

APPLYING TO THE PEDIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM: PRIMARY AND ACUTE CARE SPECIALITY

The Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) program is designed to prepare advanced practice registered nurses to deliver primary and acute care to children (birth - 21 years of age) across practice settings and institutional boundaries. The overall objective of the PNP program is to provide the foundation and scaffolding for students to become competent and caring pediatric nurse practitioners, scholars, and leaders.

The program includes both didactic and clinical courses, beginning with foundational coursework and advancing to specialized clinical applications. In addition to providing direct care, graduates are prepared as lifelong learners, leaders, and advocates for children and their families.

The PNP curriculum begins with core foundational coursework required for all advanced practice nurses. Specialty coursework begins in the second quarter of Year 1 and continues throughout the program, integrating advanced didactic content alongside clinical rotations.

Degree Option: Students will complete the Doctor of Nursing practice (DNP) degree, which takes three years of full-time study to complete.

Course Delivery: The PNP program is a Portland based program.

Admissions Factors

Admissions decisions are strongly based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 & Science GPA of 3.0
- 3 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.

Work Experience & Resume

It is recommended that applicants have prior exposure to/experience in pediatric nursing. 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. anatomy, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics, physiology, etc.)

Prerequisites: These prerequisite courses/content are required elements in most baccalaureate nursing programs for accreditation. Within the first year of the program, all pediatric nurse practitioner students will be required to take a pre-test in each of the following three areas. The statistics course needs to be documented on a transcript. The genetics and child development course can be a course listed on a college transcript or you can provide a syllabus to show that you have received this content within a college course that you successfully passed.

- *Statistics* - Applicants must have successfully passed a basic college-level statistics course from a regionally accredited college with a “B-” or better within the past five years or provide evidence of equivalent course content.
- *Genetics* - Applicants should have a basic understanding of genetics.
- *Child Development* - Applicants should have a basic understanding of child development.

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.

HOW TO APPLY TO THE PNP 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 “Steps to Apply”. This 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 (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 transcripts and applicable transcript evaluations**) 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 Nursing CAS 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.
- ✓ **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.

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. 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