NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

Doctor of Nursing Practice
Unit: School of Nursing (https://louisville.edu/nursing/) (GN)
Program Website (https://louisville.edu/nursing/academics/dnp/)
Academic Plan Code(s): See Degree Requirements tab.

Program Information
The Doctor of Nursing Practice is designed to prepare nurses to demonstrate excellence and leadership as a nurse practitioner in a variety of settings for the diagnosis and management across the lifespan and to meet the evolving health needs of the community.

The DNP focuses on developing advanced practice clinical knowledge and leadership skills to improve health outcomes of individuals and populations through direct patient care, quality care initiatives, administration of organizations, and/or implementation of health policy.

The University of Louisville offers both the BSN-DNP and the MSN-DNP options. The BSN-DNP requires a minimum of three years of full-time study. The last two years of the program include a minimum 1,000 clinical, professional, and project hours. The MSN-DNP is designed for advanced practice nurses and focuses on leadership in population health. A minimum of two years of part-time study is required. Clinical hours vary depending on previous master's preparation. Students must provide documentation of previous clinical hours and complete a minimum of 330 project or professional hours, for a total of 1,000 post-baccalaureate hours. (Students with less than 670 documented clinical hours in their MSN degree will need to take additional clinical hours).

Specialties Available
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Anesthesia

Admissions Criteria
A holistic review process is used when considering applications for admission to the DNP program. The holistic review considers multiple criteria for admission, including the applicant's professional career goals, academic capabilities, GPA, work experience, leadership, and institution and community engagement.

The University of Louisville School of Nursing participates in Nursing's Centralized Application Service (https://nursingcas.org/) (NursingCAS), which provides you with an online application. NursingCAS collects and processes your application documents and verifies your transcripts. The School of Nursing will receive your application information from NursingCAS and use it to make admission decisions. In addition to the Nursing CAS Application students will need to pay a supplemental application fee of $40 to graduate admissions.

To be considered for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, the following items must be submitted:

- Transcripts
  - BSN -DNP applicant: Official transcripts representing all college coursework with a recommended undergraduate cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. BSN degree must be from a regionally accredited institution and a CCNE-, ACEN-, or NLN-accredited nursing program.
  - MSN-DNP applicant: Official transcripts representing all college coursework with a recommended graduate cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. BSN degree must be from a regionally accredited institution. BSN and MSN degrees must be from CCNE-, ACEN, or NLN-accredited nursing programs.
- Applicants who have attended a college or university outside the United States are also required to submit a course by course evaluation of their transcript through World Education Services (WES) (http://wes.org/) or Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) (http://ece.org/). Please note that transcript evaluations can sometimes take several weeks.
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak of academic and/or professional capabilities and potential for a scholarly career. Recommendation should be requested from former faculty, current or immediate past employers, or other nursing/health professionals. Recommendations must be completed within the last year.
- Current resume or curriculum vitae (CV)
- Verification of an unencumbered RN license from a US state board of nursing. (Prior to starting clinicals students must have a RN license in the state of Kentucky or in a compact state).
- Responses to all questions asked on the NursingCAS application.
- Students for whom English is not their primary language must show English Proficiency (https://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/application-directions/).

Additional Admission Requirements for Acute Care Specialties

- Neonatal specialty: A minimum of one year of RN clinical experience in a Level III or Level IV NICU is recommended prior to admission. All NNP applicants must have the equivalent of two years of full-time RN clinical experience within the last five years in a Level III or Level IV NICU inpatient setting before beginning clinical courses.
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care specialty: One year of RN clinical experience in an ICU or one year of RN clinical experience in any area and a commitment to complete one year of RN clinical practice in an ICU before beginning clinical courses. Applicants that do not have one year of RN experience at the point of application, but will complete one year before beginning clinical courses, will satisfy the work requirement.
- Pediatric Acute Care: One year of RN clinical experience in an acute care setting or one year of RN clinical experience in any area and a commitment to complete one year of RN clinical practice in an acute care setting before beginning clinical courses. Applicants that do not have one year of RN experience at the point of application, but will complete one year before beginning clinical courses, will satisfy the work requirement.

