Master of Science in Nursing Online Program

MSN Advanced Practice

All students seeking the Advanced Practice MSN will be enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Online Program (BSN-DNP). All students will be awarded a Master’s Degree in Nursing after completing the required 48 hours of coursework. At that time, students will have the ability to sit for the advanced practice certification in the focus areas of either FNP or PNP. Students may then continue on to acquire the DNP degree for an additional 15 credits, or may exit the program once receiving the MSN degree. Please review more information under the BSN to DNP Online Program.

MSN Executive Focus/MBA Dual Degree Program

The School of Nursing, together with the School of Business, offers a program of study leading to the dual degree of master of science in nursing MSN (Executive Focus), and master of business administration MBA. This program is predominantly online in both synchronous and asynchronous formats. It includes three 3-4 day residencies to enhance experiential learning and understanding of the curriculum content. Students take courses from both the MSN and MBA program concurrently, allowing assimilation of advanced business management concepts into the nursing administration role.

The MSN Executive Focus major is offered only to students enrolled in the dual MSN/MBA degree. It is not offered as a “stand-alone” major. The combined MSN/MBA curriculum meets the Essentials of Master’s Education in Nursing, the American Organization of Nurse Executive Competencies, and the expectations of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Throughout the curriculum, students are guided in the process of self-development aimed at pursuing excellence in scholarly and professional endeavors.

The 67 credit hour program can be completed in eight semesters of full time study, including summer sessions. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for Nurse Executive, Advanced certification (ANCC) or the Certification in Executive Nursing Practice (AONE) exams after having held a nursing administration position for at least 2 years.

Application Process for MSN Executive Focus/MBA Dual Degree Program

This program is designed for nurses who already have a bachelor’s degree in nursing, two or more years professional, full-time work experience and have an interest in leadership. Students must apply to both the MSN Executive Focus nursing program and the online hybrid MBA program simultaneously. The application process should be completed by July 1 for the August start date, or by December 1 for the January start date. Applicants to this program need to complete the following steps in order to be considered for admission:

MBA Application

1. Online Application- Be sure to indicate Business Administration (Online MBA) when responding to "Intended Major". Please select "Off Campus" as the primary delivery method. The application along with the $60 application fee should be submitted prior to the application deadline. All material should be sent to: Office of Graduate Admissions, P.O. Box 6510, Morgantown, WV 26506-6510 or submitted electronically with your application.

2. Official transcripts from all prior academic work must be forwarded by your previous institution to West Virginia University, Office of Graduate Admissions, P.O. Box 6510, Morgantown, WV 26506-6510. Contact prior institutions as early as possible. If undergraduate work was completed at WVU, admissions will pull transcripts automatically.

3. Your current resume should include enough information for the admissions committee to trace your entire professional work history and should indicate any relevant affiliations.

4. Your statement of purpose should be a short essay in which you reflect on the contribution of the Online MBA degree to your future and the special characteristics that you would bring to the Online MBA program. We are interested in value-added experiences, both from the program to you and from you to the program.

5. We recommend that your one letter of reference provide some information that is not found in the other materials being submitted. Topics with regards to your ability to work with others, your discipline and ambition, leadership potential, etc. should be addressed. If applicable, an Employers Commitment letter would also be beneficial. In particular, we’d like to know that your manager is aware of the program residency requirements and is in support of your efforts to complete your degree.

6. GMAT/GRE score (or waiver): You should have test scores submitted from the Graduate Management Admissions Test® (GMAT) (WVU GMAT code: C2S-6D-13) or from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (WVU GRE code:5904.). Early test taking is encouraged. If you have 5+ years of continuous full-time professional work experience or a terminal degree, you may request a GMAT waiver. To do so, the completed GMAT waiver request form must be uploaded as “Supplemental Information” on your online application. Once all application materials are received, you will be contacted for a phone interview regarding the GMAT waiver request.

MSN Application

1. Completed online WVU application to the MSN program.
2. Completed supplemental application, found at: https://wvuhsc.wufoo.com/forms/msnpost-msnsupplemental-application/

For more information, visit the website at http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu.

**Admission Criteria**

1. Satisfy WVU requirements for admission to graduate study
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale on all college work attempted
3. Have a current, unrestricted RN license in at least one state
4. Hold a bachelor of science degree from a nationally accredited nursing program (A bachelor of science degree in nursing is mandatory.)
5. Have completed 3 credits of undergraduate statistics equivalent to WVU Stats 211 AND 3 credits of undergraduate Health Assessment, both with a “C” or better.
6. Have completed two or more years of professional, full-time work experience
7. There are no pre-requisite courses for the MBA; however, online not-for-credit-classes in Financial Accounting, Economics, and Statistical Concepts through Ivy Software are recommended for those without a strong background in these disciplines.

