

SECTION 4: DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Goals of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program. The goal of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University BSN-to-DNP program is to make a pronounced contribution to the supply of doctorally prepared advanced practice registered nurses to meet the health care needs of the rural and underserved areas in the state of Oklahoma. Graduates will be prepared to provide leadership in the application of evidence-based clinical practice and contribute to the development of nursing science through independent and collaborative participation in scholarly activities and health policy, focusing on the improvement of patient/client care outcomes. More specifically, graduates will be prepared to:

1. Evaluate and utilize advanced knowledge and theories from nursing and related disciplines to identify, develop, and implement best practices to improve health care and health care systems.
2. Design, direct, and evaluate system changes to promote safe, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care.
3. Provide leadership in the provision and transformation of health care through effective interprofessional collaboration and communication.
4. Apply technology and policy development to promote health, reduce risk, enhance patient outcomes, and improve complex health care delivery systems.
5. Engage in complex, evidence-based advanced nursing practice.
6. Evaluate innovative approaches to complex health issues leading to safe and holistic care for individuals, families, communities, and vulnerable populations.
7. Demonstrate clinical expertise, critical thinking, and accountability in designing and evaluating evidence-based care to improve patient/client outcomes.

DNP Admission Requirements. All prospective DNP students must be admitted to Northwestern Oklahoma State University, must meet University standards for admission, and must follow procedures set by the Registrar's office.

Students applying who earned a BSN from NWOSU may submit an *unofficial* NWOSU transcript along with official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended before and after attending NWOSU.

Applications are accepted each spring for entry into the fall semester classes.

Admission to the BSN-to-DNP program is competitive. Only completed applications will be reviewed. Admission is contingent upon meeting all of the program admission requirements. The program admits a limited number of students due to available clinical resources. Applicants must:

1. hold a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing from an ACEN (NLNAC), CCNE, or CNEA accredited nursing program.
2. have an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours for the courses required in the undergraduate nursing degree (BSN).
3. Application may be made for conditional admission by students having an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 with five years having passed since the date of completion of the BSN degree.
4. have a current unrestricted license to practice as a Registered Nurse.
5. have completed an undergraduate or graduate course in descriptive and inferential statistics with a grade of C or better.
6. have submitted three (3) letters of recommendation attesting to academic ability, professional competency, and personal character.
7. submit the program application with a personal essay and curriculum vitae.
8. submit written verification of the number of hours of direct or indirect patient care experience within the last 3 years as a registered nurse or family nurse practitioner, which can be either volunteer work or employment.
9. Students with a native language other than English must submit evidence of English language proficiency. Evidence may include (a) completing a four-year bachelor's degree in Nursing from a U.S institution, (b) meeting the English language requirements of an official TOEFL score (520 for paper-based test, 190 for computer-based test, or 68 for internet-based test), or IELTS score (6/5 or higher) is required for all students for whom English is a second language. The TOEFL must have been taken within the past 2 years.

Advanced Placement Option: (MSN to DNP Option): Registered Nurses who have completed an accredited (AACN, NLNAC, CCNE or CNEA) graduate level (Masters of Science in Nursing) advanced practice registered nursing program as a Family Nurse Practitioner and who are currently certified in an advanced practice specialty consistent with educational preparation are eligible to apply to complete the DNP at Northwestern. Advanced practice licensure as a Family Nurse Practitioner as prescribed by the applicant's state of residency is required. Advanced Placement Option applicants must meet the same admission requirements as the BSN-to-DNP applicants.

Retention Standards:

1. Student must file a plan of study, signed by both the student and academic advisor, prior to beginning the program orientation.
2. Student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. No grade lower than a B will be credited towards the DNP degree. Students earning a grade of "C" or below in a DNP course may repeat ONE course ONE TIME to raise the grade to the passing grade of "B" or higher. Failure to attain a passing grade after the second attempt will result in dismissal from the program.
3. Students whose cumulative GPA falls between 2.7 and 3.0 at any time will receive a letter of academic warning and will meet with their academic advisor to develop a personal plan for improvement.
4. Student must be enrolled in a minimum of one course per semester and is normally expected to complete all degree requirements within six years after admission to the program.
5. Any student enrolled in the DNP program must register for fall, spring, and summer semesters until all degree

requirements are completed unless the student has been granted a leave of absence by the Division of Nursing Chairperson.

