S-15: ADMISSIONS TO THE MSN AND POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

POLICY: Potential students wishing to apply to the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and Post-Master’s Certificate (Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator) programs must meet the following qualifications:

MSN Program
1. A Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from an accredited school and a minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA) (cumulative or last 2 years of study).
2. Completion of undergraduate courses in physical assessment, research, and an introductory course in statistics.
3. One (1) year of experience as an RN prior to enrolling in the Family Nurse Practitioner track.
4. Students seeking admission into the Nursing Education track are required to have completed one (1) year of clinical practice prior to enrollment in the first nursing education practicum course.
5. Current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license in state of residence.

Post-Master’s Certificate Program (Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator)
1. A MSN degree from an accredited school and a minimum 3.0 GPA (cumulative or last 2 years of study).
2. Completion of undergraduate courses in physical assessment, research, and an introductory course in statistics.
3. Completion of graduate courses in Advanced Physical Assessment, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Pharmacology. Students who have not completed these courses will have these courses incorporated into their Plan of Study.
4. One (1) year of experience as an RN prior to enrolling in the Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner.
5. Students seeking admission into the Nursing Education track are required to have completed one (1) year of clinical practice prior to enrollment in the first nursing education practicum course.
6. Current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license in state of residence.

RATIONALE: To establish minimum qualification and standards for admission into the MSN and Post-Master’s Certificate programs.

PROCEDURE: Prospective students meeting the admission requirements for the MSN program and Post-Master’s Certificate (Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator) must complete and submit all documents listed in Step One and Step Two below to the UNLV Graduate College prior to the February 1 deadline:

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**UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS**
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**MSN Program**

I. **Step One - Graduate College Requirements:**
   Complete an online application with the Graduate College. Upload the following documents through the Graduate College Online Application System before submitting the application:
   1. Official transcripts of course work from all postsecondary institutions attended must be sent to the UNLV Graduate College. Additionally, if unofficial transcripts are available to the student, please upload to the Grad Rebel Gateway. Nursing course work must have been completed at a nursing program accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency (e.g. Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE]).
   2. Current resume or curriculum vitae (CV).
   3. Statement of a maximum of 300 words describing the students’ professional goals and reason for seeking graduate education.
   4. Enter contact information for recommenders who will upload letters of recommendation to the application system.
   International students from a country where English is not the native language and who did not receive a degree from a university where English is the language of the institution need to submit a TOEFL, IBT, or Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic) score.

II. **Step Two - School of Nursing MSN Program Requirements:**
   A. Upload the following documents through the Graduate College Online Application System before submitting the application:
      1. Current resume or CV.
      2. Two (2) letters of recommendation.
      3. Statement of a maximum of 300 words describing the students’ professional goals, and reasons for seeking graduate education and becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Educator.
      4. Current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license.
      5. A copy of unofficial transcripts.
   B. The MSN Program Director will identify the Admissions Review Committee and serve as the consultant to the committee.
   C. The Admissions Review Committee will identify the best-qualified applicants and recommend their admissions into the MSN program by mid-April. The number of potential students identified for each track may vary from year to year depending on faculty resources and the number of clinical sites available.
   D. The MSN Program Director or designee will complete and send all applicant evaluation forms to the Graduate College by the end of April.
   E. All potential students admitted to the program must notify the School of Nursing of their intent to begin the program by June 1.
   F. Admitted students must submit the following prior to being registered for courses:
      1. Current health insurance.
      2. Immunization record of vaccination against:
         a. Hepatitis B (3 doses lifetime or titer)
b. Varicella (2 doses lifetime or titer),
c. MMR (2 doses lifetime or titer),
d. Tdap booster within the last 10 years (if the student is pregnant, Tdap must be given during each pregnancy).
e. QuantiFERON (annually). If the student wishes to submit a PPD, they must provide their last 2 annual test results.

3. BLS certification (every two years).
4. Health history and physical completed by a healthcare provider.
5. A drug screen and background check completed thru PreCheck.
6. A current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license.
7. Certificate of Completion, UNLV Bloodborne Pathogen online training (annually).
8. Certificate of Completion, UNLV HIPAA online training (annually).

Post-Master’s Certificate Program (Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator)

I. Step One – Graduate College Requirements:
   Complete an online application through the Graduate College. Upload the following documents through the Graduate College Online Application System before submitting the application:
   1. Official transcripts of course work from all postsecondary institutions attended must be sent to the UNLV Graduate College. Transcripts must show coursework in Advanced Physical Assessment, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Pharmacology. Additionally, if unofficial transcripts are available to the student, please upload the Grad Rebel Gateway. Nursing course work must have been completed at a nursing program accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency (e.g. CCNE).
   2. Current resume or curriculum vitae (CV).
   3. Statement of a maximum of 300 words describing the students’ professional goals and reason for seeking an Advanced Graduate Certificate.
   4. Enter contact information for recommenders who will upload letters of recommendation to the application system.
   5. International students from a country where English is not the native language and who did not receive a degree from a university where English is the language of the institution need to submit a TOEFL, IBT, or Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic) score.

II. Step Two - School of Nursing Post-Master’s Certificate Requirements:
   A. Upload the following documents through the Graduate College Online Application System before submitting the application:
      1. Current resume or CV.
      2. Two (2) letters of recommendation.
3. Statement of a maximum of 300 words describing the students’ professional goals and reason for seeking graduate education
4. Current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license.
5. A copy of unofficial transcripts.

B. The MSN Program Director will identify the Admissions Review Committee and serve as the consultant to the committee.

C. The Admission Review Committee will identify the best-qualified applicants and recommend their admissions into the Advanced Graduate Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner program by mid-April. The number of potential students identified may vary from year to year depending on faculty resources and the number of clinical sites available.

D. The MSN Program Director or designee will complete and send all applicant evaluation forms to the Graduate College by the end of April.

E. All potential students admitted to the program must notify the School of Nursing of their intent to begin the program by June 1.

F. Admitted students must submit the following prior to being registered for courses:
   1. Current health insurance.
   2. Immunization record of vaccination against:
      a. Hepatitis B (3 doses lifetime or titer)
      b. Varicella (2 doses lifetime or titer),
      c. MMR (2 doses lifetime or titer),
      d. Tdap booster within the last 10 years (if the student is pregnant, Tdap must be given during each pregnancy).
      e. QuantiFERON (annually). If the student wishes to submit a PPD, they must provide their last 2 annual test results.
   3. BLS certification (every two years).
   4. Health history and physical completed by a healthcare provider.
   5. A drug screen and background check completed thru PreCheck.
   6. A current valid unencumbered and unrestricted RN license.
   7. Certificate of Completion, UNLV Bloodborne Pathogen online training (annually).
   8. Certificate of Completion, UNLV HIPAA online training (annually).

Approved Student Affairs Council: June 2005. Revised 10/19/09, 10/8/12, 2/09/15, 7/18/16 6/12/17, 7/16/18
Approved Faculty Organization: June 2005, 11/30/09, 10/29/12, 2/23/15, 7/25/16, 6/26/17, 7/30/18
Approved by Dean: June 2005, 11/30/09, 10/29/12, 2/23/15, 7/25/16, 6/26/17, 7/30/18