Students must apply and be admitted to both programs concurrently in order to complete the MSN/MBA dual degree program.

Note: Admission criteria and applications are subject to change. Please see the School of Nursing website for the most up-to-date criteria at http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu.

**Programs**

- Master's of Science in Nursing (p. 2)
- MSN/MBA Dual Degree (p. 4)

**Curriculum Requirements**

In order to progress in the Master of Science in Nursing curriculum, a student must meet the following performance standards:

1. Achieve an overall academic Grade Point Average of at least 3.0 in all work attempted in the Master’s Program.
2. Carry forward only one C grade in a nursing course. A second C in a nursing course will result in dismissal from the program.
3. Maintain a 3.0 GPA. A student who falls below 3.0 on 9 or more credit hours will be placed on academic probation and has one semester to bring up the GPA to the 3.0 requirement.
4. Repeat only one nursing course and only one time.
5. Earn a letter grade (A, B, C) on all required courses. A grade of D or F in any course results in dismissal from the program.

**Master’s of Science in Nursing Requirements**

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required

A minimum grade of C- is required in all courses

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<th>Core Courses</th>
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<td>NSG 702</td>
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<td>Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice</td>
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<td>Health Care Leadership</td>
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<td>NSG 709</td>
<td>Health Care Informatics</td>
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<td>NSG 710</td>
<td>Health Care Issues, Policy, and Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSG 724</td>
<td>Health Research Statistics 1</td>
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Required Area of Emphasis 25

Total Hours 48

In order to progress in the MSN curriculum, a student must meet the following performance standards:

1. Carry forward only one C grade in a nursing course. A second C in a nursing course will result in dismissal from the program.
2. Maintain a 3.0 GPA. A student who falls below 3.0 on 9 or more credit hours will be placed on academic probation and has only one semester to bring up the GPA to the 3.0 requirement.
3. Repeat only one nursing course and only one time.
4. A grade of D or F in any course results in dismissal from the program.

**Suggested Plan of Study for Family Nurse Practitioner Area of Emphasis**

### First Year

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Total credit hours: 48

A minimum of 10 credits of Family Practicum (including Practicum 1 and 2) is required for graduation. This equates to a total of 600 hours of supervised clinical experience.

**Suggested Plan of Study for Pediatric Nurse Practitioner**

### First Year

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Total credit hours: 48

A minimum of 10 credits of Pediatric Practicum (including Practicum 1 and 2) is required for graduation. This equates to a total of 600 hours of supervised clinical experience.

**Family Nurse Practitioner Area of Emphasis Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>NSG 701</td>
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<td>NSG 705</td>
<td>Advanced Lifespan Assessment: FNP Focus</td>
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<td>NSG 706</td>
<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
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<td>NSG 712</td>
<td>Primary Care of Families 1</td>
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NSG 714  Primary Care of Families 2 3  
NSG 720  Family Practicum 1 5  
NSG 721  Family Practicum 2 5  
Total Hours 25  

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Area of Emphasis Requirements**  
NSG 701  Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics 3  
NSG 706  Advanced Pathophysiology 3  
NSG 770 & NSG 705  Pediatric Primary Care 1 and Advanced Lifespan Assessment: FNP Focus 6  
NSG 771  Pediatric Primary Care 2 3  
NSG 772  Pediatric Practicum 1 5  
NSG 773  Pediatric Practicum 2 5  
Total Hours 25  

**Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Area of Emphasis Requirements**  
NSG 629  Advanced Practice/Families 2  
NSG 654  Neonatal Pathophysiology 4  
NSG 655  Neonatal health Promotion 2  
NSG 663  Neonatal Assessment/Care 1 5  
NSG 664  Neonatal Care 2 4  
NSG 665  Neonatal Practicum 1 5  
NSG 666  Neonatal Practicum 2 5  
NSG 701  Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics 3  
Total Hours 30  

**Curriculum Requirements for MSN Executive Focus**  

**NURSING REQUIREMENTS**  
NSG 611  System Based Decision Making 2  
NSG 616  Role Seminar for Leadership MSN 2  
NSG 617  Leadership Practicum 1 3  
NSG 618  Leadership Practicum 2 3  
NSG 702  Population Health Promotion 3  
NSG 703  Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice 3  
NSG 704  Health Care Leadership 3  
NSG 707  Evidence Based Practice Methods 3  
NSG 709  Health Care Informatics 3  
NSG 710  Health Care Issues, Policy, and Ethics 3  
NSG 724  Health Research Statistics 1 3  
Total Hours 31  

**BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS**  
BADM 612  Managerial and Team Skills 3  
BADM 613  Macroeconomics 3  
BADM 622  Financial Statements Analysis 3  
BADM 623  Strategy 3  
BADM 631  Managerial Economics 3  
BADM 632  Corporate Finance 3  
BADM 633  Leadership 3  
BADM 644  Legal Environment and Ethics 3
BADM 652  Marketing Strategy  3
BADM 653  Integrated Global Business  3
BADM 661  Executive Project 1  1
BADM 662  Executive Project 2  2
BADM Elective  3

