



COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING – NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Lead an Interprofessional Culture of Team Building and Safe, Quality Care

If you're seeking a nursing specialization role that provides advanced practice skills to let you function as a provider or organizer of the health care delivery process, the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with the Nursing Administration specialty is an ideal program. The MSN program will prepare you to assume a leadership role in your chosen specialization.

There is always demand for clinical-care managers who can effectively communicate with members of a multidisciplinary health care team in the design and management of health care delivery systems. Your work in the program will supply you with successful decision-making strategies, evidence-based practice, and team-building and collaboration methods. From a variety of theoretical and practical perspectives, you'll learn a systems approach to management and the promotion of a culture that supports high-quality and safe patient care.

Program Highlights:

- Entire program is completed online
- 4-week courses
- Degree can be completed in 12 to 15 months, based on entry method and pathway option
- Minimal requirement of 200 hours of preceptorship experience
- Incorporation of Interdisciplinary Professional Education (IPE) with Health Care Administration discipline
- One-on-one faculty advising and consultation with industry experts

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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING, NURSING ADMINISTRATION SPECIALIZATION

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The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program is for Registered Nurses who hold a nursing diploma, or an associate nursing degree, or a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN). In keeping with the standards for graduate education for advanced practice nursing delineated by the American Association of College of Nursing in the Essentials of Master's Education for Advanced Practice Nurses, the purpose of the MSN program is to prepare students to assume leadership roles in their particular specialization. Masters level nursing education is the appropriate level of education for nursing professionals who are seeking roles that require advanced practice skills in order to function as providers and organizers of the health care delivery process.

The Master of Science in Nursing, Specialization in Nursing Administration prepares nurse managers who will provide leadership and management services to clinical care organizations. Successful decision-making strategies, evidence-based practice, team building and collaboration, fiscal management, quality improvement, and creating a learning culture that supports high quality and safe patient care are considered within a systems approach to management. The specialization courses offered in the MSN, Specialization in Nursing Administration are designed using the interprofessional Education Model to develop IPE competencies. Graduates are being prepared to meet eligibility requirements to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Nurse Executive-Advanced-Board Certified (NEA-BC) competency-based examination, or the American Organization of Nursing Leadership (AONL) competency-based examination for Certification in Executive Nursing Practice (CENP).

This program is approved by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

MSN Admission Requirements

The following candidates are eligible for admission into the MSN program:

1. Candidates who hold a BSN degree from a nursing program that meets one of these criteria: 1) State Board of Nursing approved, 2) nationally accredited nursing program, 3) from a regionally accredited University/School, if applicable, and meet the University requirements for graduate study, listed in the General Catalog under Academic Information for Graduate Degrees.
2. Candidates who are currently enrolled in the final course of their BSN degree program at National University or recently graduated from National University with their BSN (candidates in the RNBSN Completion Program are eligible to take MSN courses in the last month of their RN to BSN Completion Program), and meet the University requirements for graduate study, listed in the General Catalog under Academic Information for Graduate Degrees, including Admission in the Term Prior to Bachelor's Degree Completion.

*Candidates will be conditionally accepted into the MSN program until the following proofs are provided. Students may not begin specialization courses until the conditional acceptance is lifted by providing proof of the following:

- Current, active, and unencumbered RN license in the State of employment and/or residence
- Proof of Employment offer in the capacity of a registered nurse (RN)

If candidates are unable to show proof of RN license and employment offer, admission to the MSN program will be rescinded.

RN to MSN Candidate Requirements

Candidates who hold a nursing diploma, or an associate nursing degree from a nursing program that meets one of these criteria: 1) State Board of Nursing approved, 2) nationally accredited nursing program, 3) from a regionally accredited University/School, if applicable, and have completed a General Education curriculum or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) in these areas:

- Physical and Biological Sciences
- Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning
- Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Arts, Humanities, and Language
- Writing, Speech, and Communication

*Exception: Candidates do not need to have a Bachelor's degree for admission to the graduate program as specified in Academic Information for Graduate Degrees and Credentials, Admission Procedures.

Candidates wishing to be admitted under the exception must select one of the RN-MSN

pathway options and successfully complete the required courses prior to beginning Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) core requirements. RN-MSN Option 1 includes NSG 500 RN-MSN Portfolio Transition; OR Option 2 includes NSG 444/444A Community Population Nursing with Lab, and NSG 442/442A Nursing Leadership and Management with Lab, and NSG 447/447A Quality Improvement with Lab.

All MSN Candidates including RN to MSN

- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Candidates with a GPA of 2.5-2.99 will be considered by the MSN Admission Committee on a case by case basis
- Have completed the MSN application packet
- Have completed the NU Graduation admission application

Candidates who graduated from a BSN program other than NU must

- Provide proof of current, active, and unencumbered RN license in the State of employment and/or residence
- Complete the university admission application
- Provide one official transcript from each college or university attended to the Registrar's office
- Provide two professional recommendation forms, preferably from individuals who hold graduate or doctoral degrees
- Provide one professional goal statement

Prior to the start of their specialization courses, all candidates must

- Provide evidence of current, active professional liability and malpractice insurance coverage throughout the program
- Provide evidence of specified immunizations, a report of a recent physical examination, a clear drug screen and background check, and current BLS certification

