



The University of New Mexico
College of Nursing



University of New Mexico College of Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice
Clinical Concentration
Admission Guide

Summer 2017 Application Cycle
August 25- November 1, 2016

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Program Information

The Doctor of Nursing Practice is a Post Masters course of study and terminal degree for Nurse Practitioners (Adult Gerontology-Acute Care, Family, Pediatric, Psychiatric, and Woman's Health), Certified Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialists. The program is designed for licensed, registered nurses with a BSN from an accredited school or university or equivalent and a Master's Degree as an Advanced Practice Nurse, Certified Nurse Midwife or Clinical Nurse Specialist from a nationally accredited program.

The University of New Mexico's College of Nursing (CON) recognizes a state and national need to prepare leaders for the highest level of professional nursing practice by providing a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. The curriculum integrates and prepares graduates according to the standards set by both the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) DNP Essentials and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) Core Competencies. Program outcomes are also consistent with Competencies for the Practice Doctorate in Midwifery (ACNM, 2011).

Contact Information

UNM

College of Nursing

(505) 272-4223

HSC-CON-StudentServices@salud.unm.edu or

jbelsher@salud.unm.edu

<http://nursing.unm.edu>

NursingCAS (617) 612-2880

nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org

www.NursingCAS.org

Minimum Application Requirements

To be considered for the UNM CON DNP-Clinical Concentration, applicants must:

- Have a Bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited school or university or equivalent.
- Have a Master's degree as an Advanced Practice Nurse, Certified Nurse Midwife or Clinical Nurse Specialist from a nationally accredited program.
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in nursing courses at the master's level.
- Possess a current and unencumbered, Registered Nurse and Advanced Practice or Midwifery license from the state in which they will be completing their practicum, and submit these with their applications.
- Possess current national certification in their specialty, and a copy must be submitted with the application.

- Include a 2-3 page essay that identifies a system or population focus and related health problem area that you intend to address as part of your DNP program of scholarship.
- Agree to sign a commitment to enroll in the program of study with course sequencing, and to attend the annual DNP residency week each year.
- Once admitted, students must fulfill the UNM Health Sciences Center's (HSC) and UNM CON deadlines during the first term, including, but not limited to, immunization records, urine drug screen, background screenings, life support certifications, Bloodborne Pathogens and HSC HIPAA trainings.
- Submit the NursingCAS application from August 25-November 1, 2016. See the application guidelines for further information.
- Upload or send unofficial college transcripts from all institutions attended to NursingCAS for processing (see address on page 4).
- Submit a UNM Graduate Admission application by November 1, 2016. Visit www.unm.edu/apply to submit a graduate application to UNM Graduate Admissions.
- Send official college transcripts from all institutions attended to UNM Office of Admissions for verification and processing by November 1, 2016.

Failure to complete any of the above steps will result in ineligibility, and your application will not be processed.

New Mexico Residency

The UNM CON abides by the policies set forth by the UNM Office of the Registrar regarding all residency issues and decisions. For more information, visit www.registrar.unm.edu/residency.

Timeline for summer 2017 Admission

- August 25, 2016: The DNP Clinical NursingCAS application period opens.
- November 1, 2016, by 9:59 MST: The DNP Clinical summer 2017 NursingCAS application period closed, meaning that applications must be completed and paid for by the indicated day and time.
- November 1, 2016 by 9:59 MST: Unofficial transcripts must be received by NursingCAS or uploaded. This is not a postmarked deadline.
- November 1, 2016: UNM Graduate Application must be submitted and paid for.
- November 1, 2016: Official transcripts must be received by UNM Office of Admissions. This is not a postmarked deadline.
- November 2016: Applicant Interviews by invitation and appointment.
- December 2016: Applicants will be notified of the UNM CON admission decision via the email they used on their application to the UNM CON DNP Clinical program. All admission decisions are final.
- June 2017: Classes start.

How to Apply

The UNM CON utilizes NursingCAS for all DNP-Clinical Concentration applications.

We require the applicant:

- The applicant to submit or upload all unofficial transcripts to NursingCAS for processing and all official transcripts to UNM Office of Admissions. The UNM CON no longer accepts transcripts for applications.

We do **not** require the applicant:

- The applicant to enter any academic history under the “Academic History” section within NursingCAS.
- The applicant to take the GRE or any other entrance exam.

Transcript Requirements

NursingCAS: For the MSN FNP application, you must submit or upload unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended to NursingCAS for application purposes.

UNM Office of Admissions: For the UNM Graduate application, you must submit official transcripts from all institutions attended to UNM Office of Admissions for application purposes.

All questions regarding transcripts must be directed to NursingCAS or the UNM Office of Admissions, as the UNM CON does not have access to them until they have been received and processed by NursingCAS or the UNM Office of Admissions.

