

# TIPS FOR PLACEMENT NETWORKING

Networking plays a crucial role in securing a preceptor, here are some ideas to get you started.

## Reach Out to Your Personal Network

**Current Workplace:** If you're working in the healthcare field, ask your employer or colleagues.

**Former Employers:** Reach out to past supervisors or co-workers.

**Family and Friends:** Ask if they know any BSNs who will be willing to precept.

**Professors or Instructors:** They may have connections to clinical sites.

**Classmates and Alumni:** Connect with former students who secured preceptors.



## Search for Appropriate Health Care Facilities

*Inpatient hospital settings or procedural care sites are not appropriate.*

**Hospitals with Hospital-Based Clinics:** Contact nursing education departments, Human Resources (HR), or a Nursing Manager.

**Clinics:** Reach out to primary care, specialty, or urgent care clinics.

**Long-Term Care Facilities:** Nursing homes or rehab centers may be open to preceptorships.

**Home Health and Hospice Agencies:** Some may be open to preceptorships.

**Community Health Centers:** Check local public health departments and free clinics.



## Use Online and Social Media Networks

**LinkedIn:** Search for BSNs in your area and send a professional message.

**Facebook Groups:** Join "RN Preceptor" or "Nursing Student Support" groups.

**Reddit:** Use r/nursing or r/studentnurse to ask the community for leads.

**Instagram or TikTok:** Some nurses share their experiences and may offer preceptorships.



## Direct Contact (Cold Outreach)

**Email or Call Local Facilities:** Politely ask to speak to the education coordinator/manager etc.

**Prepare a Professional Resume and Cover Letter:** Have a resume ready to present to sites as you approach them.

**Visit Facilities in Person:** Personally go to clinics, hospitals, and healthcare facilities to inquire about potential preceptorship opportunities. Attend local healthcare events, conferences, or workshops to meet professionals in your field.



## POST-NETWORKING TIPS:

Be sure to follow up with the healthcare site manager, contract administrator, or preceptor after your initial contact. While it may seem simple, sending a thoughtful thank-you email to everyone you communicate with is essential. Expressing gratitude demonstrates professionalism and helps leave a positive impression. Additionally, make an effort to stand out at each location you visit. Being courteous, prepared, and memorable can make all the difference in securing a placement opportunity.

Remember to always be professional and prepared when reaching out. Clearly communicate your goals, availability, and how you will benefit from the preceptorship. Approach this opportunity as you would a job interview, as it has the potential to lead to future employment opportunities.

Document the name of the site, the individual you spoke with, the date of contact, and their response. This will help you stay organized and keep a record of your efforts.