

## APPLYING TO THE POST MASTER'S DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM

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 (APRN) specialty or a background in management, leadership or administration, 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 visit the Portland campus at least twice each year.

### Admissions Factors

Admissions decisions are strongly based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA
- Letters of recommendation
- Essay response
- Interview
- TOEFL with a score of 83 or higher(international students), ILTS scores will not be accepted

### Admission Requirements & Eligibility

#### 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 Master 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, please check with the Admissions Office if you are unsure about your degree):
  - 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

### **R.N. Licensure Status**

All Post-Master's DNP students must be licensed prior to matriculation as an R.N. 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 3.0 in undergraduate and graduate courses.

### **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 NursingCAS application system. It is preferred but not strictly required that applicants submit references from the following sources; faculty or academic source, supervisor, and/or a co-worker/colleague.

## **HOW TO APPLY TO THE POST MASTER'S DNP PROGRAM:**

**Step 1:** Review and follow the specific application instructions for your program located on the OHSU School of Nursing website found at [www.ohsu.edu/son](http://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 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 NursingCAS account.
- ✓ **Resume or Curriculum Vitae** – uploaded to NursingCAS documents section

- ✓ **3 Letters of Recommendation** – submitted via NursingCAS
- ✓ **Essay responses** – available in the NursingCAS application

**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](mailto:titleix@ohsu.edu)