APPLYING TO THE POST MASTER’S DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) represents the highest degree in nursing practice. Graduates receive additional preparation to expand practice in breadth and depth as well as coursework and mentorship to facilitate leadership and practice-related scholarship in their professional career. Designed for those that already have a Master’s degree in an advance nursing practice specialty, this program will prepare graduates to be leaders that drive the application of evidence and promote excellence in nursing practice and health care. As a practice-focused doctoral program, innovation and inquiry are central to graduating DNP -nurses prepared in leadership to identify, develop, and evaluate solutions to the most troubling challenges found in clinical practice and health care.

This program is offered online for post-master’s DNP students. Some courses require a face-to-face intensive meeting for instruction. Students can expect to come to campus at least twice each year.

Application Deadlines & Decisions
Applications open each fall with established application deadlines that can be found at: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/applying/doctoral_deadlines.cfm. All materials must be submitted by the identified deadline in order to receive priority* consideration.

- (*)Late applications may be accepted after the priority deadline if seats are still available but this is not guaranteed. Applicants wanting to receive full consideration should submit all materials by the identified deadline(s).
- Note: Applications close at midnight on the designated deadline date Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Admissions decisions are based on the following:

- Cumulative GPA
- Essay response
- Sample of written scholarly work
- Interview
Admission Requirements & Eligibility

Applicants must have the following materials in order to apply. If you are an international student please see the international applicant web page for additional requirements if you are a resident of a country other than the United States.

Prior Degree: It is expected that applicants to the Post-Master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program have a baccalaureate degree in nursing (BS or BSN) and a Masters in Nursing or a related advanced nursing degree.

- Those pursuing the DNP with a background as an APRN must have graduated from a master’s level program accredited by the appropriate national accrediting body.
- Applicants pursuing the DNP with a background in management, leadership, or administration may have one of the following types of master’s degree (this is not an exhaustive list):
  - Master’s in Nursing Administration
  - Master’s in Nursing with Major in Leadership in Health Systems
  - Master’s in Health Systems Leadership
  - Master’s in Community Healthcare Systems
  - Master’s in Public Health
  - Master’s in Organizational Leadership
  - Master’s in Business Administration with the Major in Health Care
  - Master’s in Hospital Administration
  - Master’s of Health Administration

Licensure Status: All Post-Master’s DNP students must be licensed prior to matriculation as an RN in the state of Oregon or in the state where clinical coursework will take place.

All APRN students pursuing a DNP must be licensed prior to matriculation as an APRN (CNS, NP, CNM, or CRNA) in the state of Oregon or in the state where clinical coursework will take place.

Work Experience: It is recommended that applicants hold at least one year of work experience in advanced nursing practice. Applicants must submit a description of current engagement in practice such as a curriculum vitae or resume as part of the application.

Grade Point Average: Minimum cumulative GPA of undergraduate and graduate courses of a 3.0.

- Letters of Recommendation: Applicants must submit three letters of reference as part of their application. Electronic reference forms are located and sent out via the online Nursing CAS application system. It is preferable that applicants submit references from the following:
  - Faculty

o Supervisor if employed
o Co-worker /colleague

**Entrance Essay Question**
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

**Example of Written Scholarly Work:** Applicants to the Post-Master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program are required to submit an example of scholarly writing. This can be a paper used as part of a course requirement, a thesis or capstone project report, a publication, or other written work.

o Note: If you do not have this type of work to submit, please let us know; we can arrange for you to write an article analysis in response to an article that we provide you.

**GRE Scores** – are not required.

**Applying to OHSU School of Nursing Via Nursing CAS (NCAS)**

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<tr>
<th>STEP 1: Set up a Nursing CAS account and start your application for the program/campus to which you are applying.</th>
<th>All students applying to any of the OHSU Nursing programs must submit an application through Nursing CAS by the stipulated deadline date.</th>
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<td>STEP 2: Upload all required items into your Nursing CAS account and select the designated OHSU program to which you would like to apply. Note: TOEFL scores are sent directly to OHSU code: 4900</td>
<td>All application materials (official transcripts, essay responses, vitae, &amp; letters of reference) must be received by Nursing CAS by the designated application deadline in order to have your application considered. See the full list and instructions below.</td>
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<td>STEP 3: Done. Check back to your NCAS account often as we will e-mail you with status updates and additional information requests.</td>
<td>Nursing CAS will not forward incomplete files for review. Please make sure to check your Nursing CAS account to ensure that you have provided all required materials.</td>
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<td>You will be notified when admission decisions have been made.</td>
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Materials that will be submitted as part of your Nursing CAS Application

