Marketing Yourself for MSN Field Experience Opportunities
Career Services Mission and Team

The Walden Career Services Center aspires to be a cutting edge, global career services center preparing our learners to navigate career transition over a lifetime. To achieve this vision, we educate, coach, and advise our learners to proactively manage their careers.

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Presenter

Claire Keller RN MN CPNP
Nursing Field Education Coordinator Supervisor
School of Nursing
Agenda

• Define the purpose of Practicum Experience
• Provide strategies on how to conduct a proactive search
• Learn how to market yourself and Walden University
• Develop a plan to land your practicum site
Purpose of Practicum Experience

- Fulfillment of program requirements
- Development of skills needed to succeed in your chosen specialization
- Preparation for certification
- Development of assessment and diagnostic skills
What are some ways to identify a potential preceptor and practicum site?
Know Your Target: The Preceptor and Practicum Site – Family Nurse Practitioner and Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Know Your Target: Preceptor and Site Requirements

• Program of Study:
  – Family Nurse Practitioner
    • NURS 6531
    • NURS 6541
    • NURS 6551
    • NURS 6561
  – Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
    • NURS 6531
    • NURS 6540
    • NURS 6551
    • NURS 6561
Know Your Target: The Preceptor and Practicum Site - Education, Leadership and Management and Informatics
Know Your Target: Preceptor and Site Requirements

Nursing Education:

- NURS 6341 and NURS 6351 with 144 hours of supervised experience (72 hours in each course). NURS 6341 is a clinical course.

Leadership and Management:

- NURS 6600 with 144 hours of supervised experience.

Nursing Informatics:

- NURS 6431 (72 hours) and NURS 6600 (144 hours) totaling 216 hours of supervised experience
Market Your Strengths

• What is unique about YOU?
  • Interests/skills/personality/values
  • Academic achievements
  • Related work experience
  • Professional contributions
  • Community involvement
  • Specialized knowledge
Market Walden University

- CCNE accredited program
- Social change mission
- Qualified faculty
- Diverse global perspective
- National (and international) student population
- Rigorous curriculum
Is There a FIT?

• Will you fit in with the people/culture?
• Does the site afford you the opportunities you need to complete program requirements?
• Does your potential preceptor hold the credentials required for the practicum?
Why a Practicum Portfolio?

A practicum portfolio:

• Sets you apart from other applicants
• Leaves a lasting impression
• Allows the site to learn more about you
Creating Your Practicum Portfolio

• Cover letter
• Resume
• Walden-specific items:
  • Walden University and Nurse Practitioner Program information
  • Course Description, Objectives, Hours Required, and Quarter Start and End Dates
  • Contact information for the Nurse Education Field Office
  • Letters of Recommendation
Welcome to Walden University’s OptimalResume system!

We are excited to offer OptimalResume, a career management system offering self-guided tools to help you:

- Create high-impact materials including resumes and cover letters based on your career goals
- Present your materials online — with our easy-to-use website builder
- Download your materials in a number of formats
- Manage an unlimited number of career documents from one central location
- Share your credentials across your network and extend their reach to social networking sites

To get started, Create New Account using your Walden University email and password. To have any career materials reviewed, please schedule an appointment through your myWalden University Portal.

The Walden University Career Services Center hopes you find this resource useful as you build your career!

https://waldenu.optimalresume.com
March 27, 2014

Primary Care Associates
111 Falcon Drive
Detroit, MI 48206
Dear Ms. Chapman:

I am currently enrolled in a CCNE-accredited MSN Family Nurse Practitioner program at Walden University. I have achieved a 4.0 GPA and completed the coursework needed to prepare for my practicum, specifically Advanced Pharmacology, Advance Pathophysiology and Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning. Primary Care Associates has a reputation in the community for providing high quality medical care for families. This is the standard of excellence that I aspire to achieve as a nurse practitioner.
I have six years of experience as a registered nurse; three years on a medical surgical floor and two years in the medical ICU. My most recent experience has been in a primary care clinic where I worked with several nurse practitioners. All of my clinical experiences have laid the foundation for the pursuit of my family nurse practitioner certification.

