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. The AG-ACNP is prepared to assume responsibility for promoting, maintaining and restoring health to adults and older adults who are acutely, critically and complex chronically ill. The AG-ACNP also participates in research and provide leadership in mobilizing health services.

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.

CURRICULUM FORMAT

BSN to DNP
Onsite
- Full-time (3 years) / Part-time (varies)
- 81 credits (includes 1,020 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)
- 37 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

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)
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
- RN Options-Early Admission to DNP is available for graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs

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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