

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Degree Program

The BSN-DNP program is a distance-mediated curriculum acquiring 73-79 graduate credit hours, including a minimum of 1000 residency hours. While most course work is on-line, there are some courses that have "live" or synchronous virtual classroom sessions. A clinical scholarship project (accounts for 500 residency hours) is required in the last year of the program. The full-time, three-year program (nine semesters) consists of 9-12 credit hours per semester. The part-time, four-year program (12 semesters) consists of 6-9 credit hours per semester. There are six required on-campus "intensive" three-day workshops during the program.

The MSN-DNP program is a distance-mediated curriculum acquiring a minimum of 35 graduate credit hours, including a minimum of 1000 residency hours. Up to 500 residency hours from the board-certified APRN master's program applies towards the 1000 minimum hours required for the DNP. While most course work is on-line, there are some courses that have "live" or synchronous virtual classroom sessions. A required clinical scholarship project accounts for 500 residency hours. The part-time, two-year program (six semesters) consists of 3-9 credit hours per semester. There are two required on-campus "intensive" three-day workshops during the program.

There are additional options for the non-APRN MSN (e.g., nursing education) seeking APRN certification eligibility while acquiring the DNP, and for the MSN APRN seeking additional certification eligibility while acquiring the DNP. Certification eligibility requires 500-600 residency hours of direct patient care in the population of study. Up to 30 MSN graduate credit hours may be applicable towards the DNP.

DNP Population Program Tracks Offered at UMSL:

- Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care (AGNP-PC)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Leadership
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care (PNP-PC)
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Acute Care (PNP-AC)
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)

Coursework: includes courses in biostatistics, epidemiology, healthcare informatics, healthcare policy, quality improvement, healthcare economics and leadership. All coursework is in the English language.

Comprehensive Examination: None.

Clinical Scholarship Project: An applied project analyzing a clinical practice issue that proposes an evidence-based practice improvement change and evaluates the outcomes of the practice change. A project presentation and defense is required. The nursing graduate faculty and the graduate school must accept the project and its results.

Program Website

<http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/nursing/Doctoral%20Programs/dnp.html>

Application Requirements

1. Complete the on-line application: <http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/graduate/future/how-to-apply.html>

2. Evidence of U.S. permanent resident or citizen (e.g., social security card, passport, etc.) or visa to the United States.
3. Grade point average: Minimum of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (BSN) and a 3.5 GPA (MSN).
4. Official transcripts from all universities attended for each degree obtained:
Applicants must have a BSN and/or MSN degree from a program with U.S. national nursing accreditation (e.g., CCNE).
5. Successful completion (i.e., grade of 'B' or better) of an undergraduate or graduate level general statistics course within five years of starting the program or concomitant with the first semester of the program.
6. For the BSN: At least two years of full-time registered nursing experience or three years of part-time registered nursing experience.
7. For the BSN and MSN: Evidence of registered nurse licensure in all states licensed to practice.
8. For the APRN MSN: Evidence of advanced practice certification from one of the recognized national board certification entities and evidence of recognition for advanced practice status with the State Board of Nursing in which the APRN practices.
9. Two-page, double-spaced, APA format original essay describing professional goals following program completion.
10. Two letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the applicant's likely success in the DNP program.
11. Interview with DNP Faculty.

Application Deadline

The deadline for receipt of all admission materials is January 15 of each year for a following summer or fall admission, April 1 if space is available. Interviews will be conducted in February/March. Acceptance notification will occur in March/April.

Application Fee: \$50 for domestic applicants; \$40 for international applicants

DNP Program Director

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For more information:

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