Through my MSN program, I developed a stronger understanding of the complexities of the nurse practitioner role and the clinical skills needed to be successful. I am inspired by my faculty at Walden who are scholar practitioners with credentials from top national universities. My commitment to Walden’s social change mission has led me to volunteer at the Red Cross where I apply my nursing skills to lead emergency response initiatives in my community. I am also an active member of the American Nurses Association, having attended over 25 professional development activities, co-presented at a conference, and volunteered at local events.
I greatly appreciate your time and consideration. If you have additional questions regarding requirements for the Practicum, Walden University, or the Family Nurse Practitioner program, you may contact the Nurse Field Experience Coordinator Supervisor, Claire Keller, at claire.keller@waldenu.edu or 612.312.2485. I am looking forward to further discussing my qualifications with you.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Jackson
Resume:
Main Components

• Contact Information
• Summary of Qualifications
• Education
• Licensures and Certifications
• Nursing Experience
• Professional Affiliations
• Presentations and Papers
• Community Involvement
• Other activities, achievements, and skills
Resume:
OptimalResume Samples

View Samples by Category:

✓ Field Experience (Nursing)
✓ Healthcare Practitioners
✓ Education and Training

https://waldenu.optimalresume.com
Practicum Search Strategies

• Tell everyone you know you are looking for a practicum site
• Join or reach out to local and national nurse practitioner organizations
• Connect with potential practicum sites through social media
• Expand your search
• Improve your professional image
Nurse Practitioner Preceptors

Join the group to receive daily or weekly activity updates.

Great news 2.0...If there are Walden NP Students here looking for a practicum site, I have a list of facilities that have existing Affiliation agreements with Walden....

Felicia DePina, RN, BSN
Top Contributor

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myma gacusan: Thank you for sharing this copy. Please send a copy to myma.gacusan@waldenu.edu. I really appreciate it. Looking for a preceptor had been...

4 days ago

james baptiste: Hello Felicia can you please send a copy as well at james.baptiste@waldenu.edu.

4 days ago

Shan Phillips: Hey Felicia, can you email me a copy please, snp314@gmail.com

2 days ago

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Dominique B.
RN at University of Louisville Hospital
Follow Dominique

Your group contribution level

Start by commenting in a discussion. Group participants get 4x the number of profile views.

LinkedIn Groups

Professional Women's Network

Featured Discussion: What does "Ban Bossy" mean to you?
Reach out to the field experience office if you find you need additional consultation

– npfieldtraining@waldenu.edu
Quick Answers
Type your question in the search box, and click Go.

Looking to advance in your career? Transitioning to a new job? Enhancing your professional development and network? We're here to help you navigate your career journey! We encourage you to set goals and assume active stewardship of your career progress from the very start of your academic program.

The Career Services Center offers
- paths to self-knowledge;
- resources for job opportunities and career information;
- resume and curriculum vita tips;
- guidance on networking and branding;
- strategies to help you prepare for interviews and land the job.

Career Services Website Tour

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Over 60 Career Webinars

Archived Webinars

OptimalResume Webinar Series
Part 1: Resume Builder
9/12/13
Andrea Obrycki

Part 2: Letter Builder
9/19/13
Andrea Obrycki

Part 3: Build an Online Portfolio
9/26/13
Andrea Obrycki

Nursing Field Experience Process
(FNP/AGNP)
7/25/13
Dr. Valarie Waldmeier

Nursing Field Experience Process
(Nursing Education, Leadership & Management, and Informatics)
7/30/13
Dr. Jeanne Morrison

Using LinkedIn to Build Your Professional Network
1/24/13
Andrea Obrycki
Nicolle Skalski
Denise Pranke

Mid-Life Job Search Strategies
1/25/12
Lisa Cook
Denise Pranke

Crafting Effective Resumes
2/19/14
Nicolle Skalski
Andrea Obrycki

…and many other topics!
Get Connected!

Join our Career Services LinkedIn Group

Follow us on Twitter

Read Walden student successes on our blog

Check out OptimalResume

Access everything from the CS website:
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Email: careerservices@waldenu.edu
Questions?
360Reach is a site that includes a professional branding assessment:  
http://www.reachcc.com/360reach

ENP Network is a site with a directory of nursing practicum preceptors: 
https://www.enpnetwork.com/nurse-practitioner-preceptors

Nursing Directory is a site with comprehensive career resources for nursing professionals:  http://www.nursing-directory.org/

Quintessential Careers is a site with career-related tutorials:  
http://www.quintcareers.com/tutorials.html

Thank You for Participating!