School of Nursing

5th in DNP & 7th in MSN, U.S. News & World Report’s 2019 Best Nursing Grad Schools
5th in NIH funding (2018) among schools of nursing
Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

OVERVIEW
The Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP) Post-MSN/DNP Certificate is designed for graduate-prepared nurse practitioners (NP) or clinical nurse specialists (CNS) who are seeking to expand their roles via nurse practitioner certification in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care. The curriculum prepares nurse practitioners to function as generalist, principal providers of care for adults with acute, critical and complex chronic health problems across the continuum of acute care services.

Students may choose a clinical emphasis in cardiopulmonary, critical care, oncology, trauma emergency preparedness or directed study. The directed study allows students to design clinical experiences around a particular area of interest (i.e. internal medicine, general surgery). The curriculum consists of AG-ACNP specialty courses and clinical practice hours.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certification examination in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). After passing the exam, the graduate should consult the licensing board of the state in which they intend to practice for legal (credentialing) and practice information.

CURRICULUM FORMAT
- Onsite (various courses are available via distance-technology to qualified onsite students per Policy 438)
- Full-time (3 terms) / Part-time (varies)
- 24 credits (includes 540 clinical hours)
  - Dependent on the individual’s previous role, population of patients, and years of experience, up to 300 clinical hours may be completed through the credit by course examination option.
  - Additional coursework may be required following review of official transcript(s) by faculty
- Spring Term Admission

PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Graduates are prepared to:
- Assume responsibility for promoting, maintaining and restoring health to acutely/critically or complex chronically ill adults and older adults
- Identify health risks, promote wellness, and diagnose and manage acute and chronic illness
- Participate in multi-disciplinary research and provide leadership in mobilizing health services

ADMISSION CRITERIA
- Current RN license in U.S. state/territory or locale where student will complete clinical requirements
- ≥ 3.0 GPA in MS, MSN or DNP as a NP or CNS from ACEN, NLN, ACICS, or CCNE accredited program
- Pre-admission interview
- Complete online application: nursing.pitt.edu
- International applicants: nursing.pitt.edu & ois.pitt.edu

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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