THE READING HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES POLICY NO. 321

SUBJECT: Students with Temporary Limitations

Responsibility of: TRHSHS Program Directors
Revised: September 2006 Reviewed: 2011

Purpose

To provide guidance to the student with a temporary limitation

Procedure

The student submits to the Program Director a written statement from the healthcare provider stating the student's limitations/restrictions and the projected duration of the limitations/restrictions.

A meeting of the Program Director, the student, and the student's current course instructors is held. If possible, the instructors will develop a written plan for temporary alternate clinical laboratory assignments congruent with the course objectives. The school is not obligated to alter the expectations or objectives of the course to accommodate a student with temporary limitations. The Program Director makes the final decision regarding permission for the student to complete the course. If permission is granted, the student is given a written copy of the plan for the alternate clinical assignments.

If the period of limitation exceeds the original prediction, the process must be repeated.

A letter of medical clearance must be provided to the Program Director prior to resuming clinical experiences.

If extended limitations/restrictions prevent a student from completing the course requirements the student will need to withdraw from the course. (See policy “Withdrawal from a Course”)

Due to concerns for student and patient safety, students with casts, splints, immobilization, or physical restrictions/limitations related to an acute or chronic injury or illness (such as lifting restrictions) are not permitted in the clinical setting. Students assigned to operating room experiences are not permitted in the Operating room with sutures in hands or arms.