



## Doctor of Nursing Practice

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program focus on developing clinical expertise in a chosen population area and leadership skills to expand job prospects in health care.

### Areas of Study

Students choose one population focus and are prepared for Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) certification in one of the following:

Specialization	Role Preparation
Adult/Gerontology	Clinical Nurse Specialist
Adult/Gerontology Primary Care	Nurse Practitioner
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care	Nurse Practitioner
Pediatric Primary Care	Nurse Practitioner
Psychiatric-Mental Health	Nurse Practitioner

The post-bachelor's program requires 71 credits. There are three-year and four-year plans for the post-bachelor's program. Post-master's timelines can vary, but the degree requires a minimum of 32 credits in the program. Course work and practicum opportunities to earn a nurse educator certification are also available in the program.

### Admission

The application opens in early September, and all materials must be received by December 1. We accept applications from nurses who hold bachelor's degrees and master's degrees in nursing. Applicants are notified of decisions in March.

DNP Program Eligibility Requirements	Post-BS	Post-MS
Graduation from an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing	x	x
GPA of 3.0 on the last 60 credits for the baccalaureate degree**	x	x
Master's degree from an accredited nursing program		x
GPA of 3.5 for the master's degree**		x
RN license	x	x
Certification as an advanced practice nurse		x
Grade of B or better in a graduate-level statistics course within last 5 years	x	x
International applicants: CGFNS Certification Minimum English proficiency scores in one of the following: TOEFL (600 PBT, 100 iBT) IELTS (8) MELAB (85)	x	x

\*\*Applicants who do not meet the minimum 3.0 under-graduate GPA and have an MS degree with at least a 3.5 GPA are eligible to apply.

Fall 2018 Admitted Student Profile	
Average Post-BS GPA	3.50
Average Post-MS GPA (2018)	3.80
Median # years work experience	4

What is required?
Official transcripts
Online application to the UW-Madison Graduate School
Photocopy of nursing license
Statement of purpose
Three letters of recommendation
Curriculum vitae or resume
International applicants: CGFNS Certification (Official TOEFL, IELTS or MELAB scores)



**Curriculum**

We believe advanced practice nurses need to be prepared as expert clinicians and also possess advanced knowledge and skills in systems, leadership, program evaluation, informatics and policy in order to evaluate, influence and lead practice.

The curriculum is organized around three components: Systematic Evaluation of Practice, Leadership/Policy and Clinical Practice. These core components are met through a combination of course work, a scholarly project and supervised clinical hours.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cohort Mode</b></p> <p>Our DNP program utilizes a cohort model: Students follow the course sequence designated in the program plan and progress as a group.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Course Delivery</b></p> <p>Our hybrid classes offer the convenience of online classes combined with the optimal learning opportunities within the classroom. Most courses meet on campus once a month (a few courses meet on campus once a week), which allows students to commute from surrounding areas.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scholarly Project</b></p> <p>In the final year of the program each student completes a scholarly project, which may take the form of a program evaluation, program development proposal or quality improvement project. Students develop their scholarly projects over three semesters to produce a paper of publishable quality and deliver an oral presentation to faculty, students and the community.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clinical and Leadership Practicum Experiences</b></p> <p>As part of the DNP program, Post-BS students complete a minimum of 1000 practicum hours: 500 hours in clinical practice and 500 hours in clinical leadership. Post-MS students complete a minimum of 500 hours in clinical leadership. All clinical placements are arranged by School of Nursing faculty and staff.</p>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To learn more about our program, admissions, financial aid and scholarships, and more:

Monica Messina

Graduate Admissions &  
Recruitment Coordinator

Signe Skott Cooper Hall  
701 Highland Avenue, Room 1100  
Madison, WI 53705

[nursing.wisc.edu](http://nursing.wisc.edu)

[mlmessina@wisc.edu](mailto:mlmessina@wisc.edu)

608-263-5202

