

# Doctor of Nursing Practice

## Admission Requirements

*Due to higher education regulation changes, the University of Missouri–St. Louis is unable to accept applications for admission to online programs from students residing in several states: Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington. For more information regarding these regulations, visit <http://online.umsl.edu/Students/non-residents.html>.*

## ~~Admission Requirements~~

~~The deadline for DNP applications for admission is April 1. Admission may be considered at a later date depending on space.~~

- ~~• BSN from a nationally accredited nursing program~~
- ~~• GPA of 3.0 or higher at the BSN or MSN~~
- ~~• 2 reference letters~~
- ~~• A proposed DNP project that matches faculty expertise~~
- ~~• Interview by invitation~~
- ~~• Evidence of an RN license in the state of Missouri or compact state.~~
- ~~• If entering with an MSN as an APRN, advanced practice certification or current certification in an advanced practice role~~
- ~~• Current or eligible for advanced practice nursing recognition in Missouri or eligible for recognition as an advanced practice nurse in Missouri~~

## ***Post-Baccalaureate to Doctorate of Nursing Practice***

The post baccalaureate entry point is designed for registered nurses who have completed a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing degree and desire to obtain a doctoral degree in nursing practice as they will develop the knowledge, skills, and expertise to become clinical scholars, transformational leaders, nurse practitioners and to function at the highest level of nursing practice.

Required Admission Criteria:

- BSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- BSN 3.3 GPA (calculated on last 60 hours of BSN coursework)
- Current professional licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course
- Completion of an undergraduate health assessment course or equivalent

#### *Direct Admit Option*

Guaranteed admission to the BSN-DNP program is selective and open to students who have earned a BSN from the University of Missouri – St. Louis or completed the UMSL CON Externship in Nursing Summer program and earned a BSN degree from a nationally accredited nursing program. Applicants must have a 3.75 GPA (calculated on last 60 hours of BSN coursework). Once admitted, students must maintain a 3.25 GPA. For full consideration, you must apply by April 1.

Spaces in the BSN-DNP program are limited and are first awarded to guaranteed applicants and awarded to non-guaranteed students on a competitive basis. Non-guaranteed applicants must submit applications no later than April 1.

#### *Post-Master's Entry with Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty*

The post master's entry point is designed for nurse practitioners who want to develop the knowledge, skills, and expertise to become clinical scholars, transformational leaders, and function at the highest level of nursing practice while obtaining a terminal degree in nursing practice.

#### **Required Admission Criteria**

- MSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- A cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for applicants with a master's degree in nursing
- Current professional licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course

#### *Post-Master's Entry without Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty*

This post-master's entry point is designed for registered nurses who have completed a Master's in Nursing degree but are not prepared or practicing as a nurse practitioner. Likewise, APRNs who want to add an additional specialty may take this entry pathway to the DNP. Individualized plans of study are developed for students in this entry pathway depending upon prior coursework.

#### Required Admission Criteria

- MSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- A cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for applicants with a master's degree in nursing
- Current professional licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course
- Completion of an undergraduate health assessment course or equivalent

### **DNP Application Procedure**

All applicants must submit the following materials:

- UMSL application for graduate admission
- Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities
- \$50 nonrefundable application fee
- DNP supplemental application
- Two letters of recommendation
- A two-page essay, indicating your professional goals and proposed DNP project
- A copy of your Advanced Nursing Practice Document of Recognition (if applicable)
- A copy of your National Advanced Practice Certificate (if applicable)

*Application Deadline for Fall Enrollment: April 1*

### **Degree Requirements**

The DNP Curriculum focuses on three tiers:

1. Foundational Concepts

2. Clinical Expertise
3. Integration of Practice

## Degree Requirements

### Core Content

Completion of the DNP program requires the completion of the following core content for all emphasis areas:

NURSE 6111	Healthcare Systems Concepts and Theory	3
NURSE 7211	Biostatistics I	3
NURSE 7230	Epidemiology	3
NURSE 7209	Advanced Nursing Roles and the Role of the DNP	3
NURSE 7443	Healthcare Policy	3
NURSE 7240	Health Informatics	3
NURSE 6130	Research, Interventions and Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURSE 6660	Introduction to Health Systems Management, and Policy for Underserved	3
NURSE 7200	State of the Science in Nursing Research and Practice (or nursing elective)	3
NURSE 7260	Program Evaluation and Quality Management in	3
NURSE 7220	Leadership in Practice	3
NURSE 7251	Healthcare Economics	3
NURSE 7291	DNP Capstone I	3
NURSE 7292	DNP Capstone II	3
NURSE 7293	DNP Capstone III	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<del>36</del> <b>45</b>

Prior to completion of the DNP Program, students will complete a clinically focused scholarly project that satisfies the graduate school requirements.

The minimum hours to complete a DNP if entering with an MSN is 36 hours. If entering with a BSN, the DNP requires 71-76 hours based upon emphasis area.

## Advanced Practice Nursing Emphasis

For all Nurse Practitioner emphasis areas, a student must complete both **focus content** and **specialty courses** based on area of specialty as listed below.

### Focus content for all Nurse Practitioners:

NURSE 6518	Pathophysiology For Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURSE 6520	Pharmacology For Advanced Nursing Practice <sup>1</sup>	3
NURSE 6524	Health Assessment For Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURSE 6530	Clinical Diagnostics for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURSE 6954	Advanced Practice Nursing: Residency I	3-4
NURSE 6955	Advanced Practice Nursing: Residency II	3-6
NURSE 7954	Advanced Practice Nursing: Residency III	3-6

<sup>1</sup> Students in the Acute Care Pediatric Emphasis Area will substitute course with NURSE 6529.

### Specialty Courses Based on Emphasis Area

#### Advanced Practice Nurse – Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner specialty courses

NURSE 6529	Pediatric Pharmacology	3
NURSE 6748	Acute Child Health I: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Practice Nursing	4
NURSE 6749	Acute Child Health II: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Practice Nursing	4

### **Advanced Practice Nurse – Family Nurse Practitioner specialty courses**

NURSE 6741	Family Health I: Diagnosis and Management of Advanced Nursing Practice	4-5
NURSE 6742	Family Health II: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	<del>4</del> -5

### **Advanced Practice Nurse – Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner specialty courses**

NURSE 6739	Adult-Geriatric Health I: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	4-5
NURSE 6740	Adult-Geriatric Health II: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	<del>4</del> -5

### **Advanced Practice Nurse – Women's Health Nurse Practitioner specialty courses**

NURSE 6746	Women's Health I: Diagnosis & Management in Advanced Practice Nursing	4-5
NURSE 6747	Women's Health II: Diagnosis & Mgmt In Advanced Nursing Practice	<del>4</del> -5

### **Advanced Practice Nurse – Psychiatric Mental Health Practitioner specialty courses**

NURSE 6737	Psychiatric-Mental Health I: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	4-5
NURSE 6738	Psychiatric-Mental Health II: Diagnosis & Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	<del>4</del> -5

### **Advanced Practice Nurse – Pediatric Nurse Practitioner specialty courses**

NURSE 6743	Child Health I: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Nursing Practice	4-5
NURSE 6744	Child Health II: Diagnosis and Management in Advanced Practice Nurse	<del>4</del> -5

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

The "5 year" limit of the statistics course has been removed because it has been determined that it is not necessary for the course requirements. Other updates are also being made to the admission criteria for the BSN to DNP option.

New advanced practice emphasis area for the DNP.