



UNM

COLLEGE of NURSING

Masters of Science in Nursing

Post Masters Certificate

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner



Admission Guide

FALL 2017 Application Cycle

March 1, 2017 - June 5, 2017

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Program Information

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Post Master's Certificate (PMC) program offers licensed Nurse Practitioners and Nurse-Midwives the opportunity to integrate holistic psychiatric care to diverse populations into their practice. This program is designed to enhance APRN scope of practice to include psychiatric care to individuals and families across the life-span. The PMHNP PMC program provides clinical experiences in both rural and metropolitan areas of New Mexico with a focus on rural and underserved populations behavioral health needs.

The PMHNP PMC program provides web-based didactic courses in collaboration with the University of Colorado, Denver; however, students will receive their degree from the University of New Mexico. UNM College of Nursing Faculty will arrange and provide clinical oversight for students. Students are expected to complete a portion of their clinical hours within a rural setting. Students need to be aware they are responsible for the travel expenses associated with all site placements. For students living in rural areas, efforts are made to accommodate a portion of their clinical rotations in that area depending on preceptor availability.

Full time study for the PMHNP cohort begins fall term 2017 and continues for six (6) consecutive terms. Following successful completion of this program, students are eligible to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exam to obtain the national Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification and subsequent licensure in New Mexico and other U.S. States.

Post Master's graduate education in nursing builds on the MSN curriculum. Students are expected to enter the program with prerequisite core MSN courses and advanced practice clinical competence. Note: Students without recent (i.e. past 3-5 years) clinical experience may be required to complete MSN and/or APRN Core courses.

If you would like additional information regarding PMHNP (scope of practice, job opportunities, etc.) the following information is available: [American Psychiatric Nurses Association \(APNA\)](#), [American College of Nurse Practitioners \(ACNP\)](#), [American Academy of Nurse Practitioners \(AANP\)](#)

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 PMHNP Post Master's Certificate, applicants must:

- Have a Bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited school or university or equivalent.
- Have a Master's degree as a Certified Nurse Midwife or a Certified Nurse Practitioner 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] should contact the College of Nursing advisement for more information.
- A minimum of one to two years of work experience as a nurse practitioner or nurse-midwife is preferred.
- Have a minimum grade point average for MSN work of B (3.0) or better.
- Must be registered in or eligible for nurse practitioner (NP) or nurse-midwife licensure in New Mexico with a New Mexico NP or nurse-midwife license obtained within the first term enrolled.
- Submit the NursingCAS application from March 1, 2017 to June 5, 2017. See the application guidelines for further information.
- Submit one letter of intent to NursingCAS.
- Submit two letters of recommendation (one supervisor recommendation and one peer recommendation in the same specialty as applicant) to NursingCAS.
- Submit one current professional resume or CV to NursingCAS.

- An interview is required as part of the admissions process.
- Exceptions to any program admission criterion will be considered on an individual basis and are at the discretion of the Admissions Committee with a recommendation to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or Dean of the College of Nursing.
- Upload or send unofficial college transcripts from all institutions attended to NursingCAS for processing (see address on page 5).
- Submit a UNM Graduate Admission application by June 5, 2017. 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 June 5, 2017.

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

Timeline for fall 2017 Admission

- March 01, 2017: The MSN PMHNP PMC NursingCAS application period opens.
- June 5, 2017, by 9:59 MST: The MSN PMHNP PMC fall 2017 NursingCAS application period closes, meaning that applications must be completed and paid for by the indicated day and time.
- June 5, 2017: Unofficial transcripts must be received by NursingCAS or uploaded. This is not a postmarked deadline.
- June 5, 2017: UNM Graduate Application must be submitted and paid for.
- June 5, 2017: Official transcripts must be received by UNM Office of Admissions. This is not a postmarked deadline.
- June 2017: Applicant Interviews by invitation and appointment.
- July 2017: Applicants will be notified of the UNM CON admission decision via the email they used on their application to the UNM CON PMHNP PMC program. All admission decisions are final.
- September 2017: Classes start.

How to Apply

The UNM CON utilizes NursingCAS for all MSN applications, including PMHNP PMC.

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 official 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 PMHNP PMC 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 that 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 uploaded in the “Program Materials” section of the NursingCAS application, under the “Documents” tab.

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants are required to submit two letters of recommendation with their PMHNP PMC NursingCAS application. One letter of recommendation must be from a supervisor and one letter of recommendation from a peer (peer must hold certification in the same specialty as the applicant) 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 June 5, 2017.

Resume or CV

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

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.

Licensure and Certifications

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

FAQs Regarding the NursingCAS Application

Can I take the PMHNP program part-time?

The PMHNP Post Master’s certification is a full-time program, offered in 6 sequential semesters. Please see curriculum for specific information.

Are the non-clinical courses offered on the Web?

Yes, they are offered on the Web in collaboration with the University of Colorado, Denver. UNM Faculty will be working in collaboration with the University of Colorado, Denver. Students are expected to use Canvas (University of Colorado-Denver) learning management systems. IT support will be available from UNM CON IT specialists for assistance.

What are the PMHNP courses?

The PMHNP didactic courses (each 3 credits) are:

- N583 Psychotherapy, behavior change, and health promotion/disease prevention across the life span
- N584 Integrated behavioral health care in common psychiatric presentations
- N585 Assessment, neurobiology, & psychopharmacology of psychiatric disorders across the lifespan
- N586 Diagnosis & Management of adults for PMHNP
- N587 Diagnosis & management of children & older adults for PMHNP

The PMHNP practicums are:

- N588 Advanced Practicum I; 3 credit hours-150 Clinical hours
- N588 Advanced Practicum II; 3 credit hours-150 clinical hours
- N589 Advanced Practicum III: 3 credit hours-150 clinical hours
- N595 Fieldwork (Practicum IV): 4 credit hours-200 clinical hours

What is the total number of clinical hours required, and will I be able to receive credit for working in a psychiatric facility or clinic?

This concentration requires a total of 650 clinical hours. There is no credit given for working in a psychiatric facility or clinic post MSN graduation.

Will I be required to work in rural areas outside of Albuquerque?

We use a variety of sites, including sites in rural areas. All students in this concentration are expected to travel outside of the Albuquerque area for a portion of their clinical rotation. It is the responsibility of UNM CON faculty to find clinical placement for students. If students are from a rural area, we make every effort to place those students in that area for their clinical rotation; however, we cannot guarantee clinical site or preceptor availability in all locations.

If I am a nurse practitioner or a nurse-midwife, how can I get a Post Master PMHNP certification?

Students with an NP or nurse-midwife certification who have already completed the core courses can apply for the Post Masters PMHNP certification program. All students are responsible for taking the required PMHNP courses and clinical practicums. Students must have a graduate level Advanced Pathophysiology (3 cr.), Advanced Pharmacology (3 cr.), Advanced Health Assessment (3cr) on their transcript.