

# School of Nursing

*9<sup>th</sup> in DNP & 12<sup>th</sup> in MSN, U.S. News & World Report's 2020 Best Nursing Grad Schools*  
*4<sup>th</sup> in NIH funding (2018) among schools of nursing*  
*Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)*

## Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner CERTIFICATE

### OVERVIEW

The **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) 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 Psychiatric Primary Care.

The curriculum includes foundational and psychiatric primary care content providing students with the advanced practice skills to effectively manage persons with psychiatric disorders across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on psychobiologic diagnosis and treatment, including psychotherapies for these individuals and their families to promote mental health and prevent subsequent mental disorders.

Clinical experiences are designed so that students provide comprehensive physical and psychiatric management to psychiatric clients in intensive and varied clinical experiences. Culminating clinical management practice provides students with the opportunity to synthesize and integrate concepts from primary health care with their psychiatric knowledge base.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certification exam in Psychiatric-Mental Health offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). 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)
- 34 credits\* (includes 640 clinical hours)
- Fall, Spring and Summer Term Admission

### ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Current RN license (all students must obtain a Pennsylvania license)
- $\geq 3.0$  GPA in MS, MSN or DNP as a NP or CNS from ACEN, NLN, ACICS, or CCNE accredited program
- Official GRE scores (may be waived if GPA  $\geq 3.5$ )
- Minimum of one year nursing experience recommended
- Prerequisite statistics course (within 10 years) with grade of B- or higher
- Pre-admission interview
- International applicants: [nursing.pitt.edu](http://nursing.pitt.edu) & [ois.pitt.edu](http://ois.pitt.edu)
- Online application: [nursing.pitt.edu](http://nursing.pitt.edu)
- Application Deadlines: August 1 (Fall Term) December 1 (Spring Term) April 1 (Summer Term)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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