University of New Mexico College of Nursing
Masters of Science in Nursing
Nursing Education Concentration
Admission Guide
Spring 2017 Application Cycle
August 25- October 1, 2016
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Program Information

The Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Nursing Education provides a primary focus on the pedagogies and core competencies of nurse educators in a variety of roles and settings. It is expected that the nurse will also apply advanced nursing knowledge and skills based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) master’s essentials to an identified area of clinical practice. Graduates will be prepared to function as faculty in schools of nursing at associate and baccalaureate degree levels, and be prepared to pursue certification as a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE). Graduates will also be prepared to function as nursing leaders in interprofessional education, staff education, as unit based educators, patient educators, and nurse educators in community agencies or clinics. The Program of Studies has been designed for the student to develop advanced knowledge in educational theories, teaching-learning strategies, assessment strategies, curriculum development and program evaluation as well as advanced knowledge and skills in an identified area of nursing practice. The courses are sequenced and culminate in the synthesis of knowledge and application of skills in areas of clinical interest in education. Part time studies are offered to complete 39 credit hours for the master’s degree in nursing education.

The National League for Nursing (NLN) has identified core competencies for nurse educators and developed a certification exam for nurse educators to become recognized for excellence as Certified Nurse Educators (CNE). Qualifications for taking the exam are based on experience and completion of certain curricula. Based on the new AACN requirements along with the NLN competencies for Nurse Educators and supporting NLN certification requirements, our newly revised curriculum reflects these competencies and current standards for nurse educators.

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 MSN Nursing Education Concentration, applicants must:

- Hold a bachelor’s degree (e.g., B.S.N.) from an accredited college or university, with an upper-division major in nursing. (Graduates from non-accredited programs [N.L.N. or C.C.N.E.] and RN’s with baccalaureate degrees in non-nursing fields are considered on an individual basis.)
- Have a minimum grade point average for baccalaureate work of B (3.0) or better.
- Submit evidence of RN licensure with NursingCAS. If NCLEX results are pending at time of application, applicant should indicate this in the personal statement.
- Submit one letter of intent with NursingCAS.
- Submit three letters of recommendation to NursingCAS.
- Submit one current professional resume or CV to NursingCAS.
- Submit the NursingCAS application from August 25-October 1, 2016. See the application guidelines for further information.
- Upload or send unofficial college transcripts from all institutions attended to NursingCAS for processing.
- Submit a UNM Graduate Admission application by October 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 October 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 Spring 2016 Admission

- August 25, 2016: The MSN Nursing Education NursingCAS application period opens.
- October 1, 2016, by 9:59 MST: The MSN Nursing Education Spring 2017 NursingCAS application period closes, meaning that applications must be completed and paid for by the indicated day and time.
- October 1, 2016: Unofficial transcripts must be received by NursingCAS or uploaded. This is not a postmarked deadline.
- October 1, 2016: UNM Graduate Application must be submitted and paid for.
• October 1, 2016: Official transcripts must be received by UNM Office of Admissions. This is not a postmarked deadline.
• November 2016: Applicants will be notified of the UNM CON admission decision via the email they used on their application to the program. All admission decisions are final.
• January 2017: Classes start.

How to Apply

The UNM CON utilizes NursingCAS for all MSN applications, including Nursing Education.

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 Nursing Education 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 convey the experiences and events in your academic and professional life which have led you to desire an academic graduate education. It should be no more than two pages in length. Your letter of intent will be upload in the “Program Materials” section of NursingCAS under the “Documents” tab.

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants are required to submit three letters of recommendation with their MSN Nursing Education NursingCAS application. The letters of recommendation need to be professional in nature and need to convey your maturity and experience in pursuing graduate education. 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 10/1/16.

Resume or CV

Applicants are required to submit either a current resume or CV with their MSN Nursing Education NursingCAS application. This will be uploaded under the “Program Materials” section of NursingCAS.

Licensure and Certifications

Applicants are required to submit a copy of their current Registered Nurse license under the “Supporting Information” section of NursingCAS.

FAQs Regarding the NursingCAS Application

**Do I have to enter my entire academic history?**

No, you do not need to enter in your academic history for the MSN Nursing Education 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 MSN Education Program

Why concentrate on Nursing Education at the master’s level?

If you wish to teach in a nursing program or work as a nurse educator in a staff development or patient education position, the Nursing Education concentration will increase your understanding and expertise teaching adult learners in didactic and clinical settings.

What courses must I attend on campus at UNM?

All required courses as listed can be taken entirely on the Web with the exception of: a) practicum related hours in NURS 523 and NURS 592, and NURS 595 fieldwork. Practicum and fieldwork hours are conducted (if resources are available) in an appropriate setting close to you.

What is the fieldwork for this concentration?

The NURS 595 course (fieldwork) is 4 credit hours, which translates to 192 clock hours. Fieldwork involves teaching in academic, staff development, and/or patient education settings. Fieldwork hours are completed near the end of the program. Specific decisions about the fieldwork experience are negotiated with your advisor/instructor.

If I complete this master’s degree, can I teach at the university level?

Most universities employ Master’s and Doctorally prepared faculty. Master’s prepared faculty typically have different assignments than Doctorally prepared faculty.

Is there any particular order in which I should take my courses?

Students will be required to complete core courses and all other course work as per the Plan of Study designed on admission.

How fast can I complete this concentration?

See specific plan of study (part time or full time) to determine time to complete the program.