Program Requirements
BSN-DNP Curriculum

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Courses Required</td>
<td>See Below for Additional Required Coursework for Each Specialty</td>
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NURS 607  Foundational Concepts of Evidence Based Practice 3
NURS 643  Quality and Safety in Advanced Practice Nursing 2
NURS 657  Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Culturally Diverse and Vulnerable Populations. 3
NURS 725  Analysis of Leadership and Health Policy 3
NURS 740  Advanced Pharmacology (Not required for Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Specialty) 3
NURS 741  Advanced Pathophysiology 4
NURS 742  Advanced Physical Assessment (Not required for Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Specialty) 3
NURS 743  Epidemiology 3
NURS 744  Synthesis and Evaluation of Evidence in Practice 3
NURS 746  Program Development & Evaluation 3
NURS 747  Finance Management 2
NURS 748  Application of Leadership and Health Policy 1
NURS 749  The Business of Healthcare 2
NURS 840  Clinical Seminar I 1
NURS 841  Clinical Seminar II 1
NURS 842  Clinical Practicum in the Advanced Practice Role (84 clinical hours) 2
NURS 843  Legal and Professional Topics in the APRN Role 1
NURS 791  Applied Statistics for Evidence Based Practice 3
NURS 750  DNP Project I: Project Inception (110 clinical hours) 3
NURS 751  DNP Project II: Project Implementation (110 clinical hours) 2
NURS 752  DNP Project III: Project Evaluation, Analysis and Dissemination (110 clinical hours) 3
NURS 753  Adolescent Well Child Theory 1
NURS 754  Applied Statistics for Evidence Based Practice 3
NURS 755  DNP Project I: Project Inception (110 clinical hours) 3
NURS 770  The Adult/Gerontology Acute Care NP Role 1
NURS 771  Diagnosis & Management in Acute Care I 5
NURS 772  Procedures and Diagnostics for the Acute Care NP II 2
NURS 773  Diagnosis & Management in Acute Care III 2
NURS 774  Pharmacology for the Acute Care APRN 1

Minimum Total Hours 60

This course contains patient care focused clinical hours. Clinical hours in this course are counted as direct patient care hours.

This course contains clinical hours in the professional role of the NP. Clinical hours in this course should not be counted as direct patient care hours.

This course contains clinical hours specific to the DNP project development. Clinical hours in this course should not be counted as direct patient care hours.

DNP Specialties

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care

Academic Plan Code(s): NURSDNPAA

Adult Gerontology Acute Care specialty requires one year of RN clinical experience in an ICU or one year of RN clinical experience in any area and a commitment to complete one year of RN clinical practice in an ICU before beginning clinical courses.

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<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 750</td>
<td>DNP Project I: Project Inception (110 clinical hours)</td>
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<td>NURS 751</td>
<td>DNP Project II: Project Implementation (110 clinical hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 752</td>
<td>DNP Project III: Project Evaluation, Analysis and Dissemination (110 clinical hours)</td>
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Minimum Total Hours 15

Adolescent Well Child Theory 1

Clinical Reasoning in Advanced Practice Nursing 1

Clinical Reasoning in Advanced Practice Nursing 1
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 755</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Adult Health in Primary Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 756</td>
<td>Procedures &amp; Diagnostics for Adult Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 757</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Women’s Health in Primary Care</td>
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<td>NURS 758</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Mental Health in Primary Care</td>
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<td>NURS 759</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of the Older Adult in Primary Care</td>
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Minimum Total Hours: 14

**Pediatric Acute Care**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 761</td>
<td>Pediatric &amp; Adolescent Well Child Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 762</td>
<td>Diagnosis &amp; Management of Pediatrics in Primary Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 800</td>
<td>Pathophysiology for Pediatric Acute Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 801</td>
<td>Pharmacology for Pediatric Acute Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 802</td>
<td>Procedures for Pediatric Acute Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 803</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management for Pediatric Acute Care I: Special Needs in Chronic Illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 804</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management for Pediatric Acute Care II: Acute Illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 805</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management for Pediatric Acute Care III: Critical Illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 806</td>
<td>The Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Role</td>
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Minimum Total Hours: 16

**Psychiatric Mental Health**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 770</td>
<td>Adv. Psychiatric Assessment of Psychopathology and Clinical Interviewing Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 771</td>
<td>Foundations of Individual and Group Psychotherapy for the Adv. Practice Psychiatric Mental Health NP</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 772</td>
<td>Psychopharmacology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 773</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Children and Adolescents in Adv. Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 774</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Adults in Advanced Practice Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 775</td>
<td>Diagnosis and Management of Special Populations in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 794</td>
<td>The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Role</td>
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Minimum Total Hours: 16

DNP graduates from the UofL School of Nursing are prepared to apply for APRN certification in their population track upon graduation; however, educational preparation does not guarantee professional licensure. If you have questions regarding Kentucky APRN licensure, please contact...
the Kentucky Board of Nursing (https://kbn.ky.gov/advanced-practice-registered-nurse/Pages/default.aspx). For APRN licensure questions in other states, please contact the respective state board of nursing (https://ncsbn.org/contact-bon.htm).