

## Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Post-Graduate Certificate

### Certificate Program

Designed as a part-time plan of study, the post-graduate certificate program is designed for nurses who have already completed some graduate nursing coursework. Existing APRN's can earn a post-graduate certificate in as little as three semesters. Students who are not APRN's can earn a post-graduate certificate in as little as six semesters.

A minimum of 12 nursing graduate credit hours including 600\* practicum hours are required. The number of required graduate credit hours will vary depending on certification status and the additional certification being sought.

Post-graduate APRN certificate students should have completed the following didactic courses or it's equivalency from their previous accredited graduate nursing program:

- Pathophysiology for Advanced Nursing Practice
- Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice
- Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice
- Clinical Diagnostics for Advanced Nursing Practice

If any of these courses were not completed, the course will need to be completed as part of the post-graduate certificate plan of study. \*Practicum hours may be 'awarded' for practicing APRNs pursuing additional certification, based on previous precepted patient care hours within the specialty of pursuit.

Due to higher education regulation changes, the University of Missouri–St. Louis cannot admit students from all states for online programs. Additional information about NCSARA Authorization can be found here:

<https://www.umsi.edu/services/academic/nc-saraauthorization/index.html>

Post-Graduate Certificate Population Program Tracks:

- Adult-Geriatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care (AGNP-PC)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Acute Care (PNP-AC)
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care (PNP-PC)
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Program Website: <https://www.umsi.edu/nursing/programs/certificates/index.html>

General Admission Criteria:

- Admission to the UMSL NursingCAS application
- MSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- Minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Current professional licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate or graduate general statistics course

Required Application Materials

1. Complete the on-line UMSL [NursingCAS](#) application
2. Provide evidence of U.S. permanent resident or citizen or visa to the United States.

3. Grade Point Average: Minimum of 3.0 (BSN) and/or a 3.0 (MSN) GPA on a 4.0 scale.
4. Submit transcripts:
  - Submit final and official transcripts from all universities attended.
  - International applicants are required to document English proficiency by providing scores from an internationally accepted standardized examination before a decision is made on admission.
- ❖ Applicants seeking a second certification must reflect successful completion (i.e., grade of 'B' or higher) in advanced health assessment, advanced pathophysiology, and advanced pharmacology (5000 level or higher).
- ❖ Applicants must have a MSN degree from an accredited nursing program in the United States.
5. Submit the supplemental application materials.

PGC Essay, which should respond to the following attributes:

- Introduction: Include professional background, but not personal identifiers such as name, place of employment, etc. Include your population track of interest (i.e. leadership, FNP, AGNP, etc.). Please share why you are returning to complete a post-graduate certificate in this specific specialty. Expound on how this certificate will add to your ability to attain your professional goals aside from the current certification(s) you currently hold. (250-400 words)
- Learning: Name 2-3 concrete ways you see this additional education enhancing your current practice. (250- 400 words max)
- Why UMSL?: The University of Missouri St. Louis Core Values are integrity, inclusion, innovation, access, success, and engagement. After reading the description of core values [HERE](#), explain how you embody the core values of integrity, inclusion, and innovation. (250-400 words max)
- ❖ Current CV/Resume. Applicants may use the CON CV Template
- ❖ Two Letters of Recommendation
  - Two (2) letters of professional recommendation from individuals who can attest to the applicant's potential success in the DNP program.
  - References should be from master's or doctorally prepared nurses or faculty members who can address the applicant's potential or ability to function in the advanced practice nursing role.
  - Applicants currently enrolled in a nursing program must submit at least one (1) recommendation from a current faculty member in that program.
  - Applicants currently practicing as a nurse practitioner, a professional recommendation from a practicing colleague is encouraged.
  - Recommendations from family, friends, fellow staff nurses or religious leader will not be accepted.
- ❖ Current Professional Licensure ☐ Copies of current, unencumbered Registered Nurse license(s).
  - Copies of all advanced practice nursing certification and/or credentialing/recognition documents for applicants with a master's degree as applicable.
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## Application Deadline

The priority deadline for receipt of all admission materials is January 15 of each year for the following fall admission. After January 15, rolling admissions will occur until class is full or by July 31st whichever comes first. Only completed applications with all required documents (official transcripts, letters of recommendation, essay, etc.) will be reviewed for admission.

The PGC program for Non-APRN students currently offers a fall start only. The PGC program for current APRN students currently offers a summer start.

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Notification of acceptance to the PGC program occurs in March for applications received by the priority deadline. Notification of acceptance occurs within four weeks during the rolling admission period.

## Program Contact Information:

### **DNP Graduate Program Director**

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### **Graduate Academic Advisor**

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