Total Hours  36

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Total credit hours: 67

**Progression Standards**

In order to progress in the MSN curriculum, a student must meet the following performance standards:

1. Carry forward only one C grade in a nursing course. A second C in a nursing course will result in dismissal from the program.
2. Maintain a 3.0 GPA. A student who falls below 3.0 on 9 or more credit hours will be placed on academic probation and has only one semester to bring up the GPA to the 3.0 requirement.
3. Repeat only one nursing course and only one time.
4. A grade of D or F in any course results in dismissal from the program.

**Major Learning Goals**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING ONLINE PROGRAM**

Upon successful completion of the program, the graduate will:

- Synthesize theories, research findings, and broad-based perspectives for application in the advanced practice of nursing or nursing leadership:
  1. Integrate nursing and related sciences into the delivery of advanced nursing care to diverse populations.
  2. Synthesize evidence for practice to determine appropriate application of interventions across diverse populations.
  3. Utilize nursing and related science evidence to analyze, design, implement and evaluate nursing care delivery systems.

- Utilize systematic inquiry and refined analytical skills in the provision of health care services and leadership:
  1. Integrate organizational science and informatics to make changes in the care environment to improve health outcomes.
  2. Assume a leadership role in the management of human, fiscal, and physical healthcare resources.
  3. Critically appraise existing literature to identify best practices, apply knowledge to improve and facilitate systems of care in order to improve patient outcomes.
  4. Disseminate results through translational scholarship.
• Demonstrate safe, effective assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation skills in managing the care of individuals and groups while working in interprofessional collaborative relationships:
  1. Create a relationship with clients and healthcare organizations that builds and maintains a supportive and caring partnership.
  2. Analyze best practice evidence to implement effective quality improvement initiatives with measurable results.
  3. Advocates for patients, families, caregivers, communities and members of the healthcare team.

• Articulate viewpoints and positions in order to improve the quality of health care delivery and outcomes of successful care:
  1. Assume a leadership role in effectively implementing patient safety and quality improvement initiatives within the context of the interprofessional team using effective communication skills.
  2. Examine the effect of legal and regulatory processes on nursing practice, healthcare delivery, and outcomes.
  3. Use ethical decision making to promote the well-being of individuals, families, and health care professionals in local, national & international communities.

• Consults and collaborates in interdisciplinary and interagency endeavors to advance culturally sensitive health care to clients, families, groups, and communities:
  1. Synthesize broad ecological, global and social determinants of health; principles of genetics and genomics; and epidemiologic data to design and deliver evidence-based, culturally relevant clinical preventions interventions and strategies.

• Integrates prior and current learning as a basis for growth and accountability in enacting the role of advanced practice nurse or nurse leader:
  1. Advocate for patients, families, caregivers, communities, and members of the healthcare team.
  2. Use information and communication technologies to advance patient education, enhance accessibility of care, analyze practice patterns, and improve health care outcomes, including nurse sensitive outcomes.
  3. Value life-long learning and continued professional development.

• Assume a leadership role in advocacy, ethical issues, and health care policy development:
  1. Apply leadership skills and decision making in the provision of culturally responsive, high-quality nursing care, healthcare team coordination, and the oversight and accountability for care delivery and outcomes.
  2. Function as a leader and change agent in nursing and in health care delivery systems particularly to insure quality care for vulnerable and underserved populations.
  3. Demonstrates organizational and systems leadership that continually improves health outcomes and ensures patient safety.

• Integrates all the functional areas of business into management decisions in a global environment:
  1. Evaluate factors that influence the competitive behavior of the firm.
  2. Predict and anticipate company and market responses to external factors.
  3. Identify the risks and opportunities in global markets.

• Identify problems, collect appropriate data and analyze the data to make informed management decisions:
  1. Evaluate business reports to make meaningful decisions for the organization.
  3. Take real world problems and express them in quantitative terms.

• Make management decisions in an ethically sensitive and socially responsible manner:
  1. Negotiate and control information ethically to meet organizational needs.
  2. Understand how to use and acquire information in an ethically sensitive manner.
  3. Synthesize various ethical theories and design a corporate code of ethics.

• Be effective team members in a virtual environment:
  1. Demonstrate the ability to work together in a supportive and effective manner.

• Be an effective leader who influences people towards the attainment of organizational goals:
  1. Recommend actions for leader effectiveness in a scenario case and apply a theory or framework to propose and defend their recommendations.
  2. Identify various leadership styles and their relative effectiveness, along with real-life examples.
  3. Evaluate, in a case setting, the processes through which goals are set and accomplished in organizations.