S-17: ADMISSIONS TO THE PHD IN NURSING PROGRAM

POLICY: Potential students wishing to apply to the PhD program must meet the following criteria:

I. Prerequisite Requirements:
   A. PhD Candidate:
      1. Earned master’s degree in nursing from an ACEN, CNEA, or CCNE accredited program. International applicants must demonstrate proof of equivalent education and degree.
      2. Persons with a master’s degree in a health-related discipline from an accredited institution are eligible for admission but must meet following requirements: (a) an earned bachelor’s degree in nursing from an accredited program and (b) additional graduate level course work: health and public policy and nursing theory from a graduate program.
      3. Generally, a minimal grade point average of 3.5 (on a 4.0 = A scale) earned in a nursing or health-related master’s program of study is required. Students who graduated from accredited competency-based schools are advised to contact the Program Director for additional information.
      4. Completion of a 3-credit graduate level statistics course, or equivalent, taken within the last 5 years and a minimum grade of B.
      5. Current unencumbered and unrestricted RN license in U.S.
   B. For the Post-DNP to PhD candidate:
      1. A DNP degree from an ACEN, CNEA, or CCNE accredited DNP program.
      2. Minimum GPA of 3.5 (4.0 = A) in DNP program.
      3. Completion of a 3-credit graduate level statistics course, or equivalent, taken in the last five years and with a minimum grade of B.

II. Three Letters of Professional Recommendation from individuals who can evaluate applicant’s motivation, academic capability, scholarship potential, and personal integrity for doctoral study.

III. Written Self-Presentation:
   A. Two representative samples of scholarly work.
   B. Written statement of personal career, educational and scholarship/research goals. Statement should include description of how the applicant’s research goals align with specific faculty programs of research.
   C. Current CV or resume.

IV. Interview with PhD Admissions Committee either in person, video-conference, or by telephone.

Potential students meeting the criteria for admission must submit a complete application packet by February 1 for preferred admission; however, applications are reviewed until the cohort is filled.
RATIONALE: To establish minimum qualifications and a standard process for admission into the PhD in Nursing program.

PROCEDURE:

I. Students will complete the following by February 1.
   A. Complete the graduate application form, which can be found on the School of Nursing’s website. The following documents should be uploaded into the application:
      1. Official GRE score report (if applicable)
      2. Three letters of professional recommendation
      3. Two representative samples of scholarly work.
      4. Written statement of personal career, educational and scholarship/research goals.
      5. Current CV or resume
      6. Unofficial copy of ALL transcripts.
         i. If unofficial are not available to upload with application, send one copy of all official transcripts to the School of Nursing.
   B. Send one copy of all official transcripts to the Graduate College.

II. The Program Director will identify the Admission Committee members and serve as the chair of the committee.

III. The Admission Committee will identify the best qualified applicants and recommend their admissions into the PhD program by mid-April. The number of potential students admitted may vary from year to year depending on faculty resources, the quality of applicant pool, and other factors.

IV. The Program Director and Student Services Director will send the names of all accepted applicants to the Graduate College by the end of April.

V. All potential students admitted into the program must notify the School of Nursing of their intent to enroll into the program by mid-June.

VI. All admitted students must submit the following prior to fall registration:
   A. A current unencumbered and unrestricted RN license for the state in which he/she practices in the United States.
   B. A copy of a current basic life support (BLS) certificate
   C. Evidence of health insurance
   D. Drug screen
   E. Background check
   F. Immunization record (including Hep B, MMR, TD, and PPD or quantiFERON)