APPLYING TO THE FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM

In Oregon, family nurse practitioners deliver critically important services especially to rural and medically underserved populations. Family nurse practitioners (FNP) apply advanced knowledge and clinical skills in many facets of healthcare, including providing prenatal care and family-planning services; providing well-child care; obtaining medical histories and performing physical examinations; diagnosing, treating, and monitoring acute health problems and chronic diseases; ordering, performing and interpreting diagnostic studies. FNP’s have prescriptive rights and work in a variety of settings including hospitals, clinics, businesses, physician offices, independent nurse practitioner offices, and schools of nursing.

The family nurse practitioner program has been designed to cover a combination of advanced practice core, FNP specialty courses, and either master or doctor of nursing practice core courses. This combination prepares students for practice in the field and simultaneously provides a framework for clinical leadership and policy that is critical for any nurse practitioner in practice today.

Degree options: Students in this program can either take two years of full-time study and complete the Master of Nursing (MN) degree or attend for three years of full-time study and achieve the MN on the way to receiving the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). A post master’s certificate option (PMCO) is also available in this area for nurse practitioners of another specialty.

Course delivery: This program is offered on the Portland campus and statewide and starts once a year in the fall. The FNP program accepts distance/hybrid students residing in Oregon and bordering counties. The SON is engaged in standardizing our approach to distance education based on best practices, including distance course design and technology. Coursework will require travel to Portland up to 2-4 times each quarter.

Admissions Factors:
Admissions decisions are strongly based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA & Science GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- GRE scores (and TOEFL scores for international applicants if applicable)
- Essay responses
- Interview (for select applicants)

Admission Requirements & Eligibility

Prior Degree
Applicants must have a Bachelors of Science with a major in nursing or BSN from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education.

R.N. Status
- Must have or be eligible for an Oregon registered nurse license upon application
- Must be licensed in the state of Oregon prior to matriculation.
Work Experience & Resume
You do not need to have work experience as an RN to be eligible to apply. Applicants will need to provide a curriculum vitae or resume as part of the application.

Grade Point Average
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (all college level courses ever taken)
- Minimum science GPA of a 3.0 (i.e. as anatomy, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics, physiology, etc.)

Statistics: Applicants must have successfully passed a basic statistics course from a regionally accredited school with a grade of "B-" or better within five years prior to entering the program. Post Master Certificate Option applicants are not required to complete statistics.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Scores
Applicants to the MN or DNP options are required to submit official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores from the general test from ETS. OHSU recommends a 144 in the quantitative section, 153 in the verbal section, and a minimum analytic writing score of 4.0 to be competitive. Prior to August 2011, a minimum score of 500 in each section (verbal and quantitative) as well as a minimum analytic writing score of 4.0. The GRE is waived for those with a prior master’s degree from an accredited US institution.

Letters of Recommendation
Applicants must submit three letters of reference. The Admissions Committee prefers applicants to submit references from the following sources: a supervisor, an instructor or academic source, and a co-worker.

Essay Questions
You will be asked to provide a written essay(s) as part of your application. Please see the link to the essay instructions for this program located on this page: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/applying/index.cfm

Sample of Scholarly Work (for DNP applicants only)
Applicants to the DNP program track are required to submit a sample of scholarly writing. This can be a published paper, thesis, or research paper used as a part of a course requirement. Note: If you do not have a sample of your scholarly work, please let us know; we can arrange for you to write an article analysis in response to an article that we provide.

HOW TO APPLY TO FNP PROGRAM:

Step 1: Review and follow the specific applications instructions for your program located on the OHSU School of Nursing website found at www.ohsu.edu/son in the tab “Admissions & Prospective Students”, then select
“Applying”. This Applying page offers a complete check list of instructions, helpful links, and additional forms to upload to your application. Please review the page thoroughly.

**Step 2:** The OHSU School of Nursing uses an independent organization that processes applications for OHSU called the Nursing Centralized Application Service for Nursing CAS. You must set up a Nursing CAS account and start your application for the program to which you are applying. All students applying to any of the OHSU Nursing programs must submit an application through Nursing CAS by the stipulated deadline date in order to be considered for admissions.

**Step 3:** Upload and add all required items into your Nursing CAS account. All required application materials are as follows:

- **Official transcripts** (transcripts must be mailed directly from your college(s)).
  
  *Mail transcripts to:* NursingCAS. P.O. Box 9201, Watertown, MA 02471

- **Manually enter every college course** into your NursingCAS account.

- **3 Letters of Recommendation** submitted via NursingCAS.

- **Resume or Curriculum Vitae** – upload in document upload section.

- **Essay response** - essay prompts available in the Nursing CAS application.

- **GRE scores** - enter unofficial scores to the standardized tests section, have official scores sent to OHSU using code 4900.

- **5-year time limit Statistics waiver form** - (if necessary) upload to NursingCAS in document upload section.

**Step 4:** Once the above steps have been completed in your NursingCAS application, you must submit your application via NursingCAS in order to have your application reviewed by OHSU. At this point, you must be in contact with the NursingCAS office to confirm that they have received all of your official transcripts.

**Nursing CAS Support:** 617-612-2880, Mon. – Thurs. 9am -7pm EST, Friday 9am – 5pm EST. Applications will not be reviewed or considered without all official transcripts on file through the NursingCAS system.

**Step 5:** All students applying to an OHSU Nursing program must submit an OHSU supplemental application. The link to this application can be found on our “Applying” webpage. Your OHSU supplemental application must be submitted by the stipulated deadline date.

**Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Policy**

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity operated by recipients of federal aid. OHSU complies with Title IX and 34 CFR Part 106 by prohibiting sex and gender discrimination in education programs, activities, employment, and admissions. Inquiries about Title IX compliance or sex/gender discrimination may be directed to the OHSU Title IX Coordinator: Michael Tom, Director of the Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (AAEO) Dept., 503-494-5148, tomm@ohsu.edu.

**Gainful Employment Disclosure**

[http://www.ohsu.edu/academic/gainful-employment/fnp/Gedt.html](http://www.ohsu.edu/academic/gainful-employment/fnp/Gedt.html)