School of Nursing

7th in DNP & 8th in MSN, U.S. News & World Report’s 2018 Best Nursing Grad Schools
7th in NIH funding (2017) among schools of nursing
Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

OVERVIEW
The Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP) DNP is a practice-focused doctoral program that prepares nurses to be leaders at the highest level of clinical nursing practice. Graduates function as generalist, principal providers of care to adults with acute, critical and complex chronic health conditions.

Coursework and clinical practice hours focus on developing knowledge and skills necessary for advanced practice, including content on health promotion/protection and management of problems frequently seen in adults with acute, critical or complex chronic health problems. Students may choose a clinical emphasis in cardiopulmonary, critical care, oncology, trauma emergency preparedness, or directed study, in which students design a clinical around their particular area of interest. A culminating DNP Project reflects the practice interest of the student and synthesis and application of knowledge gained through the curriculum.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certification exam 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.

OBJECTIVES
Graduates of the AG-ACNP DNP are prepared to:

- Assume independent responsibility for promoting, maintaining and restoring health while diagnosing and managing health problems in adults with acute, critical, and complex chronic illnesses.
- Participate in multi-disciplinary research and provide leadership in mobilizing health services

CURRICULUM FORMAT
BSN to DNP
Onsite
Full-time (3 years) / Part-time (varies)
81 credits (includes 1,000 minimum clinical hours)
Curriculum Plans: Full-time (nursing.pitt.edu) / Part-time (individualized with program coordinator)
Fall Term admission

MSN to DNP
Onsite (online* with master’s degree in ACNP or AG-ACNP)
Full-time (1.5 years) / Part-time (varies)
41 credits (includes 1,000 minimum clinical hours post-BSN) *
Curriculum Plans: Full-time (nursing.pitt.edu) / Part-time (individualized with program coordinator)
Fall Term admission
*Upon admission, faculty will review official master’s transcript for:
- clinical hours completed for applicability toward 1,000 minimum clinical residency hours
- coursework for permissible transfer credits (Additional coursework may be required)

*PittOnline (online.pitt.edu / 412-648-9499)
- View Virtual Open House
- 24/7 access to library, computing resources, & virtual tech support

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ADMISSION CRITERIA

BSN to DNP
- Current RN license in U.S. state/territory or locale where student will complete clinical requirements
- ≥ 3.0 GPA in BSN (from ACEN [NLN], ACICS, or CCNE accredited program)
- Competitive GRE scores
- Prerequisite statistics course (within 10 years) with grade of B or higher

MSN to DNP
- Current RN license in U.S. state/territory or locale where student will complete clinical requirements
- ≥ 3.0 GPA in MSN (from accredited program)
  or
- ≥ 3.0 GPA in master’s in related field (must have BSN from accredited program)
- Competitive GRE scores (may be waived if master’s GPA ≥ 3.5)
- Prerequisite statistics course (within 10 years) with grade of B or higher
- One year nursing experience recommended

APPLICATION (Holistic Review Process)
- Online application: nursing.pitt.edu
- International applicants: nursing.pitt.edu & ois.pitt.edu
- Pre-admission interview (applicants residing at a distance may arrange for a telephone interview)
- Deadlines: February 15 or May 1 (international applicants are advised to apply by Feb. 15)
  Complete applications received by Feb. 15 - admission decision expected by June 1
  Complete applications received by May 1 - admission decision expected by June 30

Non-Degree Seeking (Graduate) Option
- Prospective applicants may enroll in maximum of 12 core, non-clinical credits before beginning the program
- Application to Non-Degree Seeking (Graduate) option: nursing.pitt.edu / no documents required
  - Application fee waived if previous applicant within one year
- After receipt of the application, an academic advisor will contact student regarding course selection/enrollment

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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