DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Description and Outcomes

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a practice-focused terminal nursing degree and is an alternative to research-focused doctoral programs. DNP graduates are prepared to take leadership roles in a variety of settings with a focus on improving health care systems and patient outcomes. In our rapidly evolving and complex health care environment, the demand for nurses with DNP preparation has never been greater.

Our Program

We accept applicants with a CCNE-, ACEN-, or CNEA-accredited Master of Science in Nursing with an advanced nursing practice specialty as defined by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Direct care advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) specialties are nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, and nurse midwife. Indirect care advanced practice specialties are roles such as nursing administration, informatics, health policy, and population health. Applicants with other Master of Science in Nursing degrees are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Purdue Global is deeply committed to supporting our students and recognizes that nurses are exceptionally busy with multiple demands. The DNP program at Purdue Global is delivered online and you complete practice experiences and a DNP project at a health care setting of your choice. You will have a DNP Faculty Mentor who provides guidance, mentorship, and support throughout the program and during the DNP practice experience and project.

Our DNP program is based on the AACN’s Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2004). It is designed to prepare nurses to practice at the highest level of nursing, analyze data and scientific research to improve nursing practice, provide organizational and system leadership to continuously improve quality of health care and foster interprofessional collaboration, and evaluate ethical, legal, and social factors in shaping and developing health policies.

Refer to the Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams (p. 3) section for important program disclosure information.

Note: the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is not available in all states. Refer to Program Availability Information (https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf) for details.

Practice Experiences

The practice experience will occur in a facility site you select in consultation with your DNP Faculty Mentor. One thousand (1,000) postbaccalaureate practice hours are required for DNP degree completion.

Degree Plans

If you successfully completed the Master of Science in Nursing—DNP Path at Purdue Global, you will complete the standard DNP degree plan. You may also be eligible for this degree plan if you previously completed a CCNE-, ACEN-, or CNEA-accredited Master of Science in Nursing at another institution. The standard degree plan consists of a minimum of 48 quarter credit hours, depending on your prior degree.

Effective May 18, 2016, the Post-Master of Science in Nursing degree plans are not available. You may pursue a post-master’s certificate before applying to the Doctor of Nursing Practice standard degree plan. Please see requirements for the Executive Leader Graduate Certificate, Nurse Educator Graduate Certificate, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate, or Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Certificate.

Program Length

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program consists of a minimum of 48 quarter credit hours, depending on your prior degree. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded a doctorate degree.

Program Outcomes

Upon graduation, Purdue Global DNP-prepared nurses will be prepared to:

1. Scientific Underpinnings for Practice: Integrate nursing science with other disciplines and use science-based theories and concepts to develop and evaluate new practice approaches to improve health care delivery.

2. Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking: Develop and evaluate health care delivery approaches to meet current and future health needs, ensure accountability and patient safety, and evaluate effective strategies for managing ethical dilemmas.

3. Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice: Utilize analytical methods to critically appraise existing literature, design and implement studies, apply relevant findings to practice, use technology to improve research methods, and disseminate findings from evidence-based practice and research to improve health care outcomes.

4. Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care: Leverage information technology to evaluate programs and improve outcomes of care.

5. Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care: Model leadership in the critical evaluation of health care policy, development of policy at all levels, and advocacy for justice and ethics in all health care arenas.

6. Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes: Apply the methods of effective team leadership, be prepared to play a central role in establishing interprofessional teams, participate in the work of the team, and assume team leadership when appropriate.

7. Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation’s Health: Engage in leadership to integrate and institutionalize evidence-based clinical prevention and population health services for individuals, aggregates, and populations.

8. Advanced Nursing Practice: Demonstrate refined levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability in designing, delivering, and evaluating health care.

Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the professional competencies associated with your academic program in the graduate School of General Education (https://
nursing degree you have attained, to apply you must:

If a master's degree with an upper-level major in nursing is the highest
Requirements for Graduates of a Master's Degree Program
continuing on to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Refer to the
in Nursing—DNP Path program and earn a master's degree before
If a bachelor's degree with an upper-level major in nursing is the highest
Requirements for Graduates of a Bachelor's Degree Program
students is at the discretion of the School of Nursing.

Admissions Requirements
You must meet the below admissions requirements in addition to Purdue
Global's general requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-
information/admissions/requirements).

If you are an international applicant, you are not eligible to enroll in this
program due to practice experience requirements.

Upon acceptance to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, you will be
placed in a degree plan relevant to your prior learning.

If you previously withdrew or were dismissed from the Doctor of Nursing
Practice program, you must wait a minimum of 6 months from the
official date of withdrawal to reapply for admission. Contact the Office
of Returning Students for more information. Acceptance of returning
students is at the discretion of the School of Nursing.

