

Guideline: AHS Code Orange Response

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this guideline is to direct Bachelor of Nursing (BN) Programs faculty and students in the event of a Code Orange Response is activated at an Alberta Health Services (AHS) facility/site when students are completing a practice experience.

BACKGROUND:

The BN Programs recognizes the importance of a standardized approach and response to emergencies, and desires to work in partnership with practice agencies to ensure their employees (and students) are able to respond to emergency staffing needs.

DEFINITIONS:

Code Orange: Mass Casualty Incident

GUIDELINE SCOPE:

This guideline applies to all practice instructors and students of the BN Programs engaged in a practice experience at an AHS facility/site.

SPECIFICS OF THE GUIDELINE:

1. Upon activation of the AHS Code Orange Response Plan, the BN Programs practice instructor will meet with members of the clinical group and identify those students who are also employees of AHS.
2. The practice instructor will meet with the AHS Unit Manager, or designate, and determine an action plan for the unit as follows:
 - a. BN Programs practice instructor and/or student(s) who are employees of AHS will report to their AHS home unit.
 - b. BN Programs practice instructors who are non-AHS employees may remain on the assigned practice unit and continue with the practice experience if, in consultation with the AHS Unit Manager, it is deemed appropriate.
 - c. Students who are not AHS employees will be dismissed home.
3. The BN Programs practice instructor will notify the appropriate Chair/Assistant Dean or Practice Coordinator of the action decision.

APPENDIX: N/A

REFERENCES:

Alberta Health Services. (2026). Emergency Response Codes.

<https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/edm/Page16271.aspx>

For the most current policy information, always refer to the official NESA BN Program Guidelines and Forms Website: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/healthsciences/policies>

Approved by/date: NESA Joint Faculty Council; May 11, 2026