APPLYING TO THE PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program prepares graduates for advanced specialty practice with a dual emphasis on intervention through psychotherapy and psychopharmacology. PMHNP's intervene with vulnerable populations and promote mental health across the lifespan. They work with children, adolescents, adults, and older persons in a variety of settings, including community mental health clinics, public health departments, hospitals and outpatient mental health clinics, health maintenance organizations, government facilities, schools of nursing, and independent private practice.

**Degree Options**: Students in this program can complete the Master of Nursing (MN) degree in two years, become licensed as a PMHNP, and enter into practice or enroll for three years to obtain the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), completing the MN and obtaining PMHNP licensure on the way. A Post Masters Certificate Option (PMCO) is also available. For the PMCO option, students will undergo an individualized ‘gap analysis’ to ascertain which courses and clinical hours are needed to meet graduation and certification requirements.

**Course Delivery**: This program is offered on the Portland campus and starts once a year in the fall.

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

- Cumulative GPA & Science GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 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**
It is recommended that applicants complete at least one year of experience as an RN before applying to this program. 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.

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 THE PMHNP 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 responses - 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/pmhn/Gedt.html