



Post-Graduate Doctor of Nursing Practice

Online, part-time, two-year doctoral program (35 credits)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Post-Graduate Doctor of Nursing Practice (MSN to DNP) program is designed to prepare clinical nurses with the advanced knowledge and experiences necessary to manage health care in a safe, effective, and efficient manner in a variety of settings. The Post Graduate DNP program is open to all post-MSN applicants, including, but not limited to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesia). Applicants build upon their current specialty.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- A master's degree in nursing (MSN) from a CCNE or an ACEN accredited institution. Recommended 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- Applicants must have completed or will complete the following prerequisite course requirements prior to enrolling at Shenandoah:
 - Graduate Statistics course with a grade of "C" or better within the last three years.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate Application with \$30 application fee.
- Unofficial transcripts from all institutions for initial admission
- Unencumbered RN license (*multi-state preferred*)
- Copy of Advanced Practice Nursing certification as applicable. Applicants without national certification will be individually evaluated and must submit evidence of their specialty expertise.
- Current resume/C.V.
- Documentation of 2,080 [RN](#) or [APRN](#) hours (direct patient care required). NP applicants must also be able to verify any previous master's degree precepted clinical hours.
- Essay (750 words): Why are you choosing to pursue the DNP? Provide a brief description of an idea for your DNP project.
- Three letters of recommendation
 - One from previous faculty (if graduated in the last five years)
 - Two professional references to attest to clinical experience
- Language proficiency must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>
- A recorded video introduction/interview will be required.

If admitted, the admission will be provisional until the completion of all required health records, documentation of up-to-date required immunizations, completion and acceptable Criminal Background Check and a negative urine drug screen, Proof of valid CPR certification from AHA is also a requirement for admission

For international students who require a visa, due to limited on-campus hours, F-1 visas are not issued for this program.

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Fall (August)

Admission Deadline

Priority: February 15

Final: April 15

Applications are reviewed continuously starting in January until the cohort is full.

Format/Location

Asynchronous online courses
DNP students set up individual synchronous meetings with their faculty mentor

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to www.su.edu/sonapp

Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

Transfer Credits

A maximum of 3 credit hours with a grade of "B" or better are transferable. Upon admission, courses may be submitted for review and approval by the Program Director.

Contact Us

Office of Graduate Admissions
SUGradAdmissions@su.edu
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-401-5709

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Office of Financial Aid
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>
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Dr. Roberta McCauley
Associate Dean of Graduate Programs
Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing



Shenandoah University's baccalaureate degree in nursing, master's degree in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice and post-graduate APRN certificates are accredited by:
Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
655 K Street NW
Suite 750
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 887-6791

CURRICULUM

The degree requirement is 35 total credit hours. Clinical practicum is approximately 500 clock hours.

Courses	Credits
Roles & Issues of the DNP	3
Analytical Methods (Stats)	3
Epidemiology & Population Health (clinical hours if needed)	3
Translational Research	3
Project 1 Seminar (125 Clinical Hours)	1/1
Project Planning (125 Clinical Hours)	2/1
Grant Writing	1
Informatics & Quality Improvement	3
Clinical Research Proposal	3
Data Analysis	3
Leadership & Policy	3
Project Implementation (240 Clinical Hours)	1/2
Project Analysis & Dissemination (clinical hours if needed) (continue to register for 2 credits until the project is completed)	2
Total	35

***PG-DNP courses are currently under review for the 2024-2025 academic year.**

ABOUT THE ELEANOR WADE CUSTER SCHOOL OF NURSING

Graduate programs in the [Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing](#) are challenging, but the rewards of completing your degree are many. We are committed to providing an outstanding education to nurses at all levels. Our programs are dynamic and responsive to the needs of our students and the health care industry.

The curricula for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Graduate Certificates, and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs combine important knowledge and skills with a friendly and caring spirit. Students share diverse backgrounds and professional experiences with seasoned teaching faculty and clinical preceptors, who contribute to robust classroom discussions and enrich clinical interactions. Our goal is to prepare and challenge you for that next step in your professional career.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- How long will it take to complete the program?**
 Post-Graduate DNP students typically graduate in six semesters (including summers).
- How does Shenandoah help with clinical placements?**
 Clinical placement is a collaborative process between the student and the faculty. We try to customize the clinical experience to your needs and wants as much as possible. We have current articulation agreements with several sites but will also look at starting up new contracts with sites if you have a relationship with them already.
- Can applicants pursue a new area of specialty in the DNP?**
 Applicants build upon their current specialty. If you wish to change specializations, you would first apply to complete a post-graduate certificate in the area of interest (FNP, PMHNP, or Nurse-Midwife) and then apply for the DNP after completion of that certificate.