

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Admission Requirements

Due to higher education regulation changes, the University of Missouri–St. Louis is unable to accept applications for admission to online programs from students residing in several states: Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, and Washington. For more information regarding these regulations, contact UMSL on-line.

Post-Baccalaureate to Doctorate of Nursing Practice

The post-baccalaureate entry point is designed for registered nurses who have completed a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing degree and desire to obtain a doctoral degree in nursing practice as they will develop the knowledge, skills, and expertise to become clinical scholars, transformational leaders, nurse practitioners and to function at the highest level of nursing practice.

The UMSL College of Nursing is committed to admitting a diverse group of students who will become nurse leaders responsive to the specific needs of the communities and populations we serve. We value diversity, intellectual discourse and rigor, caring, professionalism, mutual respect and support, innovation, collaboration, and transparency. Applicant will be selected using inclusive and balanced admission criteria that measure their potential in nursing practice, education, research, and scholarship. We measure our success by graduates who become lifelong learners and leaders in their communities and in the profession of nursing.

Applicants to the BSN-DNP program will be holistically reviewed using criteria such as GPA, a personal statement, an essay, work/volunteer experiences, professional activities, leadership roles, honors, and award recognitions.

All applicants must submit the following materials:

- UMSL application for admission
- Transcripts from all previous institutions
- Two letters of reference
- Evidence of current RN licensure
- BSN-DNP program supplemental application including:

- Personal statement indicating overview of professional experiences, motivation and goals for pursuing a doctoral degree, reasons for selecting specialty focus and short and long-term professional goals (3-4 pages)
- Required essay (directions found in the supplemental application)
- Resume outlining previous education, work/volunteer experience, extra-curricular activities, leadership roles, honors and awards

~~Required Admission Criteria:~~

Applicants are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- BSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- BSN ~~3.3~~ 3.25 GPA (calculated on last 60 hours of BSN coursework)
- Current professional RN licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course
- ~~Completion of an undergraduate health assessment course or equivalent~~

Direct Admit Option

Guaranteed admission to the BSN-DNP program is selective and open to students who have earned a BSN from the University of Missouri – St. Louis or completed the UMSL CON Externship in Nursing Summer program and earned a BSN degree from a nationally accredited nursing program. Applicants must have a 3.75 GPA (calculated on last 60 hours of BSN coursework). Once admitted, students must maintain a 3.25 GPA. For full consideration, applications must be submitted by April 1.

Spaces in the BSN-DNP program are limited and are first awarded to guaranteed applicants and awarded to non-guaranteed students on a competitive basis. Non-guaranteed applicants ~~must submit applications no later than April 1~~ may apply for priority admission before January 15. Based on space available application received no later than April 1 will be reviewed.

~~Post-Master's Entry with Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty~~

Post-Master's to Doctorate of Nursing Practice

The post master's entry point is designed for ~~nurse practitioners~~ graduate-prepared nurses who want to develop the knowledge, skills, and expertise to become clinical scholars, transformational leaders, and function at the highest level of nursing practice while obtaining a terminal degree in nursing practice.

The UMSL College of Nursing is committed to admitting a diverse group of students who will become nurse leaders responsive to the specific needs of the communities and populations we serve. We value diversity, intellectual discourse and rigor, caring, professionalism, mutual respect and support, innovation, collaboration, and transparency. Applicant will be selected using inclusive and balanced admission criteria that measure their potential in nursing practice, education, research, and scholarship. We measure our success by graduates who become lifelong learners and leaders in their communities and in the profession of nursing.

Applicants to the MSN-DNP program will be holistically reviewed using criteria such as GPA, a personal statement, an essay, work/volunteer experiences, professional activities, leadership roles, honors, and award recognitions.

All applicants must submit the following materials:

- UMSL application for admission
- Transcripts from all previous institutions
- Two letters of reference
- Evidence of current RN licensure
- MSN-DNP program supplemental application including:
 - Personal statement indicating overview of professional experiences, motivation, and goals for pursuing a doctoral degree, short and long-term professional goals and proposed focus of DNP practicum experience and clinical scholarly project (3-4 pages)
 - Required essay (directions found in the supplemental application)
 - Resume outlining previous education, work/volunteer experience, extra-curricular activities, leadership roles, honors, and awards

~~Required Admission Criteria:~~

Applicants are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- MSN from a nationally accredited nursing program
- A cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for applicants with a master's degree in nursing **MSN 3.25 GPA**
- Current professional **RN** licensure
- Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course

~~Post-Master's Entry without Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty~~

~~This post-master's entry point is designed for registered nurses who have completed a Master's in Nursing degree but are not prepared or practicing as a nurse practitioner. Likewise, APRNs who want to add an additional specialty may take this entry pathway to the DNP. Individualized plans of study are developed for students in this entry pathway depending upon prior coursework.~~

~~Required Admission Criteria~~

- ~~MSN from a nationally accredited nursing program~~
- ~~A cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale for applicants with a master's degree in nursing~~
- ~~Current professional licensure~~
- ~~Completion of an undergraduate general statistics course or Graduate level general statistics course~~
- ~~Completion of an undergraduate health assessment course or equivalent~~

DNP Application Procedure

All applicants must submit the following materials:

- UMSL application for graduate admission
- Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities
- \$50 nonrefundable application fee
- DNP supplemental application
- Two letters of recommendation

- A two-page essay, indicating your professional goals and proposed DNP project
- A copy of your Advanced Nursing Practice Document of Recognition (if applicable)
- A copy of your National Advanced Practice Certificate (if applicable)

Application Deadline for Fall Enrollment: ~~April 1~~ Priority is January 15, April 1, if space is available.

Degree Requirements

The DNP Curriculum focuses on three tiers:

1. Foundational Concepts
2. Clinical Expertise
3. Integration of Practice

Core Content

Completion of the **BSN-DNP** program requires the completion of the following core content for all emphasis areas:

NURSE 6111	Healthcare Systems Concepts and Theory	3
NURSE 7211	Biostatistics I	3
NURSE 7230	Epidemiology	3
NURSE 7209	Advanced Nursing Roles and the Role of the DNP	3
NURSE 7443	Healthcare Policy	3
NURSE 7240	Health Informatics	3
NURSE 6130	Research, Interventions and Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURSE 6660	Introduction to Health Systems Management, and Policy for Underserved	3
NURSE 7200	State of the Science in Nursing Research and Practice (or nursing elective)	3

NURSE 7260	Program Evaluation and Quality Management in Healthcare	3
NURSE 7220	Leadership in Practice	3
NURSE 7251	Healthcare Economics	3
NURSE 7291	DNP Capstone I	3 2
NURSE 7292	DNP Capstone II	3 2
NURSE 7293	DNP Capstone III	3 2
Total Hours		45 42

Prior to completion of the DNP Program, students will complete a clinically focused scholarly project that satisfies the graduate school requirements.

The minimum hours to complete a DNP if entering with an MSN is ~~36~~ 35 hours. If entering with a BSN, the DNP requires 71-76 hours based ~~upon~~ on emphasis area.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

The NURSE-DNP Program Admission requirements have been updated to reflect the correct post-baccalaureate and post-master's entry admission requirements.