Additional Program Information

- A. Candidates are required to meet with their Admission Advisor to review the process for applying to and acceptance into the Nursing program. The specifics described are: program of study, schedules of courses, requirements for progression in the program. Note: Prospective students should review the MSN packet before submitting the application.
- B. Students should be proficient in operating a personal computer, including: demonstrated competency in standard computer operating systems and electronic filing systems, basic keyboarding skills, organizing and sorting electronic documents; demonstrated knowledge of standard computer applications to include Microsoft Word and Excel; familiarity with using internet browsers and standard email systems such as MS Outlook.
- C. MSN core courses and Nursing Administration specialization courses are 100% online, apart from capstone course requirements. All accepted applicants must attend one virtual online program orientation.
- D. Students who request a change in specialization after they have been admitted to a prior specialization must resubmit an application packet, including a new goal statement and one completed recommendation form addressing the new specialization area. A new resume is not required. All prerequisites must be met prior to admission into the new specialization. The new application will be re-submitted via the Graduate Nursing e-form Application in SOAR by the Admission Counselor.
- E. Students who withdraw from the program or withdraw their application prior to beginning the program will not need to reapply if the point of initial application occurred within one year of reapplication. Students requesting to be readmitted after one year of initial application for admissions will need to resubmit a new application packet, including all required items needed for the application packet and drug screening, background check, immunizations, and physical examination. Reapplication to the program does not guarantee acceptance or provide an advantage to being accepted.

NOTE: Additional fees apply as described:

- RN-MSN students taking NSG 500 carry additional fee of \$3,280
- RN-MSN students taking NSG 442/A and NSG 444/A carry additional fee of \$260
- NA Area of Specializations carry additional program fees of \$475

MSN Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Implement appropriate theories, models, frameworks, and concepts for nursing and non-nursing disciplines when designing interventions that influence health care outcomes for diverse populations in a variety of settings
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to evaluate fiscally appropriate health care delivery systems that integrate research and clinical expertise to provide evidence-based, person-centered care
- Evaluate economic, policy, environmental, and social forces that impact nursing practice, health care delivery, and quality of health care
- Participate in the analysis, implementation, and evaluation of strategies for improving nursing practice through the implementation of health information systems and technologies
- Demonstrate a professional commitment to creating an environment of lifelong learning for patients, families, communities, and other health care practitioners

Nursing Administration Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Effectively communicate with members of the multidisciplinary health care team in the design and management of health care delivery systems
- Employ best evidence and judgment to make sound and ethical decisions that advance the quality and safety of health care and care delivery systems
- Create and implement a plan for day-to-day operations for a clinical facility in order to maintain accreditation, meet organizational goals, achieve quality and safety outcomes, and carry out the mission of the facility
- Provide effective, caring, culturally sensitive, and fiscally responsible leadership to other members of the health care team in order to facilitate excellence in patient care services to diverse patient populations
- Apply principles of leadership and management to foster an organizational culture that engenders lifelong learning, quality, safety, and competence in a clinical care organization

Degree Requirements

The Master of Science in Nursing requires a minimum of 49.5-82.5 quarter units of graduate credit, with a minimum of 40.5 quarter units completed at National University. Refer to the General Catalog section on graduate admission requirements for specific information regarding admission and evaluation. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and must maintain a B (84%) in all core and specialization courses. Students participating in the Nursing Administration specialization must complete 200 hours of a preceptored practicum experience within their specialty capstone course.

RN-MSN Pathway Options and Course Requirements

Candidates that do not hold a Bachelor's degree for admission to the graduate program will follow one of the RN-MSN pathways. Candidates accepted into the RN-MSN must provide completion of an associate degree in nursing or diploma Nursing Program and hold an unencumbered Registered Nurse license.

Option 1

Only if a student holds an associate degree in nursing or diploma in nursing and have at least one year of registered nursing experience in leadership, community health, and quality improvement are eligible to complete NSG 500.

(1 course; 6 quarter units)

NSG 500 RN-MSN Portfolio Transition
(6 quarter units)

Option 2

Student holds an associate degree in nursing or diploma in nursing with no registered nursing experience in leadership, community health, and quality improvement.

ALL the following six (6) courses (25.5 quarter units)

NSG 444 Community Population NSG
(6 quarter units)
Corequisite: NSG 444A

NSG 444A Comm Pop NSG Practicum
(3 quarter units)
Corequisite: NSG 444

NSG 442 NSG Leadership and Management
Corequisite: NSG 442A

NSG 442A NSG LDRSHP & MGMT Practicum
(3 quarter units)

NSG 447 Qual Improvement
Corequisite: NSG 447A

NSG 447A Qual Improvement Practicum
Corequisite: NSG 447

MSN Core Requirements

(6 courses; 27 quarter units)

NSG 600 Advance Practice Nursing
NSG 620 Theory in Advanced Practice
NSG 623 Biomedical Statistics
NSG 606 Health Policy & Finance
NSG 622 QI & Project Management
NSG 607 EBP for Advanced NSG Practice

Students must pass all core courses before beginning specialization courses.

Nursing Administration Specialization Requirements

(5 courses; 22.5 quarter units)

Students must pass all MSN Core Courses before beginning any specialization courses.

HCA 600 U.S. Healthcare System
HCA 620 Health Organization Management
Prerequisite: COH 602
HCA 624 Healthcare Planning & Marketing
Prerequisite: COH 611
HCA 670 Healthcare Leadership
Prerequisite: HCA 624
HCA 692 Healthcare Capstone
Prerequisite: HCA 691 or permission by instructor

Please Note

COH and HCA prerequisites are NOT required for students in the Specialization in Nursing Administration.