

Why Be a Preceptor?

Working with a student can energize your attitude toward daily work by adding interest, challenge, and personal renewal. It can enrich your appreciation and value of your daily decisions and the profession itself.

Preceptorship benefits the **preceptor** by...

- Enhancing personal growth and satisfaction,
- Adding challenge to your daily work,
- Increasing your visibility in your workplace,
- Bringing new ideas to your practice,
- Attracting potential employees to your workplace (think vacation relief!),
- Increasing productivity on your unit,
- Providing different kinds of teaching opportunities,
- Serving as a mirror that allows you to evaluate and improve your own practice,
- Allowing you to share your unique treasures of knowledge and experience,
- Increasing satisfaction as a result of seeing the student's smiling face, energy, and interest in learning, and
- Increasing your professional value to the institution and to prospective employers.



Preceptorship benefits the **student** by...

- Helping them better understand the role of the nurse,
- Minimizing reality shock upon graduating and getting their first job,
- Learning nuggets of wisdom from the clinical expertise of the preceptor,
- Improving their skills in problem solving, clinical judgment, prioritization and time management,
- Increasing self confidence and improving skills,
- Enabling the student to synthesize information learned throughout their program,
- Enhancing the ability of students to apply theory to practice,
- Providing a foundation for continued learning, and
- Providing an opportunity to discuss professional conflicts.



Let's face it: We were all once beginners, students, and learners! We are endlessly grateful to those who helped us along and made us feel welcome and worthwhile, who showed us the ropes and patiently waited as we began putting it all together.

Sources: Bashford, 2002; Letizia & Jennrich, 1998; O'Malley, 2000; Gates & Cutts, 1995; O'Mara, 1997.