

ADMISSION CRITERIA POST- MASTER'S DNP PROGRAM

Subject: Admission PM-DNP

Effective Date: 8/2006

Scope: All Faculty, Staff, and Students of the Graduate Department

Date Reviewed/Revised: 4/2023

Responsible Office:
Department of Graduate Studies

Next Scheduled Review Date: 4/2025

Responsible Executive: Dean, Cizik School of Nursing

I. POLICY AND GENERAL STATEMENT

- A. Minimum admission requirements for the Post-master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program are established by the DNP Council of the Cizik School of Nursing (CSON).
- B. Each applicant is reviewed on an individual basis according to admissions criteria.
- C. Eligibility or evidence of an unencumbered current Registered Nurse Licensure to practice in Texas.

II. DEFINITIONS

Post-Master's: A student who has earned a master's degree.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. One official copy of transcripts from each institution attended.
- B. It is not necessary to request a transcript from UT Health if the applicant has attended any school within The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Electronic submission is preferred.
- C. Transcript(s) should include:
 1. A baccalaureate degree in nursing earned from a nationally accredited program.
 2. A master's degree or post-master's certificate as an advanced practice nurse (clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, or nurse anesthetist), a master's in nursing/health care leadership/administration, or nursing informatics or equivalent from a nationally accredited program with a GPA of 3.0 or above. The official transcript must contain a calculated GPA to be considered for admission.
 3. A completed graduate level nursing research course or equivalent with a grade of B

or higher or completion of a CSON graduate level nursing research course with a grade of B or higher within the first two semesters of enrollment.

D. Additional Criteria

1. A 500-word typed statement that discusses the area of practice interest, career goals, and reasons for desiring doctoral study.
2. A curriculum vitae or resume that documents practice experience, professional activities, and presentations/publications.
3. One (1) academic/professional letters of reference. Applicants are strongly encouraged to select at least one doctorally prepared nurse who can attest to the applicant's academic ability and potential for doctoral study. The letter of reference should accompany the applicant letter of reference form.

E. International Students

1. If an international applicant, one official copy of TOEFL score. TOEFL scores cannot be more than two (2) years old; a minimum score of 550 is required on the paper exam, a minimum score of 213 on the computer-based exam or a minimum score of 86 on the internet-based exam.
2. If the applicant is an international student, a course-by-course evaluation of international credentials by Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) of individuals with degrees from outside the United States.

F. For Advanced Practice Nurse Track:

1. A master's degree in nursing or post-master's certificate as an advanced practice nurse from a nationally accredited program with a GPA of 3.0 or above.
2. Proof of current certification by a nationally recognized credentialing organization.
3. Eligibility or approval to practice as an advanced practice nurse by the Texas Board of Nursing.
4. Minimum of one (1) year of work experience in the advanced practice role.

G. For Nursing Executive Leadership Track:

1. Master's degree in nursing (MSN), business administration (MBA), health care administration (MHA), public health (MPH), MSN or MN in Nursing Education with nursing leadership experience, or master's degree in an equivalent nationally accredited healthcare leadership program with a GPA of 3.0 or above.
2. Minimum of one (1) year of experience in the nursing leadership practice role.

H. For Nursing Informatics Track:

1. Master's degree in nursing (MSN), business administration (MBA), healthcare administration (MHA), public health (MPH), MSN or MN in Nursing Education with a systems/nursing informatics practice experience, or master's degree in an equivalent nationally accredited informatics program with a GPA of 3.0 or above.

IV. CONTACTS

List the phone number and email/web address of the office and/or person who is the subject matter expert on this policy and can answer questions regarding application and interpretation of the policy.

Contact	Telephone	Email/Web Address
DNP Program Director		https://nursing.uth.edu/about/administration