

Clinical Facilitators assist in the education, support and assessment of students who are undertaking clinical placement which is vital to students having successful placements. Primarily, they promote links between theory and practice and provide educational and professional support during clinical placement. This may include implementing strategies to manage students who are not meeting expected clinical knowledge/skills/attitude. Clinical Facilitators are expected to spend approximately 3 hours per student, per week. This time is inclusive of contact time with the student and time spent on student assessment and administrative duties.

Before the placement

You will receive email communication from the UniSA Course Coordinator, confirming the student/s who will be attending placement. You will be provided with links to resources that you may use to support your facilitation.

Meeting the student – the first day of placement

This first meeting is important to set the student up for a successful placement and to ensure the student can confidently approach you, the midwives, and the team with whom they'll be working. Ask the student about their experience so far, their strengths, limitations, expectations.

Learning objectives: Review and discuss, the student's Learning Plan which identifies their objectives - what they plan to learn and defines how they will achieve this.

Midwifery portfolio: Review the students Portfolio requirements, especially the Clinical Assessment Tool/s (CAT/s) that need to be completed, note at which level these must be assessed. Discuss which clinical experience records can be completed in the allocated area.

Orientation: Ensure the student has been oriented, introduced to staff and has been given appropriate contact details.

Ongoing communication: Plan how and when, you will communicate with each other (mode, time, and location to allow private and extended conversations).

Subsequent meetings – reflect – review - educate

Discuss the student's experiences so far: How comfortable are they with the placement experience? Are there any issues with interactions with other staff or women and families? Ask the student to provide a clinical handover using ISBAR from an identified episode of care to enable them to link theoretical learning to clinical practice. Provide opportunity to debrief if relevant.

Review learning plan and objectives: What activities have they been involved in each shift and how useful are these in building learning, confidence, and skills? Are they meeting their learning needs?

Review CAT/s: How they have performed so far and discuss their perceptions of their competence. Is progress being made? Identify any areas of challenge.

Review feedback from midwives: What feedback have they sought and from whom, discuss each student's progress with their supervising midwife or other relevant staff members.

Challenges or remediation required: Is the student performing at the expected level? If not, what education or support is needed? Does the student require remediation or a clinical challenge?

Provide group education sessions if appropriate – this is a good way for students to connect and learn

Weekly

Communicate with the UniSA Course Coordinator about the student/s progress. If you have concerns, please communicate as soon as identified so that concerns can be appropriately managed.

Final meeting

Review the student's progress: Review objectives and discuss outcomes. Ensure that all required CATs have been completed or discuss a strategy for the student to complete these prior to their portfolio marking or while caring for a woman through CoCE.

Review the portfolio clinical experience records: Provide feedback relating to documentation, terminology, midwifery management, clinical reasoning, and reflection on process of learning.

Complete the final standards assessment: Provide an overall rating based on discussion of the standards and feedback from staff and Unit Manager as appropriate.

Thank you for participating in educating the next generation of Registered Midwives