



Nursing Classroom Supplies Program With Supplies Over Seas

Program Description

FREE Expired Medical Supplies for Nursing Program Classrooms

Supplies Over Seas (SOS) is a not-for-profit humanitarian aid organization that recovers life-saving medical supplies and equipment to be used by medically impoverished communities around the world. Kentucky is fortunate to have a medical surplus recovery organization (MSRO) – one of only 15 in the United States. SOS, located in Louisville, KY (1500 Arlington Avenue, right off I-64) supports medical education through their Classroom Supplies Program.

Volunteer Needs

Supplies Over Seas places collection bins in hospitals and medical locations to recover what would otherwise go into the landfill and collects over 12,000 pounds of medical supplies each month. These supplies need to be sorted, counted and packed. This labor intensive work is done by over 1000 volunteer hours each month. Volunteers with a medical background make the best volunteers!

Good Experience for Nursing Students & Great Help for SOS

The student volunteer service becomes a training experience as students are exposed to a wide variety of medical supplies. Nursing educators have an opportunity to talk to students about different types of supplies that students may only have encountered in a textbook. SOS benefits because they get the supplies sorted. These future nurses will know to look for Supplies Over Seas collection bins when they are in the workforce. Comments from Nursing students volunteering at a SOS Sort Session:

“I never thought I would hold an aortic graft...now I get it!”

*“I couldn’t image what a total knee replacement looked like...
I can see now how it is placed and the knee still works!”*

*“We have seen more equipment and surgical implant today
than we would ever see in a nursing clinical rotation.”*

Benefit to Nursing School Programs

Nursing instructors who bring a group of students to sort supplies at SOS have the **opportunity to take back to their classrooms expired surplus medical supplies that fit their curriculum**. Most instructors use this benefit to help stretch their classroom supply budgets. Nursing Instructors volunteering at a SOS Sort Session have said:

“ I now have the opportunity to take Swan-Ganz, triple lumen and PIC catheters into the classroom before the student cares for a patient with these devices.”

“ I had no idea I could come to SOS for Medical Supplies to hand –carry on our annual trip to the Dominican Republic with nursing students.”

SOS Inventory Available for Classrooms

At no cost to the nursing institution, SOS will provide to the nursing instructor to take back to their classroom with availability unlimited quantities of expired medical supplies that fit their curriculum needs. It has been determined by SOS that these presorted expired materials cannot be shipped to developing communities globally and so these materials are made available to support medical education.

Nursing Program Liaison to SOS

Nursing programs are asked to appoint a staff member to be the point person or liaison to SOS. This liaison may assist the nursing program to communicate clearly the expired material needs for the school to SOS and may serve as the contact to co-ordinate and schedule instructors and their students for sort sessions at SOS.

Schedule Your Nursing Students

During the week, 3-hour volunteer sort sessions can be scheduled at the school/instructor's convenience for any group of 10 or more. The SOS Volunteer Manager will work with the liaison to determine the best schedule for the instructor and for SOS staff. Evening sessions may be scheduled on a very limited basis. An instructor must accompany the students for the sort sessions. To schedule your students, contact:

Karen Womack, SOS Volunteer Manager

502-649-9026

Karen.Womack@SuppliesOverSeas.org

Expired Materials Donation

After the medical surplus materials sort session, SOS staff will escort the nursing instructor to the expired materials available to nursing programs in the SOS warehouse. Instructor will complete a form so that SOS can document the donation and the weight of materials. Chosen materials must be taken with instructor at the time of the sort session. SOS does not have the ability to store selected items for schools and is not responsible for delivery of materials.

Use of SOS Headquarters

Nursing programs located outside of the Louisville area find it convenient to schedule a day at Supplies Over Seas. The instructor will sign-up the students for a 3 hour sort session, then use the SOS conference room or other facilities for classroom exercises, meetings or study groups. SOS also makes their conference room and large warehouse facilities available to instructors who need classrooms space during their community service volunteer opportunity when the space is available.

Not Able to Schedule a Sort Session but Need Classroom Materials?

If you are in need of expired materials for your classroom, but you are not able to schedule a sort session, you can still receive supplies for a small fee. The administrative fee/SOS Donation of **\$50 covers the first 50 lbs.** Each additional pound will be charged **\$2/pound.** If you cannot come into SOS to pick up your supplies, SOS will custom pack a box for you. The Custom Box administrative fee/SOS Donation of **\$100 covers the first 40 lbs.** Each **additional pound will be charged \$2.** No supplies will leave SOS headquarters without payment having been made.

Photos

The nursing instructor and students may be photographed during the sort session or when taking the expired supplies. These photos may be used by SOS for marketing purposes.

SOS Donation to Nursing Program

To list the SOS donation to your nursing program correctly in the your marketing materials, please list our contact information as:

Supplies Over Seas

**1500 Arlington Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
(502) 736-6360**

SOS Marketing Materials

To receive a jpeg of the SOS logo or to coordinate cross-promotional marketing, please contact:

Theresa Burridge, Development Manager

(502) 567-6367

Theresa.Burridge@SuppliesOverSeas.org

Donations to SOS Accepted

Supplies Over Seas is a nor-for-profit organization. We are able to execute our mission due to the generosity of many. Your tax-deductible gift will allow us to continue to help support medical education in our region as well as global health internationally. Student-led fundraising events to benefit SOS create energy for student activities and needed support for SOS. Small donations from students are always welcome as well as a corporate donation from your school.