Overview of Nursing Programs

...Q&A time
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Accreditation

Washington State University College of Nursing graduate programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).
Campus Locations

The College of Nursing offers degree programs across the state to help address the health care needs of all Washington residents. Graduate degree programs are offered on WSU campuses and sites in Spokane, Vancouver, Yakima and the Tri-Cities.
Graduate Programs
Doctor of Nurse Practice

Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health NP
Doctor of Nurse Practice

Post-Master’s General
Certificates

Nursing Leadership and Nursing Education
Master’s
On hiatus until Fall 2025
The Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program prepares you for a career in primary care. In many states, including Washington, Oregon and Idaho, a Family Nurse Practitioner can operate an independent practice, diagnosing and treating illness, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, and initiating treatments.

- Post-Baccalaureate 77 credits
- Post-Master’s 72 credits (2 classes fewer than Post–Bac.) with option to request transfer credit
- Classes Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters
- 3- and 4-year cohorts
The DNP-PMHNP prepares you to provide psychiatric and mental health services using a full scope of therapies. A Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner assesses, diagnoses, and treats people with psychiatric disorders or the potential for such disorders.

- Post-Baccalaureate 77 credits
- Post-Master’s 72 credits (2 classes fewer than Post–Bac.) with option to request transfer credit
- Classes Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters
- 3- and 4-year cohorts
The Post-Master’s DNP General degree is focused on evidence-based practice, leadership, and research. This degree is for nurses who’ve already earned their master’s degree and want to advance their area of specialty.

- 34 credits
- Classes Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters
- 5- and 8-semester options
- Clinical hours from MN will be evaluated. Student may need to take additional clinical/project hours to reach 1000 required for NP.
Transfer credit for Post-MN Students

We can evaluate potential transfer courses after application for admission.

- Student gathers potential transfer courses syllabi and submits for faculty review.
  - May not get approval for all courses.
  - For a list of courses that we will consider for transfer credit, please contact an Academic Coordinator.

You need to be willing to take all courses in the program.
Sample Progression Plans

Cohort programs. Need to follow plan and can only change with approval from College.

Sample progression plans are listed here: https://nursing.wsu.edu/dnp/

Click on “Program Requirements” and “Required Coursework”
CLINICALS
Clinicals and Practicum Hours

- Clinical (direct care) and practicum (non-direct care)
- FNP and PMHNP require 1000 hours: 600 hours direct patient care and remaining hours are non-direct care project- and leadership-based.
  - Clinicals for 3-year students start in the second year.
  - Clinicals for 4-year students start in the third year.
- PM General requires 1000 clinical/practicum hours.
  - We will evaluate whether you have enough from your MN or need additional practicum hours to reach 1000.
Clinicals

- **FNP and PMHNP:**
  - Include direct patient care courses. We have a clinical placement coordinator who places students at sites.

- **Clinical locations**
  - Completed in Washington, Oregon, or Idaho.
  - You must be licensed in the state in which you complete clinical hours.
  - If you live near the state border, you are strongly encouraged to have RN license in both states.

- **Project or leadership based (non-direct care)** practice hours for all programs:
  - Students find their own mentors for these courses with instructor assistance.
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Direct Care

FNP

• Primary care clinics, typically in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics or urgent care.
• Opportunity to do some hours in specialty area, such as women’s health, dermatology, cardiology, orthopedics, hospice/palliative care.

PMHNP

• Placement with a Psychiatrist, a PMHNP, a therapist or licensed mental health counselor in inpatient and outpatient settings.
• Focus on a range of populations.
• First clinical focuses on therapy, remaining rotations focus on assessments, diagnosing, and treatment planning using therapy and medications as interventions.
Direct-Care Clinical Placements

- Every effort is made to place you in a convenient location; however, clinical placements are extremely competitive in ALL communities.
- You may need to travel for clinicals.
- Most clinics are open Mon-Fri, 7 a.m.—7 p.m. You may need to adjust your work schedule or other commitments to be available during these times for clinical.
- Forgoing a placement offered to you may result in your inability to progress in the program.
DNP Project

Prepares nurses to utilize the concept of practice inquiry to translate meaningful health research into practice.

• Students investigate an area of nursing practice, the health care delivery system, or a health care policy issue to develop a project meaningful to the organization as well as one that meets the scope of doctoral level work.

• May take the form of quality improvement initiatives, practice change programs, program evaluation or translating evidence into practice.
DNP Project Examples

Piloting an Educational Model to Reduce Provider Bias to Address Health Disparities with African American patients – gave a tool/survey to assess bias, watch YouTube videos on what to do about bias, complete a module online and then evaluate.

Increasing Employee Engagement – to address turnover rates; gave a survey and used the results in order to come up with strategies including recognition board, preceptor development, exit interviews.

Geriatric Home Visits – reducing the length of home visits by creating charting that saves time; use of guidelines, flow charts that are visible in the office, and webinars.
Remember

You will have a lot of time to explore before you have to decide on a project! Your faculty advisor will guide you.
More Examples

For more project abstracts, go to: https://nursing.wsu.edu/academics/dnp-student-projects
Nursing Leadership

DNP students take the required course work for this certificate as part of their studies.

Other graduate students or working nurses may apply to take part in the program.