Requirements for Graduates of a Bachelor's Degree Program
If a bachelor's degree with an upper-level major in nursing is the highest
nursing degree you have attained, you will enroll in the Master of Science
in Nursing—DNP Path program and earn a master's degree before
continuing on to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Refer to the
Admissions Requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/
nursing/nursing-dnp-path-ms) for the Master of Science in Nursing—DNP
Path for additional information.

Requirements for Graduates of a Master's Degree Program
If a master's degree with an upper-level major in nursing is the highest
nursing degree you have attained, to apply you must:

1. Complete an informational interview with an Admissions Advisor.
2. Successfully complete an interview with School of Nursing faculty.
3. Submit transcripts indicating the total number of student clinical or practicum hours completed or a letter from the prior institution verifying the total number of hours completed. A maximum of 500 supervised clinical or practicum hours may be accepted from your prior education. If you graduated from an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) program, earned certification in an advanced practice role, and are currently practicing as an APRN, you must submit proof of certification and/or advanced practice licensure prior to your interview with faculty.
4. Submit the following documents at least 4 weeks prior to the desired start date:
   a. An unofficial transcript indicating completion of a master’s degree with an upper-level major in nursing and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher from a program accredited by CCNE, ACEN, or CNEA. If accepted to the program, you must provide the

University with an official copy of the transcript prior to the end of
the first term. Refer to the First-Term Responsibilities (https://
catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/first-
term-responsibilities) section for additional information.

b. An unofficial transcript indicating completion of a graduate-level
   statistics course and a nursing research course with a grade of
   “B” or better. If you have not completed these courses as part
   of your master's degree in nursing, if admitted to the program, you may take MN 504: Scientific and Analytic Approaches to Advanced Evidence-Based Practice in the first term.

c. A current, professional resume or curriculum vitae (CV) that
   verifies you have worked a minimum of 1,000 clinical hours as a
   registered nurse.

d. Two letters of reference from professional and/or academic
   contacts indicating academic ability, personal character, and
   professional competency.

e. A personal statement of no more than 500 words

Progression Requirements
1. If you are unable to complete your DNP scholarly project within the
   normal course of study, you may contact your DNP Faculty Mentor
to secure an extension. The purpose of the extension is to provide
   you with additional time to complete the DNP project. Approval of
   the Dean’s designee is required. If granted, you will enroll in DN820A
   DNP Extension Course. DN820A DNP Extension Course is taken after
   DN823 DNP Project Dissemination and is for the specific purpose of
   providing a means for the project completion. The University will not
   charge tuition for the extension course; however, you will be required
to pay the normal technology fee.

2. Failure to successfully complete a practice experience portion of a
course will result in failure of the entire course.

3. You must complete your practice experiences as assigned in the
curriculum and in settings that have been approved by your DNP
Faculty Mentor. You are responsible for arranging and paying for your
own transportation, housing, and availability to attend the practice
experience.

4. Some facilities may require additional documentation, as necessary,
to comply with specific federal, state, and/or the facility's own
requirements for nursing student candidates. If your practice site
needs additional documentation, such as a criminal background
check or affiliation agreement, your DNP Faculty Mentor will assist
you in obtaining documentation in collaboration with the Clinical
Placement Team. Failure to submit appropriate documentation to
participate in clinical experiences by the required date will result in
you being unable register for the clinical or practicum course.

5. You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner and
maintain a safe environment. If a faculty member and/or agency
consider you to be in violation of either one of these requirements,
you may be removed from the practice experience setting and may
receive a failing grade for the course if the course outcomes are not
met. Unprofessional and/or unsafe practices will be reviewed by the
administrative staff as needed.

6. You must successfully complete IRB training, and IRB approval is
required for the development of your DNP scholarly project. The DNP
Faculty Mentor will assist with IRB matters.

7. You may not receive transfer credit for any 700- or 800-level course.
Graduation Requirements

You must meet Purdue Global's general requirements (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/policy-information). Additionally, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) requires a minimum of 1,000 postbaccalaureate supervised practice hours. The DNP faculty will review prior coursework to determine the appropriate number of hours to complete at the DNP level.

You will be required to complete a minimum of 48 quarter credit hours in the DNP program, which includes over 500 supervised practice hours. Degree plans are outlined with up to 60 quarter credit hours required at the 700-800 level, which accounts for 12 quarter credit hours of DNP practice experience that you may be required to complete in order to satisfy the 1,000-hour postbaccalaureate minimum. Part or all of the independent study requirements for practice hours can be waived from your degree, at the discretion of your Academic Department Chair or Dean, depending on the number of practice hours you are required to complete. Waivers will be submitted through your Student Advisor.

Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certain state certification and licensure boards have specific educational requirements for programs to lead to a license or nongovernmental certification that is a precondition for employment in a recognized occupation.

Unless otherwise specified, Purdue Global's programs are not designed to meet any specific state's licensure or certification requirements. If certain licensed occupations, vocations, or professions are not explicitly listed, Purdue Global has not made a determination with respect to the licensure or certification requirements of those occupations, vocations, or professions. Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf) to determine enrollment eligibility.