6. Student must pass a federal criminal background check prior to starting and annually during progression in the DNP program.
7. Student must pass the drug screen test prior to starting the clinical courses and annually during progression in the DNP program. Graduate Nursing Students may be subjected to random drug screenings per the Division of Nursing Drug Screening Policy.
8. Student must submit a copy of a photo ID upon admission to the program before courses start.
9. Evidence of unprofessional conduct or unsafe behavior may constitute grounds for dismissal from the DNP program. Evidence of plagiarism, falsification of documentation of activities or assignments, breaking patient/client confidentiality or pertinent legal issues including arrests or positive drug screen may result in dismissal from the DNP program.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE, BSN-to-DNP, ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
THREE-YEAR PLAN (73 credit hours and 1020 Practicum Hours)

YEAR ONE

FALL (Total = 9 credits)

- * NURS 6010 Program Orientation (0 Credits)
- * NURS 6113 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credits)
- * NURS 6123 Biostatistics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)
- * NURS 6263 Health Policy, Ethics, Economics, and Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)

SPRING (Total = 9 credits)

- * NURS 6213 Theory for Evidence-Based Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)
- * NURS 6153 Advanced Research Methods (3 credits)
- * NURS 6423 Interprofessional Leadership, Collaboration, and Communications (3 credits)

SUMMER (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6133 Advanced Holistic Assessment (3 credits)
- * NURS 6432 Role Development for the DNP (2 credits)
- * NURS 6233 Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship in Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)
- * ONE WEEK SUMMER RESIDENCY ON CAMPUS

YEAR TWO

FALL (Total = 9 credits)

- * NURS 6243 Population Health and Health Promotion (3 credits)
- * NURS 6143 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics (3 credits)
- * NURS 6253 Health Systems -- Informatics and Quality Management (3 credits)

SPRING (Total = 9 credits)

- * NURS 6313 Primary Care of Families -- Adult (3 credits)
- * NURS 6314 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Adult (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6412 Advanced Nursing Practice in Rural Communities (2 credits)

SUMMER (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6373 Gerontology in Primary Care (3 credits)
- * NURS 6374 Primary Care Practicum -- Gerontology (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6511 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

YEAR THREE

FALL (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6353 Primary Care of Families -- Women (3 credits)
- * NURS 6354 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Women (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6521 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

SPRING (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6333 Primary Care of Families -- Pediatrics (3 credits)
- * NURS 6334 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Pediatrics (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6531 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

SUMMER (Total = 5 credits)

- * NURS 6414 DNP Practicum in Family Nursing (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6541 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)
- * PROJECT DEFENSE ON CAMPUS

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE, BSN-to-DNP, ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
FOUR-YEAR PLAN (73 credit hours and 1020 Practicum Hours)

YEAR ONE

FALL (Total = 6 credits)

- * NURS 6010 Program Orientation (0 Credits)
- * NURS 6113 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credits)
- * NURS 6123 Biostatistics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)

SPRING (Total = 6 credits)

- * NURS 6153 Advanced Research Methods (3 credits)
- * NURS 6213 Theory for Evidence-Based Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)

SUMMER (Total = 3 credits)

- * NURS 6233 Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship in Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)

YEAR TWO

FALL (Total = 6 credits)

- * NURS 6243 Population Health and Health Promotion (3 credits)
- * NURS 6263 Health Policy, Ethics, Economics, and Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)

SPRING (Total = 5 credits)

- * NURS 6423 Interprofessional Leadership, Collaboration, and Communications (3 credits)
- * NURS 6412 Advanced Nursing Practice in Rural Communities (2 credits)

SUMMER (Total = 5 credits)

- * NURS 6133 Advanced Holistic Assessment (3 credits)
- * NURS 6432 Role Development for the DNP (2 credits)
- * ONE WEEK SUMMER RESIDENCY ON CAMPUS

YEAR THREE

FALL (Total = 6 credits)

- * NURS 6143 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics (3 credits)
- * NURS 6253 Health Systems -- Informatics and Quality Management (3 credits)

SPRING (Total = 7 credits)

- * NURS 6313 Primary Care of Families -- Adult (3 credits)
- * NURS 6314 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Adult (4 credits -- 192 hours)

SUMMER (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6373 Gerontology in Primary Care (3 credits)
- * NURS 6374 Primary Care Practicum -- Gerontology (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6511 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

YEAR FOUR

FALL (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6353 Primary Care of Families -- Women (3 credits)
- * NURS 6354 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Women (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6521 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

SPRING (Total = 8 credits)

- * NURS 6333 Primary Care of Families -- Pediatrics (3 credits)
- * NURS 6334 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Pediatrics (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6531 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)

SUMMER (Total = 5 credits)

- * NURS 6414 DNP Practicum in Family Nursing (4 credits -- 192 hours)
- * NURS 6541 DNP Project (1 credit -- 15 hours)
- * PROJECT DEFENSE ON CAMPUS