- You will be asked to submit an essay response as part of your application. Between September 15 and your application deadline, you will be able to find the essay question(s) for your program at the following link: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/applying/index.cfm. Complete the essay question and upload your essay response to your Nursing CAS application. After uploading your personal statement, go to “Designations” on the home page of your Nursing CAS account, select “designated schools” then Oregon Health & Science University and ATTACH the personal statement to your designated program.

- You will be asked to submit 3 letters of reference as part of your application. You will be able to send the electronic reference form your Nursing CAS account.

- You will be asked to submit a resume or vitae as part of your application. Please PDF this item(s) and upload them to your Nursing CAS account.

- You will be asked to submit official transcripts from ALL institutions that you have ever attended as part of your application to NCAS. Follow the instructions provided in your Nursing CAS application to submit your official transcripts to Nursing CAS directly.
  
  ❖ Note: Order 2-3 copies of your transcripts to keep for your records for later use if needed upon matriculation.

Please send questions about program information to proginfo@ohsu.edu.

Additional Resources

A sample program of study for each program can be found online: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/programs/programs-of-study-page.cfm

Application Deadlines: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/applying/graduate_deadlines.cfm

Financing your education: Start planning to finance your nursing education now. Review the tuition and fees and potential limitations for receiving federal aid here: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/tuition-fees/index.cfm

Scholarship information: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/tuition-fees/scholarships.cfm

This document is a guide; final decisions regarding the acceptance of prerequisite course work is made by the OHSU Registrar's Office. The OHSU School of Nursing reserves the right to make changes to the academic program structure.
FAQs

Who are my faculty and lecturers?

All OHSU SON faculty teaching in the DNP program hold doctoral degrees (DNP or PhD); those who teach in the specialty APRN programs are certified APRN’s who practice in a variety of settings. OHSU School of Nursing is part of a large academic health center, and brings together experts who lecture from their relevant clinical experiences and programs of research, providing students with the latest evidence for practice.

Do I need work experience to apply to the Post-Master’s DNP program?

At least one year of experience prior to matriculation is recommended but not required.

How long does the DNP program take?

The estimated length of time to complete the Post Master DNP degree is two years (8 quarters) at the rate of 5-7 credits per quarter. It is designed so that students can be employed while enrolled in the program.

Can I take classes’ part time?

It is possible to enroll part time, completing the program over a 3- or 4-year period. Students must indicate on the application whether they will attend the program full or part time.

Do most students work during their program?

Yes, many students are able to work while taking courses in the Post-Master’s DNP program.

When are the courses offered?

Courses are generally offered online with face to face intensives that meet approximately twice per year..

Can I take courses without being admitted into the graduate nursing program?

Yes. You may take up to nine (9) credits total as a non-degree student on the OHSU main campuses if you are a registered nurse with a bachelor's degree, with the permission of the course faculty. Close communication with a faculty advisor is recommended prior to enrolling as a non-degree student. Completion of these courses does not ensure admission, and students will need to transfer the courses to meet their degree requirements.

Is there a matriculation (enrollment) deposit?

Yes, once you have received a letter of acceptance to the program, you will be asked to submit a deposit of $200.00 to the OHSU School of Nursing in order to hold your place in the cohort. Failure to do so in the allotted time may forfeit your place and an alternate will be selected. The
matriculation fee is applied towards payment of tuition for the first term of the program.

**How much are Tuition and Fees?**

The estimated tuition and fees sheet can be found online and will vary by specialty and does not include living expenses or books, [http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/tuition-fees/index.cfm](http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/admissions/tuition-fees/index.cfm)

**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. Mailing address: OHSU, Mail code MP240, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97239. Office: Marquam Plaza


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