You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, other certification requirements, or the program or the University itself having appropriate accreditation or licensure.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice was not designed for initial certification and licensure for advanced practice registered nurse roles. If you intend to pursue certification as an advanced practice registered nurse, you must verify the requirements for certification and licensing with your state board of nursing.

Upon completion of the program, you may be prepared to sit for the Nurse Executive or the Nurse Executive, Advanced certification examinations (depending on the level of leadership with your organization) provided by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, or may be eligible for the American Organization of Nurse Executives Certified in Executive Nursing Practice certification.

Degree Plan

The icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course Types (https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/ approach-to-learning) for information about module courses.

Program Requirements

Standard DNP

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DN703</td>
<td>Scientific Foundations for Practice Doctorate</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN713</td>
<td>Epidemiology and Social Determinants of Population Health</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN723</td>
<td>DNP Project - Analytic Methods and Project Proposal</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN733</td>
<td>Ethics, Policy, and Advocacy for Population Health</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN743</td>
<td>Clinical Decision Making for Practice Doctorate</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>DN753</td>
<td>Transforming the Health Care Organization</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>DN803</td>
<td>DNP Project Development - Data-Driven Decision Making</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN813</td>
<td>DNP Project Implementation and Evaluation</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN823</td>
<td>DNP Project Dissemination</td>
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Independent Study Courses (if required)  
0-12

Total Core Requirements  
48-60

TOTAL CREDITS  
48-60

Post-Master of Science in Nursing

(Not Available for Enrollment Effective May 18, 2016)

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<td>DN703</td>
<td>Scientific Foundations for Practice Doctorate</td>
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<td>DN803</td>
<td>DNP Project Development - Data-Driven Decision Making</td>
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Doctor of Nursing Practice

DN813 DNP Project Implementation and Evaluation 6
DN823 DNP Project Dissemination 6
Total Core Requirements 48

Specialized Pathway Requirements
Population Focus Area or Concentration Courses (see below) 33-60
Total Specialized Pathway Requirements 33-60
TOTAL CREDITS 81-108

Concentration Requirements

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Population Focus Area
(Not Available for Enrollment Effective May 18, 2016)

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<tr>
<td>MN551</td>
<td>Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN552</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN553</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN566</td>
<td>NP I - Introduction to Primary Care for the Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN572</td>
<td>AGNP I - Primary Care of the Adolescent and Adult</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN573</td>
<td>AGNP I Clinical - Adolescent and Adult Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN576</td>
<td>NP II - Primary Care of Women's Health</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN577</td>
<td>NP II Clinical - Women's Health Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN584</td>
<td>AGNP II - Primary Care of the Frail Elderly</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>MN585</td>
<td>AGNP II Clinical - Frail Elderly Focus</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN605</td>
<td>Transition to Practice</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN610</td>
<td>NP III Clinical - Primary Care Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
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Total Specialized Pathway Requirements 60
TOTAL CREDITS 60

Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Population Focus Area
(Not Available for Enrollment Effective May 18, 2016)

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<tr>
<td>MN551</td>
<td>Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN552</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN553</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN566</td>
<td>NP I - Introduction to Primary Care for the Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN568</td>
<td>FNP I - Primary Care Across the Life Span</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN569</td>
<td>FNP I Clinical - Life Span Health Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN576</td>
<td>NP II - Primary Care of Women's Health</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN577</td>
<td>NP II Clinical - Women's Health Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN580</td>
<td>FNP II - Primary Care of Children and Adolescents Health</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN581</td>
<td>FNP II Clinical - Children and Adolescent Health Focus</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN605</td>
<td>Transition to Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN610</td>
<td>NP III Clinical - Primary Care Focus</td>
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Total Specialized Pathway Requirements 33-42
TOTAL CREDITS 33-42

Please reference the graduation requirements for the Doctor of Nursing practice.

Executive Leader Concentration
(Not Available for Enrollment Effective May 18, 2016)

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>MN512</td>
<td>Leadership, Organizational Theory, and Behavior</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN513</td>
<td>Health Care Finance, Strategic Planning, and Budgeting</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN514</td>
<td>Human Resources Management</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN515</td>
<td>Innovation in Health Care Information Technology - Administrative and Advanced Practice Priorities</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN520</td>
<td>Executive Leader Practicum</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN600</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice Project</td>
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</table>

Independent Study Courses (if required) 3-12
Total Specialized Pathway Requirements 33-42
TOTAL CREDITS 33-42

1 The actual number of credits required for graduation may range from 78 to 90 credits depending on the number of supervised practice hours you bring into the program at the time of enrollment. Independent study options are available for those students who need additional coursework to achieve a minimum of 1,000 hours of postbaccalaureate practice as part of a supervised academic program prior to graduation. Please reference the graduation requirements for the Doctor of Nursing practice.