The University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Nursing continues to raise the bar in developing nurse leaders, announcing two new specialty tracks in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Nurses looking to advance their careers in health care can discover new possibilities in advanced nursing practice through two unique online DNP tracks in Population Health or Systems Leadership and Innovation. This opportunity comes at a pivotal time in health care as the industry finds itself facing an increasing need for advanced practice nurse leaders. Customized to a nurse’s experiences and career goals, each specialty track builds the skills nurses need to think critically and proficiently as expert nurses with advanced knowledge in systems, leadership, program evaluation, informatics, and health policy.

**New DNP Specialty Tracks**

**DNP in Population Health**
The DNP in Population Health is designed to provide a course of study that will foster the development of competencies required for leading population health improvement across health care, public health, and community systems. This advanced practice nursing program of study emphasizes the values of the nursing profession, applying a broad perspective on health determinants, coordinating care across providers and sites, collaborating with other professionals and community stakeholders, and advocating for individuals, communities, and populations. Graduates of this program will be well prepared to shape population health improvement and lead population health programs.

**DNP in Systems Leadership and Innovation**
The DNP in Systems Leadership and Innovation is designed to provide an agile, customized course of study that will support the development of advanced practice nursing leaders for a variety of health care roles who understand multifaceted human-environment and systems factors for systems innovation. These leaders will incorporate the values of the nursing profession in positions of influence. Learners will build the knowledge and skills necessary for health care transformation, innovation, and effective leadership in a wide variety of settings. Graduates of this program will be well prepared to leverage a broad perspective on systems innovation, to design and lead new models of care delivery.

Pam McGranahan, MS’04, DNP’12, RN - DNP Program Director

These new tracks are set to prepare the nurses we need to help resolve some of the greatest challenges we’re facing as a society: rising rates of chronic disease, figuring out how to adequately and affordably care for an aging population, health disparities, access to care and skyrocketing costs of care, addiction, climate change, emerging infectious diseases, and a global pandemic.”
The application opens in early September, and all materials must be received by April 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 May.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Graduated from an accredited baccalaureate degree program in nursing
- RN license
- One year of experience in nursing, public health, or health-related field
- 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
- April: Deadline
- May: Decision Notification
- June: 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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