSG 1412, RNSG 1417, RNSG 2221 and RNSG 1343 in Spring of 2020 will not be administered due to exam security in an un-proctored environment. Unit exam average grade will not include the standardized HESI/ATI Exam. All HESI and ATI End of course exams in the Summer of 2020 will not be administered. The average of all the Unit Exams will be calculated without the end-of-course exam.

F. In lieu of HESI Exit Exam for RNSG 2221 and end-of-course exam for RNSG 2331, a Blackboard generated exam will be administered based on the NCLEX-RN Test Blue Print and covered course content. Grades will be based on the conversion scores similar to HESI Generated scores to maintain similarities in the questions and grading.

G. Individualized Learning Achievement Plan (iLAP) for students scoring below 80% on unit exams will include scheduling online appointment with course faculty to review strategies to improve test grades. Academic coaching by the ADN Coach will be available on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM with a link to join given by course faculty. iLAP for HESI or ATI will not be required for the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester.
H. Clinical and Skills Grading: Skills and Clinical classes adapted flexible and creative measures to achieve course and daily clinical objectives. This includes simulated materials available in the home environment to be able to deliver, process information, evaluate skills and clinical objectives. In addition, faculty may use, case scenario or virtual sim scenario to replace actual patient in the clinical, and evidence-based articles among others to achieve clinical objectives. The Grading Criteria are as follows:

**Level 1 Traditional Hospital Clinical and Simulation (Group Clinical)***
Assign a Case Scenario and have students do the following;
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - Case Study or VSim** = 25 %
  - EB Practice Article*** = 25 %

100 %

**Level 1 Transition (LVN-RN/Para-RN) Hospital Clinical and Simulation (Group Clinical)***
Assign a Case Scenario and have students do the following;
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - Case Study or VSim** = 25 %
  - EB Practice Article*** = 25 %

100 %

**Level 2 Med-Surg. Hospital Clinical and Simulation (Group Clinical)***
Assign a Case Scenario and have students do the following;
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - Case Study or VSim** = 25 %
  - EB Practice Article*** = 25 %

100 %

**Level 2 Mental Health Hospital Clinical**
Assign a movie and have students do the following;
- MH Care Map & EBA = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Movie Reflection 1 page = 20 %
- Post Movie Quiz = 30 %

100 %
Level 2 Mental Health Simulation (Group Clinical)*
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - VSim (Part I & *II) = 25 %
  - BB Respondus Quiz = 25 %

100 %

Level 3 Med-Surg. and OB/Pedi Hospital Clinical and Simulation (Group Clinical)*
Assign a Case Scenario and have students do the following;
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - Case Study or VSim** = 25 %
  - EB Practice Article*** = 25 %

100 %

Level 4 Med-Surg. Hospital Clinical and Simulation (Group Clinical)*
Assign a Case Scenario and have students do the following;
- Care Map = 30 %
- Docucare = 20 %
- Clinical Activity
  - Case Study or VSim** = 25 %
  - EB Practice Article*** = 25 %

100 %

*Simulation/Group Clinical = Care Map, Docucare, and EBP will be a group requirement
**VSim = limit to 3 attempts only
***EB Practice Article = will have a Blackboard Collaborate discussion

Holistic Assessment = via Blackboard Collaborate (schedule 2 - 3 students/clinical day), or via You Tube video (students record themselves and send the link via Blackboard)

Clinical hours: 8:00 Am – 5:00 Pm
- 8:00 Am – 9:00 Am = Pre-conference via Blackboard Collaborate
- 11:30 Am – 12:00 Pm = Follow-up via Blackboard Collaborate or Pronto
- 3:30 Pm – 5:00 Pm = Post Conference via Blackboard Collaborate (Level 1, Level 2, 3, 4, & Transition Med-Surg., and Level 3 OB/Pedi)
- 4:00 Pm – 5:00 Pm = Post Conference via Blackboard Collaborate (Level 2 Mental Health)
Submission of all clinical requirements will be as announced and agreed upon by Clinical Course with the aim of affording students’ flexibility in the submission of clinical requirements.

Community Project will have an alternative format of delivery and will be evaluated as agreed by every clinical Course.

Admission and Readmission:

- HESI A2 Test was already taken into account for Spring 2020 Cohort of RNSG 1209 (Intro to Nursing)
  - Rationale: Students currently enrolled in RNSG 1209 have already taken HESI because it is the prerequisite for Intro to Nursing. Therefore, they will be eligible to apply in June 2020 for the Fall 2020 ADN Program. These students should not have a problem not having HESI scores.

