

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP) PROGRAM

The post-master's DNP Program prepares advanced nurses to lead and transform health care within diverse populations and settings through translation of evidence into practice, integration of systems thinking as a foundation for change management, and participation in quality improvement initiatives to improve practice, patient-centered care outcomes, and health policy.

Program Highlights:

- Courses are built on a Christian foundation.
- Post-master's program for certified advanced practice registered nurses or advanced nursing administrators.
- Cohort-based model.
- Accelerated classes in an online format make this a manageable program for working professionals.
- GRE is not required for admission.

Delivery Options

The post-master's DNP program is delivered online in a cohort format. There are two mandatory cohort meetings; one prior to the program start, and one coinciding with graduation.

Courses integrate elements to meet the *American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice*. Students complete residency hours in areas of their choice to develop and enhance and support their DNP Project leadership skills. (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/DNP/>) (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/DNP/>) (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/DNP/>) (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/DNP/>)

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Concordia University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>) (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>).

Program Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the program, the post-masters DNP graduate will be able to:

1. Synthesize liberal arts and scientific background into advanced nursing roles.
2. Develop leadership skills for quality improvement initiatives related to advanced nursing roles across healthcare delivery systems.
3. Demonstrate advanced levels of scholarship and analysis in implementing and evaluating evidence-based approaches to advanced nursing roles at the systems level.
4. Evaluate information systems and patient care information technologies to improve healthcare.
5. Influence healthcare policy development as related to healthcare delivery systems and the nursing profession.
6. Lead intraprofessional and interprofessional teams to influence health outcomes of individuals and populations.
7. Use cultural, epidemiological, biostatistical, and environmental data to influence clinical prevention and population health outcomes at the systems level.
8. Model scholarship, professionalism, and excellence in advanced nursing roles.

9. Use advanced clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to provide evidence-based care in the area of specialization or in systems leadership.

The Program has the Following Components:

1. Coursework providing the knowledge and skills needed to meet the DNP competencies.
2. Residency requirements providing experiential learning; students work with preceptors or mentors to develop leadership skills and also to support their DNP Project.
3. The DNP Project consists of applying knowledge and skills to an integrative, transformational experience, under the guidance of a faculty chairperson and agency mentor.

Curriculum

The 30 hour curriculum is delivered online.

Code	Title	Hours
Initial Cohort Meeting CUW Mequon Campus		
NURS 903	Biostatistics & Epidemiology	4
NURS 940	DNP Project I	4
NURS 915	Advanced Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS 910	Business Management for the Doctor of Nursing Practice	3
NURS 921	Healthcare Informatics	3
MBA 620	Economics and Public Policy of Health Care	3
MBA 519	Ethical Leadership for Dynamic Organizations	3
MBA 537	Managerial Communication	3
NURS 941	DNP Project II	4
Final Cohort Meeting / Presentation of DNP Projects		
Total Hours		30

Transfer of Credit

The Graduate Nursing Program will accept up to 6 transfer credits, of previous graduate level coursework, into the DNP program based on the following criteria:

1. Coursework must have been completed within five years prior to admission to the program (or be approved by the DNP faculty committee).
2. Courses transferred must be comparable in scope and subject matter to courses offered in the DNP Program. The student will need to provide a course description and the course syllabus for any course requested for transfer. A transfer credit form (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EJCHDgkhX7B874BAvP2J7nhcGA7GEqEF/view/?usp=sharing>) must be completed and submitted to the Graduate Nursing Office for approval upon admission.
3. All courses transferred in must be at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
4. All transfer credits must be certified by the Registrar and approved for the degree by the Director of the Graduate Nursing program.
5. Transfer credits will not be applied to the cumulative grade point average the student earns while in Concordia's DNP program.

Entrance Requirements for the Graduate School of Nursing in Addition to Graduate School Requirements

Admission to the post-master's DNP Program is competitive. We admit a cohort class of students each spring for an August start.

2 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program

1. MSN degree from an accredited school of nursing and currently employed as a certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse midwife or registered nurse anesthetist.
2. Current unencumbered RN licensure in the state of residence.
3. A cumulative 3.5 GPA from previous MSN coursework (those applicants with a 3.25-3.49 cumulative GPA from MSN coursework will be considered on a probationary status).
4. Graduate-level statistics course that includes descriptive and inferential statistics taken within the last five years (must have achieved a grade of B or higher).

Application/Admissions Process

Students must apply online through NursingCas (<https://nursingcas.liaisoncas.org/apply/>). All students applying for admission must submit:

1. Professional resume or curriculum vitae describing nursing experience and education and the applicant's progression in advanced practice or leadership positions.
2. Admission essay explaining reasons for enrolling in the DNP program at Concordia. Address future professional goals upon the completion of the coming degree.
3. Two letters of recommendation from professional colleagues familiar with advanced practice nursing or leadership competence. References should address the applicant's potential for success in the DNP Program.
4. All official transcripts that led to undergraduate and graduate degrees.
5. Documentation of the number of faculty-supervised clinical hours completed in the MSN program.
6. Admission interview (may be conducted by phone or via Zoom).

Note: The program may allow up to 6 transfer credits, with approval by the program director.

The priority deadline is July 1st for the cohort beginning the following August.