OVERVIEW
The Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) Post-MSN/DNP Certificate is designed for graduate-prepared Nurse Practitioners who are seeking to expand their roles via nurse practitioner certification in neonatal critical care. The NNP is prepared to manage the health care of high-risk infants, their families and children up to 2 years of age. This expanded role is performed in collaboration with neonatologists and other pediatric clinicians. NNPs are primarily employed in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) and are involved in coordinating and managing care for infants with chronic health problems and providing continuity for these children from hospital to home.

The NNP curriculum includes course work and clinical experiences focusing on the care and management of critically ill and convalescent premature and full-term infants. The sequence of courses provides for a logical building of clinical decision making skills necessary to function as a NNP. Clinical experiences may be in a variety of clinical settings including newborn nurseries, Level III NICUs, and out-patient clinics.

Graduates are prepared to perform acts of medical diagnosis and prescribe medical therapeutics and corrective measures. In addition, the NNP selects and performs clinically advanced diagnostic and therapeutic invasive procedures on newborns in the intensive care setting.

Graduates are eligible to take the NNP certification examination offered by the National Certification Corporation (NCC). 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
- Full-time or Part-time (length depends on prior academic preparation)
- 25 minimum credits (includes minimum 600 clinical hours)
- Fall, Spring, & Summer Term Admission

PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Graduates are prepared to:
- Assume responsibility for promoting, maintaining, and restoring health to infants from the newborn period up to 2 years of age
- Identify health risks, promote wellness, and diagnosis and manage acute and chronic illness
- Participate in research and provide leadership in mobilizing health care resources in the community

ADMISSION CRITERIA
- MSN or DNP preparation as a nurse practitioner
- BSN from ACEN, NLN, ACICS, or CCNE accredited program
- Current RN license in U.S. state/territory or locale where student will complete practicum requirements
- Equivalent of 2 years full-time, recent (within past 5 years) practice experience as a registered nurse in the care of critically ill newborns, infants or children in acute care inpatient settings, primarily in Level III NICU. Applicants must have acquired this experience or be currently employed in the indicated setting.
- Competitive GPA from graduate nursing degree
- Official GRE scores (may be waived if graduate nurse degree GPA ≥ 3.5)
- Prerequisite statistics course (within 10 years) with grade of B- or higher

(rev. 3-27-18)
APPLICATION

- 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)

Non-Degree Seeking (Graduate) Option

- Prospective applicants may enroll in a maximum of 12 core, non-clinical graduate credits before beginning the program
- Submit an application to the Non-Degree Seeking (Graduate) option at nursing.pitt.edu
  - 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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