- HESI A2 Test requirement for RNSG 1209 Summer 2020 prospective students can be taken by the students before, during or after completing RNSG 1209 in the Summer of 2020 (provided the student is TSI Complete).
  - Rationale: Due to the uncertainty of the lifting of COVID-19 Restrictions, the ADN Admission and Readmission Committee decided to give students the opportunity to enroll in RNSG 1209 in the Summer of 2020 pending their HESI A2 Test. Students can take the exam before, during or after the course is completed. HESI A2 Test Results will be required to be eligible to apply in October 2020 for the Spring 2021 program.

- Dosage and Calculation Math Exams will be administered in RNSG 1417 (Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice) Summer 2020 cohort and will be given the opportunity to take the Math Exams in 3 attempts within the first 2 weeks of Class. Students not achieving a 100% competency on third attempt will have to complete a remediation packet and submit evidence of the remediation activity.
  - Rationale: Due to the uncertainty of the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, the ADN Admission and Readmission Committee decided unanimously to select the LVN-ADN Transition cohort for Summer 2020 without taking the Dosage and Calculation Math Exams prior. The committee will give the selected cohort to enroll in the ADN program. Students however will still be tested in Dosage and Calculation Math Exam in RNSG 1417 and achieve at least a 100% competency in 3 attempts. If a student was not able to achieve a 100% competency in 3 attempts, the student has to complete and submit a remediation packet while taking RNSG 1417.

Alternate Grade Request and Procedure: See Attached Table.

All RNSG Courses that will end from March 23, 2020 to May 18, 2020, a student earning a Course Final Grade of “D” and “F” or its equivalent “P” and “NP” will not be counted as a strike on the Admission and Readmission Procedure.
## Alternate Grade Request and Procedures – Spring 2020 (Covid 19)
for Traditional Student & Dual Credit Students

**Timeline to Submit the Request From:** May 19 – 26, 2020: Students have the opportunity to complete the *Request Form for Pass No Pass available on Jagnet* and submit it to the admissions@southtexascollge.edu for processing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Submission</th>
<th>Student Option</th>
<th>Admissions &amp; Registrar</th>
<th>Non-Nursing &amp; Allied Health Students</th>
<th>Nursing &amp; Allied Health Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Faculty submit the grades based on student records | Student can submit the Request Form for Pass No Pass Grade to the Admissions Office | Impact on  
- GPA  
- SAP Satisfactory Progress  
- Probation /Suspension | Current Students | Prospective Students |
| A                  |                |                         |                                      | Current Students |
| B                  |                |                         |                                      |                   |
| C                  | Satisfactory (S) | If student was under Fin Aid Probation/Suspension at the beginning of the Spring 2020 term, then their status will change to good standing or remain the same.  
- Grade of “S” (Satisfactory) does not get calculated into the GPA. | Student passes the course and can progress to the next course in the sequence. | Selective programs will provide 1 point, .05 point or 0 point based on the program selective criteria |
| D                  | Pass (P)       | If student was under Fin Aid Probation/Suspension at the beginning of the Spring 2020 term, then their status will change to good standing or remain the same.  
- Grade of “P” (Passing) does not get calculated into the GPA. | Student passes the course but may have to repeat the course to earn the grade required for other course prerequisites. | Student will need to repeat the course or any course equivalent as required by specific programs |
| F                  | No Pass (NP)   | If student was under Fin Aid Probation/Suspension at the beginning of the Spring 2020 term, then their status will remain the same.  
- Grade of “NP” (Not Passing) does not get calculated into the GPA. | Student does not earn credit for the course and must repeat the course. | Student will need to repeat the course or any course equivalent |
| W                  |                | Students who select to withdraw from course will not affect their GPA or place them in Probation/Suspension.  
- If student was under Probation/Suspension at the beginning of the Spring 2020 term, then their status will remain the same. |                  | Student will need to repeat the course and not progress to the next semester |
| I                  |                | Student will have the opportunity to complete the requirements by Fall 2020 semester |                                      |                   |
To ensure consistency in the ADN Student Handbook 2019-2020, procedures and guidelines herein, the provisions and stipulations as applied will be deemed amended by the above changes as noted in the Addendum to the ADN Student Handbook 2019-2020 For COVID 19 Pandemic.