12 credits

Nursing Education

Graduate students or working nurses may apply to take part in the program.

9 credits

Optional course with practicum to prepare students to take the NLN CNE exam.

https://nursing.wsu.edu/graduate-program-options/graduate-certificates/
The rest of the course work is asynchronous.

Hybrid delivery: Most classes meet an average of 5-6 times per semester synchronously online.

FNP has 2 lab courses (usually scheduled on the same day) and PMHNP has 1 lab course. Students will need to come to campus 5-6 times in that semester.

FNP and PMHNP: 3 weekend intensives to correspond with clinicals.

DNP General – only one weekend intensive. No labs.
Miscellaneous

Graduate Passport
Stay up-to-date with immunizations, resume, and track clinical hours.

Advisors
Are assigned to all students for support, mentorship, career and project guidance.

Technology
Must have access to a computer with internet. Have confidence with Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Typing speed is important. Take a course, if helpful.

Academic Preparation
Writing – consider a course if helpful. Coursera has www.coursera.org/learn/sciwrite. APA 7 for citations.
Study skills – memory strategies, reading.
TUITION & FINANCIAL AID
Tuition and Fees

- Full-time (per semester) 10-18 hours
  - Resident: approx. $11,880
  - Non-Resident: approx. $19,616

- Part-time - per credit (fewer than 10 credits per semester)
  - Resident: approx. $1,188
  - Non-Resident: approx. $1,961

- College of Nursing fees: Approximately $5000.
  - Includes placements, standardized patients, onboarding, etc.

- Summer tuition – approximately $1,188 per credit for resident and non-resident

https://budget.wsu.edu/tuition-and-fee-rates/

State Waiver
Is no longer accepted for WSU graduate nursing programs.
Border Bill


https://futurecoug.wsu.edu/register:border-bill
Students who live in these member states will automatically be given in-state tuition for 9+ credits per semester in the Fall or Spring Semesters or 5+ credits in the Summer Semester.
WSU Veterans and Military-Affiliated Students (VMAS)

https://va.wsu.edu/
Scholarships

There is an extensive list of funding opportunities listed here: https://nursing.wsu.edu/scholarship-and-funding-opportunities/

• Nurse Faculty Loan Program
• College of Nursing Scholarships
• HRSA
• WSU General Scholarship
• WSU Scholarship Search Tool
DNP Application Cycle

Application opens

August 15

November 15

January 15
DNP Application Cycle

Deadline for FNP and PMHNP Priority consideration

- November 15
- January 15
- March

August 15

Deadline is at 11:59 PM EST
That’s 8:59 PM Pacific Time!
DNP Application Cycle

Final Deadline for FNP and PHMNP tracks

Priority deadline for Post-Master’s General

Approximate notification of acceptance for FNP and PHMNP applicants who filed by November 15.
DNP Application Cycle

Decisions sent for those who applied by the final application deadline for FNP and PMHNP and priority deadline for Post Master’s General (PMG).

PMG students may inquire about later application if they missed the January 15 deadline.

Students start in the Fall only.
Certificates Application Cycle

Applications open for Fall admission.

DNP applicants do not have to also apply for certificates. Contact academic coordinator to add those to your plan.
Certificates Application Cycle

Deadline for application for Nursing Education or Leadership certificate programs

March 15

August 15

June
Certificates Application Cycle

Decisions sent
Out of State Applicants

• Need to be licensed as an RN in either Washington, Oregon, or Idaho state by the time the program begins.
  • All clinical hours must be completed in Washington, Oregon, or Idaho.
  • Non-direct care practicums may be permitted on a case-by-case basis out of these three states. Please inquire.

• Must come to campus for lab courses and intensives when required.

• International applicant: contact the International Programs to ask about TOEFL, accepted degrees, and residency requirements
  • international@wsu.edu, (509) 335-8117
Application FAQs

- **Apply through NursingCAS only.**
  - No Graduate School (GradCAS) application is required.

- **References:**
  - Three recent references. Ideally from both education and work/professional settings.

- **KiraTalent virtual interview:**
  - Combo of written and recorded questions
  - FNP and PMHNP applicants who apply by November 15: watch for an email in mid-November with details.
  - FNP, PMHNP, and DNP General students who apply by January 15: watch for an email by March.

- **Application questions?** [nursing.admissions@wsu.edu](mailto:nursing.admissions@wsu.edu)
Application Decisions

- Applications reviewed by faculty.
- All applicants are notified via the NursingCAS email system.
- Typical admissions, **statewide**:
  - FNP 50 admitted, out of 90-100
  - PMHNP 20 admitted, out of 30-40
  - Post-MN DNP General 15+ admitted

Questions: nursing.admissions@wsu.edu
Exam pass rates

- AANP – DNP FNP exam
  - 2019 – 95%
  - 2020 – 95.8%
  - 2021 – 89.7%

- ANCC – DNP FNP Exam
  - 2019-2021 – 100%

- ANCC – PMHNP Exam
  - 2019 – 100%
  - 2020 – 77.8%
  - 2021 – 100%
Overview of Nursing Programs

...Q&A time
Thank you for attending

Spokane, Tri-cities, and Yakima questions: Tami Kelley at kelleyt@wsu.edu
Vancouver questions: Wendy Ovall at wendy.ovall@wsu.edu