NursingCAS Address for Transcripts

To send your unofficial transcripts directly to NursingCAS. Their address is:

**NursingCAS Transcript Processing Center
P.O. Box 9201
Watertown, MA 02471**

UNM Admissions Address for Transcripts

You will be sending your official transcripts directly to UNM Admissions. Their address is:

**Office of Admissions
P.O. Box 4895
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87196-4895**

Letter of Intent

Applicants must submit a letter of intent which specifies short and long term professional goals, and a clear statement of how the DNP will advance your clinical nursing practice. It

should be no more than three pages in length. Your letter of intent will be uploaded in the “Program Materials” section of the NursingCAS application, under the “Documents” tab.

Letters of Recommendation

Applications must include three professional references from those who know your work well and can comment on your abilities to succeed in doctoral education and an advanced leadership role. At least one must be from an individual who has evaluated your work in the past, such as a professor or supervisor. The contact information for the individuals providing the letters of recommendation will be entered in the “Supporting Information” section of the NursingCAS application, including: first name, last name, email address and the due date of 11/01/16.

Resume or CV

Applicants are required to submit either a current resume or CV with their DNP-Clinical Concentration NursingCAS application. This will be uploaded under the “Program Materials” section of the NursingCAS application, under the “Documents” tab.

Statement of Purpose for DNP Project

Applications must include a 2-3 page essay that identifies a system or population focus and related health problem area that you intend to address as part of your DNP program of scholarship. Your statement will be uploaded in the “Program Materials” section of the NursingCAS application, under the “Documents” tab.

Interview

Top scoring applicants will be invited to participate in an interview. Interviews will be held at the UNM CON with dates and times to be determined.

FAQs Regarding the NursingCAS Application

If I have already sent my official transcripts to UNM, do I still need to send them to NursingCAS?

No, you will only need to upload or submit all unofficial transcripts to NursingCAS. The UNM CON will not accept application transcripts under any circumstances. Transcripts sent to NursingCAS can be unofficial or official.

Do I have to submit my high school transcript?

No, we do not require high school transcripts. The only transcripts we require are official college transcripts sent directly to NursingCAS for processing. See above for the official transcript requirements.

FAQs Regarding the DNP Clinical Program

Why do I need a DNP?

You do not need a DNP if you are a certified advanced practice nurse and keep your certification current. However, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has recommended the DNP be the education preparation for advanced practice nurses (NP, CRNA, CNS, and CNM).

In addition to the educational preparation of advanced practice nurses, the AACN Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice emphasizes the need for further education in regards to leadership, health policy, information systems, and health care delivery systems. These foundations of DNP education supply Advanced Practice Nurses with the highest level of educational preparation in this nursing specialty.

How long is the program and is there a set curriculum and project required?

The program is a total of six terms, or 2 years beginning in the summer. The curriculum is sequential.

What is a DNP Project?

The DNP Project is a culminating project showing practice excellence and demonstrating leadership, knowledge of population health, evidence-based practice, inquiry, and the integration of the DNP role in a comprehensive health care environment. The project is to be practice-oriented that meets the needs of the DNP's community of interest. The project is NOT a dissertation, but must exemplify scholarly activity.

Is the program completely online? What campus events are required of applicants/students?

The DNP Clinical Concentration didactic courses are completely online with both synchronous and asynchronous learning utilized. Students are required to come to campus for Integration Residency I and II at the beginning of each year of the program for orientation and ongoing support for curriculum completion and individual projects. It is expected that students come to campus for their DNP Project Proposal Defense (end of year one) and for DNP Project Defense (end of year two). Clinical practice hours may be obtained in your home location. Applicants are invited to campus for interviews but are not required to attend on campus as interviews will be offered via telephone, or if needed through web conferencing.

Can I continue my full-time job while in the program?

Yes. The two-year program is designed for students to remain in their current positions. The time commitment for the program varies by term and year, but the highest number of credits will be six in any one term with the exception of one term which is 7.

What technology requirements are needed?

A high-speed internet connection is essential. Students accepted into the program are required to have a computer, printer, web camera, internet access, Microsoft Office and the capability for downloading videos. In addition, students are required to be proficient in Excel. Specific classes may require additional information technology and programs.

What is the cost?

Information about the cost of both in-state and out-of-state tuition and fees can be found online at the Bursar's Tuition and Fees website: <http://nursing.unm.edu/current-students/tuition-and-financial-aid/index.htm>, please note that there is an additional Nursing Tuition Differential for nursing students and can be found just under the Tuition and Fee Schedule . In addition to these costs please estimate \$500 per term in additional course fees, HSC Library Fee and Needle stick Insurance Fee. If you have any question, please contact the College of Nursing's Financial Aid Officer, Ana Vigil, amvigil@salud.unm.edu or (505) 272-0854.

Is student aid available?

Information regarding Financial Aid resources and more detail of financial assistance is at the following link: <http://nursing.unm.edu/current-students/tuition-and-financial-aid/index.html>. In Summary, there are various resources: Federal Student Financial Aid such as student loans is the most common form of assistance; other resources include: National Health Service Corp., State resources such as the New Mexico Health Service corp., UNM Office of Graduate Studies Funding Resources. Please contact Ana Vigil, program coordinator if you have any questions at amvigil@salud.unm.edu or (505) 272-0854.