Graduate Programs in Nursing

The School of Nursing offers the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). Both the DNP and MSN are approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing and are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Doctor of Nursing Practice
The DNP provides advanced education in many areas beyond what the MSN program provides. Some areas of advanced content are: critical thinking and leadership in the health care system, and health policy.

There are two entry points for this program. Those who have completed either the BSN or the MSN may apply.

DNP Admission Requirements - Post Baccalaureate:
In addition to the general University requirements for admission to graduate studies, the following requirements apply:
1.) An approved graduate level statistics course taken within the last six years;
2.) A Bachelor of Science in Nursing from a nationally accredited school (NLN or CCNE);
3.) A GPA of 3.00 or higher in the following areas:
   a) Last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework.
   b) All undergraduate Nursing courses
   c) Any graduate-level courses taken
   d) The following four science courses taken with an overall GPA of at least 3.00 and no grade that generates less than 2.00 credit points per credit hour in any one course: Anatomy/ Physiology, Microbiology, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology;
4.) Two applications must be submitted: a Graduate School application and a School of Nursing application. Both must be submitted by May 1 (fall admission only)
5.) All students will request entrance to a specific specialization upon application. Due to revisions in the Nursing curricula, please contact the School of Nursing for the most recent information regarding specializations.
6.) Evidence of license as a registered nurse in Kansas;
7.) Coverage by professional liability insurance. NP students must have NP student coverage prior to enrollment in practicum coursework. Minimum coverage required: $1,000,000 single incident/$3,000,000 Aggregate;
8.) Computer literacy is an expectation of the graduate nursing program. Skills should include: word processing, email, file attachments, and internet searches. If courses require Blackboard, students are highly encouraged to complete the Blackboard orientation. Students may elect to take Personal Computing 105, or another basic computer skills course, to fulfill the computer literacy expectation; and
9.) Technical standards must be met.
10.) A background check is required. The School of Nursing can provide details for obtaining the background check.

DNP Admission Requirements - Post-Master's:
NOTE: This program is offered entirely online
In addition to the general University requirements for admission to graduate studies, the following requirements apply:
1.) An approved graduate level statistics course taken within the last six years;
2.) A nursing master's degree from an accredited School, with a GPA of 3.25 or higher in all master's work;
3.) Individual/Family focus applicants are required to:
   a) Present proof of APRN licensure in Kansas and/or other authorized online states;
   b) Present proof of, or eligibility for, national certification as a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist;
4.) Some latitude may be given in the following GPA requirements on an individual basis (3.00 or higher in the following areas):
   a) Last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework
   b) All undergraduate Nursing courses
   c) Any graduate-level courses taken
   d) The following four science courses taken with an overall GPA of at least 3.00 and no grade that generates less than 2.00 credit points per credit hour in any one course: Anatomy/ Physiology, Microbiology, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology;
5) Two applications must be submitted: a Graduate School application and a School of Nursing application. Both must be submitted by October 15 (spring admission only)
6.) Admission for Post-Master's applicants will be to the practice specialization area in which their nursing master's degree was completed.

For more information please contact the School of Nursing Graduate Programs Office.

Master of Science in Nursing
The program is individualized to meet the needs and professional goals of each student. The curriculum has been developed to accommodate part-time study (8 or
fewer credit hours), as well as full-time study (9-12 credit hours). The purpose of the graduate program is to prepare nurses for advanced roles in indirect and direct care, e.g., administrators and educators.

**MSN Admission Requirements**
In addition to the general university requirements for admission to graduate studies, the School of Nursing requires:

1.) A bachelor’s degree with a major in nursing from a nationally accredited (NLN or CCNE) school.
2.) Admission to the Graduate School at Wichita State University;
3.) A cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher in Nursing undergraduate coursework;
4.) School of Nursing approval;
5.) Coverage by professional liability insurance; in effect during practica, in the minimum amount of $1/3 million individual/aggregate, to be renewed annually;
6.) One year of nursing practice following professional licensure is highly recommended but not required;
7.) Computer literacy and electronic database literature searching skills;
8.) A background check is required. The School of Nursing can provide details for obtaining the background check;
9.) Evidence of meeting the technical standards as identified by the School of Nursing graduate program.
10.) Evidence of registered nurse licensure in the state for which they practice. WSU is accepting applications from anyone living in the state of Kansas and the number of states WSU is authorized to admit is rapidly increasing. Check with WSU’s Office of Online Learning (www.wichita.edu/online) to see if WSU is approved to provide distance education in your state.

11.) Two applications must be submitted: a Graduate School application and a School of Nursing application. Both applications must be submitted by May 1. Admission is for Fall semester only.

**For DNP and MSN programs:**
Students may be admitted conditionally until all requirements for admission are completed.

**Facilities**
The School of Nursing offers state-of-the-art clinical laboratories and equipment for students’ use. Practica are completed in a variety of local and regional health care agencies including hospitals, clinics, health departments, home health agencies, and extended care facilities.

Excellent preceptors and clinical sites afford the student the best possible experience in his or her chosen specialization.

**Financial Assistance**
Graduate teaching or research assistantships, as well as special scholarships may be available. WSU’s financial aid office will assist students with loans or other financing.

**International Students**
Because the majority of the MSN and DNP coursework is offered online (or entirely online as the case with the Post-Master’s DNP program), students requiring an F-1 Visa are not eligible for this program. F-1 students are allowed to take generally only one online course per semester.

**Faculty**
The School of Nursing graduate faculty members have received recognition for excellence in teaching and research and have published in national peer reviewed journals. Many faculty are nationally certified and remain active in clinical practice.

Carol Bett, PhD, MN, MA, RN. Instructor

Wendy Dusenbury, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CRNA, ANVP-BC. Assistant Professor.

Pat Dwyer, MSN, APRN, FNP-C. Clinical Educator

Betty Elder, PhD, MSN, RN, MS. Associate Professor.

Mary Faragher, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC. Instructor.

Karen Hayes, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, ACNP-BC. Assistant Professor.

Alicia Huckstadt, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, GNP-BC, FAANP. Professor and Director of Graduate program.

Janelle Mayer, PharmD. Clinical Educator

Linda Moody, DNP, MBA, BSN, RNC-OB. Assistant Professor.

Barbara Morrison, PhD, APRN, CNM. Associate Professor.

Victoria Mosack, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC. Chair, School of Nursing, Associate Professor.

Susan Parsons, PhD, RN. Associate Professor.

Debra Pile, DNP, APRN, PCNS-BC. Associate Professor.

Jennifer Rodgers, MSN, APRN-ACNP. Clinical Educator

Jennifer Sebes, DNP, MSN, APRN-FNP. Instructor

Betty Smith-Campbell, PhD, APRN-CNS. Professor.

Elaine Steinke, PhD, APRN-CNS, FAAN. Professor.

**For More Information**
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