The purpose of this operating standard is to:

a) ensure compliance with the Faculty’s contractual obligations with various practice partners by verifying that all Nursing Students have been Fit-Tested for an N95 mask.

b) ensure the safety of Students and clients/patients.

This operating standard applies to all Nursing Students.

In this operating standard:

a) “Faculty” means the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Calgary.

b) “Student” means an Undergraduate or Graduate Student within the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Calgary.

c) “Fit Testing” is an assessment process which ensures that individuals are wearing the proper mask size and type for the shape of their face and head. A proper mask fit ensures that particulates are properly
filtered and that no leaks occur around the seal.

d) “HSPnet” refers to a comprehensive web-based system for managing practice education in the health sciences.

e) “N95” is a type of respirator mask that health care providers may be required to wear in the practice setting to help protect against certain communicable diseases.

**Standard/Practice**

4 4.1 In accordance with the Faculty’s contractual obligations with practice partners, Students are required to be Fit Tested for a N95 mask.

4.2 It is the Students professional and ethical responsibility to arrange for N95 Fit Testing every two years or earlier if the expiration on their card is less than 2 years.

4.3 On admission and prior to expiry thereafter, proof of N95 Fit Testing must be presented to the immunization program coordinator or delegate for tracking purposes.

4.4 Accommodations may be made for valid, documented medical and/or religious reasons.

**Responsibilities**

5 5.1 Student will:

a) arrange for N95 Fit Testing to occur upon entry to the BN Program and every two year thereafter.

b) provide proof of N95 Fit Testing to the Immunization Program Coordinator for tracking purposes.

5.2 The Immunization Program Coordinator will:

c) connect yearly with AHS to ensure that no changes have been made to the acceptable N95 masks.

d) update N95 information and requirements as necessary, ensuring notification to Students.

e) introduce self and briefly discusses N95 at student orientations.

f) verify proof of N95 Fit Testing upon admission and make record of it in HSPnet.

g) will meet with any student who requests accommodations for valid, documented medical and/or religious reasons to discuss implications pertaining to ongoing clinical placements.

h) ensure proof of N95 Fit Testing is presented prior to expiry and make record of it in HSPnet.
i) send reminders to students regarding N95 expiry.

j) notify the Associate Dean, Undergraduate or Graduate Programs, if a Student has not been Fit Tested or if Fit Testing has expired, as well as NPCC and NI if they are registered in clinical courses.

k) advise the Undergraduate or Graduate Programs Office to block course registration for any Student who is non-compliant until such time as proof is presented.

5.3 The Associate Dean, Undergraduate or Graduate Programs, (or Designate) will:

a) meet with any Student who is non-compliant to discuss implications pertaining to ongoing clinical placements.

Related Policies 6 OPERATING STANDARDS AND PRACTICES FN003: FACULTY OF NURSING, N95 Requirements for All Faculty Members

Related Information 7 Student Placement Agreement (July 30, 2013) – The Board of Governors of the University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services.

University of Calgary Calendar, http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/, University Calendar, Faculty of Nursing, 3. Faculty Regulations, 3.1 Admissions, N-95 Fit Testing (Student Policy)

History 8 Approved by:
Dr. Dianne Tapp, Dean, Faculty of Nursing, April 13, 2017

Created in consultation with Alberta Health Services Workplace Health and Safety.