

Altering a Medical Note

I am writing this story about my **unlawful actions of altering a doctor's note**. In September 2007 I submitted an altered doctor's note to my clinical instructor because I had missed our previous class. Knowing that I needed to provide my instructor with a doctor's note, I went to the clinic to obtain one. I was truly suffering from allergies the day I was absent from class, but had postponed going to the doctor's to obtain a medical note. A few classes had passed and my instructor did not ask for my note, so I felt as though she did not need me to submit it to her. I took this as an advantage because she would have questioned as to why **the note was not dated for the date I was absent from class**, but dated for a later date. When she finally asked for my note I felt as though I should change the date so I would not be questioned. Unfortunately, this was **my biggest mistake** and **I am sorry the thought of altering the note had ever crossed my mind**.

By pursuing this alteration I am **now serving a suspension** from the nursing program, which I have worked so hard to be a part of. My action was unnecessary and **I am truly embarrassed** for what I have done. **I accept full responsibility** for the offence of altering a doctor's note that I provided my instructor in order to clear an absence from my clinical class. At the time of the act, I **did not consider the consequences** that I would have to accept if I did submit the altered note. I completed the altered note in pure **ignorance of who would be affected by my dishonest actions**. I am an honest student, and this act was **out of the ordinary for me because I know better** than to perform such a horrible and dishonest act. I understand that altering the doctor's note was wrong because it falls below the **level of truthfulness that is expected** by the entire University of Windsor. In addition, I represent the nursing students and this dishonest act has not been a good representation. In the future I will **expect more from myself**, if I have an issue for any reason I will be honest. If I make a mistake or is in a position that I know will come with certain consequences, I will follow proper procedure and as an honest individual I will **accept those consequences, good or bad**. As an intelligent, honest student this was an unnecessary failure that has come with serious consequences that I have accepted and **I am truly sorry that it ever happened**.

- First-year Nursing Student

Fall 2007