

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. PMHNPs 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 complete a 3 year program of study to earn a Doctor of Nursing practice degree (DNP).

Course delivery: This program is offered both on the Portland campus and statewide through the distance program and starts once a year in the fall.

Core Principles for course delivery for distance students: Distance PMHNP students will be required to travel to the Portland campus for intensives at the most once per term for 1-3 days depending on the term. Winter term intensives in Portland will be avoided if possible.

Once clinical practicum commences, students may travel to the closest regional campus up to twice a month for supervision of clinical experiences and skills testing. Students may need to attend clinical immersion experiences in Portland when similar experiences are not available in home communities (for example, acute psychiatric hospital NP role). These will be arranged in consultation with each student to minimize disruption.

Our commitment to transparency and communication about delivery methods and required travel includes having schedules available three months in advance.

Admissions Factors

Admissions decisions are strongly based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA & Science GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Letters of recommendation
- Essay responses
- Interview (for select applicants)
- TOEFL with a score of 83 or higher (for international applicants), ILTS scores will not be accepted

Admission Requirements & Eligibility

Prior Degree

Applicants must have a Bachelor 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.

Resume

Applicants will need to provide a curriculum vitae or resume, uploaded to NursingCAS, 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. 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.

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. If you do not have a reference from a certain category, you can submit two from the same category.

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 NursingCAS. You must set up a NursingCAS 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 NursingCAS by the stipulated deadline date in order to be considered for admissions.

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

- ✓ **Official transcripts** must be mailed or electronically **sent to NCAS**. Transcripts from every institution ever attended (including international) must be sent directly from your college/university. ***OHSU will not accept applicant transcripts- in order for your application to be complete and considered for admissions they must be received by NursingCAS.**
- ✓ **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 NursingCAS application.

- ✓ **5-year time limit Statistics waiver form** – (if applicable) 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.

NursingCAS 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. Please also visit [NCAS Applicant Responsibilities](#) and [NCAS Help Center resource](#).

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: Laura Stadum, Title IX Coordinator, 503-494-0258, titleix@ohsu.edu