



The University of New Mexico
College of Nursing



University of New Mexico College of Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice
Nursing Executive Organizational Leadership
Admission Guide

Summer 2017 Application Cycle

August 25- November 1, 2016

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Program Information

The Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) for Nurse Executives is designed for licensed, registered nurses with an MSN in Nursing Administration, or BSNs with an MBA, MHA, or MPH. We expanded our admission criteria in 2015 to include other BSNs with an MSN in education, informatics, and health policy who have progressive and current nursing leadership positions with current and progressive management positions.

The College recognizes a state and national need to prepare nurse executives for leadership roles by providing a DNP degree that is focused on unique learning experiences and represents a curriculum that blends the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) DNP Essentials with the 14 Forces of Magnetism from the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program® and the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows principles. In addition, we have a focus on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and new curriculum that integrates organizational leadership and quality outcomes with an emphasis on individual role development, advanced nursing concepts, financial, health policy, informatics, patient outcomes, and regulatory requirements such as those needed for Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs).

Our program has been very successful with 100% of our first cohort graduating and 87% having received a substantial promotion prior to graduation. We have earned local, state, and national recognition for our unique program taught exclusively by nurse executives with real-world experience. This has allowed us to become very competitive. However, we are still focused on bringing this unique doctoral education to nurse leaders and executives in N.M; making us a national leader with the number of nurse executives educated at this prestigious level.

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 NEOL applicants must:

- Must have a BSN and either a Master's degree in Nursing with a Nurse Administration Concentration or a Master's degree in a related field (MBA, MPA, MPH, MSA). In addition, we are now admitting students with a Master's degree in Nursing Education, Informatics, Health Policy, or a Clinical concentration who are working in management/leadership positions. Applicants in these new areas will be offered the opportunity to take the MSN in Nursing Administration's comprehensive exam that covers business, quality, human resources, and organizational systems. A passing score on this exam is 80% and you will receive a score for each of the four areas of content. If you do not pass one or more sections of the exam, you will be tutored by one of the faculty and you may re-take the exam up to two more times. If you are still unable to pass one or more sections, you will be required to take course content related to this area as an independent study, or as negotiated by your advisor.
- Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA at the master's level (with a 3.5+ GPA preferred).
- Minimum of three years in progressive nursing management or leadership practice management or equivalent as determined by the applications committee.
- Current, and unencumbered, RN license from one of the 50 U.S. States or Territories; if an advanced practice nurse or certified in a nursing specialty, a copy of your advanced practice license or certification must be submitted.
- Must agree to sign a commitment to enroll in the program of studies course sequencing based on semesters and attend the annual DNP residency held in the summer term of each year. Failure to attend residency week without prior approval from the Program Director will result in termination from the program.
- Submission of either a 2-3 page scholarly document with a description of an example of a specific health care administration problem that you would like to see changed, (preferably your capstone project idea) or a 1st authored publication. This must be written using APA. For APA assistance please visit the Purdue Owl.
- 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 NEOL NursingCAS application period opens.
- November 1, 2016, by 9:59 MST: The DNP NEOL 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 FNP program. All admission decisions are final.
- June 2017: Classes start.

How to Apply

The UNM CON utilizes NursingCAS for all DNP NEOL applications.

We require:

- 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 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 Office of Admissions Address for Transcripts

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

**UNM Office of Admissions
PO Box 4895
Albuquerque, NM 87196-4895**

Letter of Intent

Applicants are required to submit a letter of intent that outlines and conveys the experiences and events in your academic and professional life that have led you to desire an academic graduate education. Specify your career goals and a clear statement of how the DNP will advance your executive administrative practice. It should be no more than two 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

Applicants are required to submit three letters of recommendation with their DNP NEOL NursingCAS application. The letters of recommendation need to be from professional contacts who can comment on your abilities to succeed in a high level and advanced nursing executive role. These may be from a professor, supervisor, or colleague (no more than 1 colleague). 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 NEOL NursingCAS application. This will be uploaded under the “Program Materials” section of NursingCAS.

Writing Sample

Submission of either a 2-3 page scholarly document with a description of an example of a specific health care administration problem that you would like to see changed, (preferably your capstone project idea) or a 1st authored publication is required. This must be written using APA. For APA assistance please visit the Purdue Owl. Your writing sample 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 arranged and can be in person or by phone, Zoom, Skype or Adobe hangout with dates and times to be determined.

FAQs Regarding the NursingCAS Application

Do I have to enter my entire academic history?

No, you do not need to enter your academic history for the DNP NEOL 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 NEOL Program

What is the DNP?

The DNP is the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and is a practice-focused doctoral degree. The UNM College of Nursing is currently only offering the Post Masters option for the Nurse Executive Organization Leadership (NEOL) concentration

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 that by 2015, 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 leaderships, health care policy, information systems, and health care delivery systems. These foundations of DNP education supply the Nurse Executive and Nurse Administrator with the highest level of educational preparation in this nursing specialty.

What is the difference between Post Baccalaureate and Post Masters DNP?

The Post Masters allows advanced practice nurses who have graduated from an accredited nursing program at the masters' level to pursue a DNP degree. The Post Baccalaureate will allow registered nurses who have graduated from an accredited nursing program at the baccalaureate level to pursue the DNP degree. The curriculum for both options are different and uniquely designed to meet the needs of the targeted group of students.

When is the application deadline for the program and when is a new cohort admitted?

The application process opens on August 25, 2016 and the deadline is November 1, 2016 for the cohort being admitted the following year. Each cohort begins in the summer.

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

The program is a total of six terms beginning in the summer. The curriculum is sequential.

What is a capstone project?

The DNP capstone 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 capstone is to be a practice-oriented project 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 NEOL didactic program is completely online with both synchronous and asynchronous learning utilized. Students are only required to come to campus for Integration Residency I and II during each summer semester of the program for orientation and ongoing support for curriculum completion and capstone project. 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, Skype, or Adobe connect.

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 credits.

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 can I do if I am not proficient in excel?

Included in your studentship at UNM is free access to software tutorials by Lynda. Go to <http://lynda.unm.edu/>, sign in with your UNM NetID, and search for the desired version of Excel for in-depth tutorials.

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 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?

Please review the following UNM College of Nursing website for resources and more detail of financial assistance: <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, 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.