

TDCJ Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) Testimonials (Student)

“I wish all of my clinical experiences could be DEUs!!!! Last semester we choose a patient and then followed a random nurse who was assigned to that particular patient. Most of the time you would wind up with a nurse who really did not want to take students much less teach you something. I basically just tried to stay out of my assigned nurses’ way. DEU has provided me the opportunity to follow a nurse who is dedicated to teaching me. I have adapted to the routine and everyone on 6B is helpful and friendly as well.” Marissa

“I’ve really enjoyed working in the DEU. The clinical experience has been so positive and the staff is very helpful. The staff has had such a great impact on my growth as a student and future nurse! I could not have asked for a better clinical experience and I am so glad I was able to be part of this program. My assigned clinical nurse educator has been very friendly and always makes me feel welcome. I always feel that the help we offer is appreciated. Overall, my experience with the DEU was great!” Sara

“I have really enjoyed the DEU experience. I think it has allowed us to progress more rapidly and perform more skills. We build a relationship of trust with our preceptor and they know our capability. I would highly recommend that this process continue. I have learned and performed more things than I thought I ever would.” Jeff

“The DEU program has been a great experience. Working with the same nurse each week really gives you the experience of a day in the life of a nurse because you get to experience the steps of the nursing process and learn how to manage time much more efficiently. I also feel more comfortable and feel as though I am working as part of the team and not just following along. James Hudeck was a great preceptor!” Krista

“DEU has been an overall enriching and positive experience for me as a student. The morale of the unit and attitudes of the nurses have been positive. I really felt like a member of the treatment team as we collaborated with not only our nurses and PCTs but also the medical students, doctors and nursing care managers. DEU gave me a great overview of what nursing encompasses and what a job as an RN will actually be like. I felt that the nurses were eager to teach and work with students. Overall, I would say DEU was successful and I felt privileged to have been able to participate in the program.” Kacie

“I think that the DEU on 7B did a great job. Everyone on the unit was very welcoming and will to help us with whatever we needed. I learned a lot being on this unit. I believe that I had multiple opportunities to perform skills. I appreciate everything that this experience has given me.” Samantha

“The DEU program has been an amazing experience. I really enjoyed being able to stay with the same nurse each week. I was able to build trust and my assigned nurse knew the skills I was capable of performing. Vincent P. was an amazing mentor and has given me a wealth of knowledge! I am really happy that I was able to take part in this program and I hope that it continues to be available to future students.” Jordan

“This has been an amazing learning experience and I have learned a great deal. I am very thankful to have been able to participate in this program. The program allowed me to work closely with a seasoned nurse and receive hands on experience. One of my favorite aspects of the program is that we feel welcome and all of the staff members enjoy teaching students. I have already learned many skills and have gained knowledge that I will utilize in my future nursing career. I wish every clinical was a DEU and I cannot think of anything I would like to see change.” Michelle

“The DEU has assisted me greatly in developing confidence in my abilities. As the trust between my nurse clinician instructor and I grew, I felt more independent and capable. They knew my strengths and weaknesses and were able to specifically cater to these needs giving me more autonomy to do the skills I do well and providing guidance where I struggle. Also, being on the same unit consistently has been great because you do not have to reorient yourself daily.” Mollie

“The DEU process has been wonderful! I have learned so much the past few weeks. My clinician instructor, Debbie G., has been awesome and so helpful. I am so thankful to have her as my preceptor and to be a part of this process. It will definitely benefit my career as a future nurse.” Riley

“I think that the DEU program was very beneficial. The DEU nurse clinician instructors were very knowledgeable, patient and understanding. I think that the way the DEU program is organized gives us insight into what being a nurse is truly like. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at TDCJ. I was provided with numerous opportunities to practice skills and experience situation that I might not have encountered at other hospitals.” Shannon

“I have enjoyed my experience so far, we always have the same nurse who wants students and knows out abilities. Perhaps 1 Nurse per student would be better, but it is wonderful to work with clinician nurses and staff that want to help students.” Unknown

TDCJ Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) Testimonials (Staff)

“(1) DEU makes working with students rewarding because more staff supports the patients; (2) DEU gives the floor nurse pride in passing on information, skills and knowledge; (3) Having assigned students and preceptor’s give since of organization and accountability; (4) Sense of accomplishment when the student is able to perform psychomotor skills that you worked to teach them; (5) DEU gives you the opportunity to pass on a part of yourself that lives on in the student and knowledge they will pass on someday to the RN they may teach; (6) DEU gives us the opportunity to see how ‘happy and full of energy’ the students are and it reminds you of yourself when you were starting out.” James H.

“I really enjoyed working with the DEU students and watching them learn, grow more independent and confident as a nurse. Each day it is amazing to see the growth! I have found myself looking up more drugs to share my knowledge as well as re-familiarize myself with UTMB policies and procedures.” Unknown

“The DEU process has been very beneficial in that it allows the nurse clinician instructor to interact with students who are actively using evidence-based practice and up-to-date technology to advance their nursing skills and enhance themselves as professionals. It allows the student nurse to engage in a collaborative environment as each person hones their nursing skills.” Alicia A.

“It was a great opportunity working with DEU students. It was a wonderful experience. They showed interest in performing nursing skills and performed procedures with confidence. When the student shows interest it makes a difference. I really enjoyed working with them. “
Unknown