

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (D.N.P)

General Information

The School of Nursing offers the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. The program is designed to allow nurses who possess a graduate degree in nursing to prepare for the highest level of nursing practice.

Graduates of the DNP program will have specific competencies derived from The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2006) for which they will be prepared. The Doctor of Nursing Practice student learning outcomes include:

1. Develop, evaluate, translate, and integrate theory-based nursing and interdisciplinary knowledge in new practice approaches to enhance health and health care delivery.
2. Create and evaluate principles of organizational and systems theory to provide leadership in improving health outcomes and promoting excellence in practice.
3. Utilize analytic methods, information technology, and research methods to critically appraise evidence-based practice data to evaluate outcomes of practice, practice patterns, and health systems against national benchmarks, to improve health care outcomes.
4. Assimilate and process aggregate data, using information systems, informatics and technology, as well as evaluation and assessment tools, current research and outcome data, to translate this knowledge to improve or transform patient and health care systems.
5. Actively influence health policy that addresses health disparity, access, quality, and financing at institutional, local, state, federal, and international levels.
6. Employ effective communication and interprofessional collaboration to design, implement, and evaluate individual and system level interventions, to improve health and create change in health care delivery systems.
7. Implement clinical prevention and population health activities to improve the health of individuals and populations.

Admission Requirements

Minimum requirements for admission to the DNP program include

1. a master's degree in nursing from a nationally accredited program,
2. Unencumbered RN license from an approved state,
3. a graduate GPA of at least 3.0 (4.0 scale).

Admission is competitive and limited to available space. In addition to the Graduate School application, applicants must also submit to the department a separate completed department application form, a resume or curriculum vitae, a short essay (500-700 words) describing the relationship between the applicant's professional goals and the DNP program, and at least 3 positive letters of recommendation. As a limited number of applicants are accepted for admission, selection will be based on careful consideration of all information included in the admission application packet and the degree to which each candidate meets the requirements. Complete applications, which include all requested information, are given priority in the selection process. In order to be

competitive, all material and documentation must be submitted by the deadline.

Please refer to the School of Nursing website at nursing.eku.edu/doctor-nursing-practice (<http://nursing.eku.edu/doctor-nursing-practice/>) for specific information on the application process for admission and progression plans for study, or contact the department at (859) 622-7927 for information on the application process for admission.

Progression Policy

To progress, students must complete all required course work with a grade of "B" or higher and must complete any pre-requisite courses before advancing to the next course. Refer to course descriptions in this Catalog for specifics. A student who does not satisfactorily progress in the program must be given permission by the DNP Admission/Readmission Committee to repeat a course and continue in the program.

Program Requirements

CIP Code: 51.3818

Code	Title	Hours
DNP Core Courses		
NSC 905	Analytical Methods for EBP	3
NSC 940	Theoretical Appl for DNP	3
NSC 942	Healthcare Deliv. Informatics	3
NSC 950	Health Policy	3
NSC 954	Organizational Leadership	3
NSC 960	Mngmnt of Health Care Resource	3
NSC 990	Synthesizing Evidence for DNP	3
NSC 992	Implementation Methods for DNP	3
Organizational Leadership		
NSC 900	Seminar I: Role Transition	1-3
NSC 901	Seminar II: DNP Project	1-2
NSC 994	DNP Project	6-9
Total Hours		32-38

Required hours will be individually evaluated on a planned program of study for each student, depending on academic background and career goals.

Exit Requirements

DNP Project (NSC 994 DNP Project) – Candidates are required to satisfactorily complete and present a DNP project before they are eligible to graduate from the program. Students must have documentation of a minimum of 1,000 total clinical hours completed beyond the BSN. Hours required to be completed at EKU will be assessed upon admission to the DNP Program and a plan of study developed accordingly.