A MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

As the nurse here at Simpson University, it is my privilege to assist students when they experience health problems. Whether the issue is a relatively simple one such as a cold or minor injury, or a much more serious problem, my role is to assess and treat the less serious issues and refer the others to the appropriate medical providers when indicated.

I have worked in nursing for many years, but my role at Simpson University is one I especially enjoy. I love to interact with and care for our students. Being able to offer significant help to a student who is facing an illness or injury is my passion and great joy.

Connie Echols, BSN, RN, PHN
Health Center Manager
OUR PURPOSE
Our goal is to assist you in achieving and maintaining good health so you can accomplish your educational objectives and enjoy campus life.

Who can use the Health Center?
All traditional daytime students, both commuters and those living on campus, are the prominent groups that we serve. We also welcome others who may need first aid or medical advice while on campus, such as faculty and staff, and campus visitors. Certain services, such as vaccines, travel health advice, and immunizations, are offered to the entire campus community.

What about confidentiality?
As a provider of medical services, we are legally required to safeguard your Protected Health Information (PHI). This includes information that you provide with your initial health history, as well as information you disclose during your visits to the Health Center. We will not release this information to anyone without your request and written consent. Records are kept confidential.

How much does it cost to use the Health Center, and do I need insurance?
Since the basic costs of providing our services are included as part of the student's paid fees, all care is given without charge. Immunizations are offered at our vaccine cost. No insurance is needed, and we do not bill insurance.

Do I need to make an appointment to see the nurse?
The Health Center is open daily while school is in session. Appointments are recommended but are not required. You may call or email before stopping in to make sure the nurse is available. There may be times when the nurse is unavailable during posted hours.

Can I get class excuses for illness from the Health Center?
No, we do not give excuses for classes missed due to illness; you are expected to communicate with each professor regarding your absence. However, if you have a severe or prolonged illness or surgery, Health Services and or Student Support can advise Academics, who in turn informs all of your professors. Obviously, we must be aware of your situation in order to assist you.

How can I get help after hours when the Health Center is closed?
If you live on campus and have an urgent medical need after hours, contact your resident assistant (RA) or the resident life coordinator (RLC) on call. The nurse, who lives off campus, is usually available for consultation. If a life-threatening emergency occurs, call 911 right away. Also, notify Campus Safety at 941-7592. They are trained in first aid and can help until an ambulance arrives. Commuter students may also follow the same protocol, or go to an urgent care clinic or hospital for assistance.

“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord with renew their strength. They will soar on wings like an eagle; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.”

ISAIAH 40:28-31 (NIV)