Choose Your Future. As a terminal practice degree in nursing, UW–Madison offers students a choice of seven specialty options as the focus of DNP study.

Five advanced clinical practice tracks prepare students for APRN certification as a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) or nurse practitioner (NP). Students choose to work with specific patient populations in acute or primary care settings. All coursework and clinical education are delivered through a hybrid mix of highly interactive online and face-to-face classes. Clinical placements are arranged and overseen by faculty.

Two new tracks are available online to prepare DNP students with advanced nursing expertise in population health or systems innovations and leadership. Graduates will be positioned to lead organizations, innovate care, advocate for populations, and improve health from a systems level.
DNP specialty options include:

- Adult/Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
- Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Population Health
- Systems Leadership and Innovation

Have you imagined the possibilities with a DNP?

DISCOVER NEW POSSIBILITIES WITH A DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

Curriculum

The DNP curriculum prepares students for well-rounded advanced practice by emphasizing three major components: clinical scholarship, leadership & policy development, and advanced nursing practice.

Through a combination of coursework, a scholarly project, and 1,000 hours of supervised practicum hours, students develop advanced nursing knowledge and expertise in their select specialty, as well as advanced skills in evidence-based practice, program planning, evaluation, policy development, and critical, systems-level thinking. Our graduates lead and innovate practice, improve patient outcomes, and provide exceptional advanced nursing care.

Cohort Model

Our DNP program utilizes a cohort model. Students follow the course sequence designed in the program plan and progress as a group. Students develop a network of colleagues within and across specialties who support their studies and future practices.

Clinical & Leadership Practicum Experiences

Through 1,000 practicum hours, nurses are prepared with a breadth of experience for exceptional advanced practice. All practicum are overseen by faculty who have authentic practice expertise and advanced education in their specialty area. Through the practicum, students explore and build skills in a variety of progressively complex practice settings. Placements can be in rural as well as urban areas, and include different organizational and leadership models to prepare students for the full potential of their degree.

Scholarly Project

In the final year of the program, each student completes a **capstone scholarly project,** synthesizing prior coursework with advanced practice expertise. Projects are completed in real community settings for the benefit of patient outcomes, healthcare organizations, or populations. Project work extends 12 months, during which students design the project, write a proposal, implement and evaluate outcomes, and disseminate their findings. The project prepares students for lifelong innovation and translation of evidence into practice.

" Now that I have my DNP, not only do I still get to help families, but I also get to focus on improving the process at a higher level for our team. I'm able to perform literature reviews, data collection, and change our process using my clinical background."

ADAM SCHNEIDER, DNP'18, AGACNP-BC

The application opens in early September, and all materials must be received by **December 1.** Admission is based on a thorough and holistic evaluation of each application. After an initial application review, eligible applicants will be invited for an in-person interview. All applicants must participate in an interview in order to be considered for the program. Applicants are notified of decisions in March.

Admitted Student Profile (Fall 2020)

AVERAGE POST-BS GPA

3.57

AVERAGE POST-MS GPA

3.65

MEDIAN # YEARS WORK EXPERIENCE

3.8

Eligibility Requirements:

- ☐ Graduated from an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing
- ☐ RN license
- ☐ One year of experience in nursing, public health, or a health-related field (Population Heath, Systems Leadership and Innovation tracks).
- ☐ Grade of B or better in a graduate-level statistics course within last 5 years. The course does not need to be taken before applying.
- ☐ GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 credits for the baccalaureate degree (Post-BS only)

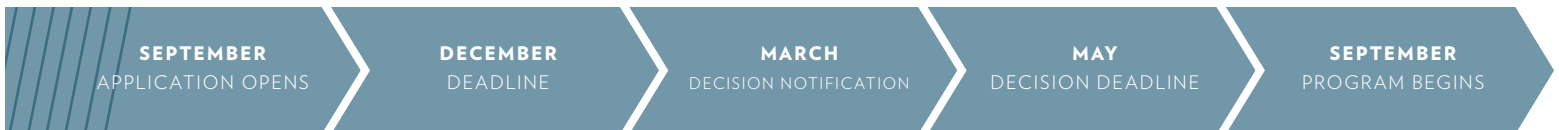*For applicants who hold APRN Certification (Post-MS):*

- ☐ GPA of 3.5 for the master's degree
- ☐ Master's degree from an accredited nursing program
- ☐ Certification as an advanced practice nurse

Applicants with prior graduate education may be able to waive up to 18 credits based on previous graduate coursework, pending review of transcripts and syllabi.

Application Materials:

- ☐ Online application to the UW–Madison Graduate School
- ☐ Official transcripts
- ☐ Nursing license
- ☐ Curriculum vitae or resume
- ☐ Statement of purpose
- ☐ Three letters of recommendation
- ☐ CGFNS certification for international applicants
- ☐ Official English proficiency scores (TOEFL, IELTS, or MELAB) for international applicants

Application Timeline

SEPTEMBER APPLICATION OPENS	DECEMBER DEADLINE	MARCH DECISION NOTIFICATION	MAY DECISION DEADLINE	SEPTEMBER PROGRAM BEGINS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about our program, admissions, funding opportunities, and more:

nursing.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/dnp/
608-263-5180
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