Dear Applicant,

We appreciate your interest in Cleveland Clinic’s WOC Nursing Education program. This enrollment guide’s content provides information about the online program, prerequisites, steps to enroll, and a link to the application enrollment request form.

This program was established in 1961 as the first WOC Nursing program in the world. It is guided by the curriculum criteria of the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses’ Society. The program provides education in Concepts & Professional Practices in WOC Nursing, Acute & Chronic Wounds and Skin Management, Fecal and Urinary Diversions, and Urinary & Fecal Incontinence Management.

The WOC program prepares you to play a vital role in pre- and post-operative management of the person with an ostomy; to be instrumental in the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers, fistula, and other skin disorders; and to be a specialist in the care of patients with urinary and fecal incontinence. You'll acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to provide patients with effective psychological support, discharge planning, rehabilitative counseling and follow-up care.

WOC educational options are listed below:

- **Online** - Each of the online courses include asynchronous discussion threads, self-directed learning modules, individual and group projects, clinicals, and a comprehensive final exam for each course. All didactic course work is completed and submitted within the online learning management system (LMS).

  A variety of online options exist, depending upon the number of specialty course(s) selected, which range from an 8 week to a 16 week didactic class instruction. You are responsible to locate a board certified WOC preceptor and ensure that a clinical affiliation agreement template has been submitted to the school by your clinical site. Clinicals (arranged by the student and preceptor) are completed after all didactic courses are successfully passed. A minimum of 40 clinical hours is required for one specialty course; 80 hours for a dual scope; or 120 hours for all three.

- **Onsite** - (All onsite classes are on hiatus due to the large increase in online enrollments.) Minimum class size is 18 students.

Prior to enrolling, you should consider all additional costs associated with this program. Such as: textbooks, laptop/i-pad, school supplies (pens, paper & notebooks), exam proctoring fees, and any offsite preceptor fees. For an onsite Cleveland Clinic clinical experience additional costs may include: U.S. Visa (international students), housing and living expenses, and potentially lost wages.

If you are interested in enrolling, complete and submit your online enrollment request form located in Step 2: Program Prerequisites and Required Enrollment Documentation and pay your $200 application fee online when submitting your application. Upon receipt of your completed form and $200 application fee, the school will initiate your registration process in our automated RedCarpet-Silkroad enrollment system.

**Your acceptance into this WOC Nursing program is dependent upon your completion of the following before the class’ “registration close date”**: 1) all assigned RedCarpet-Silkroad enrollment tasks are fully finished, 2) submission of your preceptor’s application and credentialing documents have been sent to the school, 3) your clinical contract “template” has been submitted to us, and 4) full tuition payment has been received. (Refer to Step 1: Select a WOC Class and Adhere to the Registration Deadline Dates)

If you have any questions about our program, please directly contact our program coordinator, Teresa Warnke, at WOCSchool@ccf.org.

Sincerely,

Linda Stricker, MSN/Ed, RN, CWOCN
Director, WOC Nursing Education
MISSION / VISION / PHILOSOPHY

Mission

The R.B. Turnbull, Jr. MD School of WOC Nursing Education accepts the responsibility for promoting the mission of Cleveland Clinic “we strive to be the world’s leader in patient experience, clinical outcomes, research and education” (Cleveland Clinic, 2015). Our content reflects the mission of the WOCN® by “promoting educational, clinical and research opportunities to advance the practice and guide the delivery of expert healthcare to individuals with wound, ostomy, and continence concerns” (WOCN®, 2015).

Vision

The WOC nursing education programs of Cleveland Clinic are the premier providers of WOC education. A variety of strategies are incorporated for providing such to all levels of healthcare providers, novice to advanced, as well as to the community.

Philosophy

The foundation of our curriculum is evidenced-based and holistic in nature. It is designed to provide tools for nurses who provide comprehensive care and education of patients with wound, ostomy, and continence care needs. As future leaders in WOC nursing, our students are encouraged through discussion, didactic education, projects, and clinical experiences to identify their role as clinician, educator, consultant, and contributor to the body of WOC nursing knowledge.

Overall Program Objectives

1. Apply concepts of gastrointestinal, genitourinary, and integumentary anatomy and physiology to the care of people with wound, ostomy, and continence care concerns.
2. Relate pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and medical and surgical management options for the care of people with wound, ostomy, and continence care concerns.
4. Formulate effective verbal, written, and electronic communication with other healthcare professionals, patients, families, and the community.
5. Demonstrate increasing clinical expertise in caring for patients with wound, ostomy, and continence problems.

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