

Advanced Nursing Practice (Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner), DNP

NUANPAGDNP

Program description

Degree awarded: DNP Advanced Nursing Practice (Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)

The adult-gerontology nurse practitioner concentration of the DNP program is an advanced nursing practice degree. This program prepares graduates to provide holistic, client-centered primary care to adolescents, adults and geriatric patients in a variety of settings.

This is a hybrid program, a blend of in-person and online learning. Students are required to travel to campus for orientation once and for immersions two or three times per semester.

Core courses include pharmacology, advanced pathophysiology and advanced health assessment across the lifespan. Specialty courses focus on the assessment, screening, diagnosis and evidence-based management of common, chronic and complex health conditions in adolescents, adults and geriatric patients. Content including epidemiology, differential diagnosis, sociocultural variations in evidence-based treatments, health promotion and case management is emphasized. Adult gerontology-focused theory and clinical courses include theories, principles and clinical skills in the care of adolescents and adults across the lifespan in a variety of settings, including private practice, ambulatory clinics, long-term care facilities and the patient's home. Practicing faculty with clinical experience teach the specialty coursework and clinical experiences.

In addition to advanced nursing specialty-focused outcomes, the program engages students to meet doctoral-level competencies in systems-level thinking, complexity science, quality and safety, evidence-based practice, and the development of a doctoral project within a partner organization to improve outcomes at the patient, provider or health care system level. Students are educated as leaders at the highest level of nursing practice to translate research into practice, lead in multidisciplinary teams, and engage in health care policy and advocacy to improve patient outcomes.

Focused clinical experiences are arranged for students residing in Maricopa County, Arizona. Students should expect to travel throughout Maricopa County and, in some cases, surrounding counties to complete their assigned clinical placement.

Students residing outside of Maricopa County, Arizona, are responsible for identifying the required number of clinical sites in their area of residence and for identifying preceptors and sites willing to accommodate clinical rotations, and Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation must approve these sites before starting any clinical experience; the program office does not guarantee a clinical placement site for any student outside Maricopa County. If, during the program, faculty determine the student needs additional supervision for clinical progress in the program, the student must complete clinical experiences in the Phoenix area.

The program offers clinical rotations in health profession shortage areas throughout the state, both in urban underserved and rural areas, that provide students multicultural experiences to enhance professional development.

As a participating National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements member, Arizona State University is authorized to offer distance education to persons located in individual state authorization reciprocity agreement member states in accordance with the council's established policies and standards. California is not a state authorization reciprocity agreement member and the California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education does not regulate out-of-state public institutions. ASU may offer educational activities in California. There are some exceptions for specific programs at Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation. These exceptions are noted on the [ASU state authorization website](#).

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

Concurrent Program Options

Students can choose to create their own **concurrent degree** combination to match their interests by working with their academic advisor during or after their first semester of study. Some concurrent combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum; students should speak with their academic advisor for more details.

This degree is also offered as a concurrent program with the following:

[Nursing and Healthcare Innovation, PhD](#)

[Compare programs](#)

Degree requirements

84 credit hours including the required applied project course (DNP 707)

Required Core (13 credit hours)

DNP 704 Principles of Evidence-Based Care in Advanced Practice (4)

DNP 705 Health Care Outcomes Management (3)

DNP 708 Systems Thinking in a Complex Healthcare Environment (3)

DNP 709 Individual and Innovation Leadership in Healthcare Practice (3)

Concentration (22 credit hours)

DNP 623 Adult-Gerontology Health Promotion (3)

DNP 624 Adult-Gerontology Health Promotion Practicum (3)

DNP 625 Management of Common Health Problems in Adult-Gerontology: Theory (3)

DNP 626 Management of Common Health Problems in Adult-Gerontology: Practicum (5)

DNP 627 Management of Complex Health Problems in Adult-Gerontology: Theory (3)

DNP 628 Management of Complex Health Problems in Adult-Gerontology: Practicum (5)

Other Requirements (40 credit hours)

DNP 601 Theoretical Foundations for Advance Practice Nursing (3)

DNP 602 Evaluating Research for Practice (3)

DNP 604 Advanced Human Pathophysiology Across Lifespan (4)

DNP 605 Advanced Health Assessment Across Lifespan (3)

DNP 608 Applied Pharmacotherapeutics Across Lifespan (3)

DNP 609 Advanced Practice Nursing Role (1)

DNP 679 Biostatistics: Principals of Statistical Inference (3)

DNP 703 Innovation in Communication-Scholarly and Professional Writing (2)

DNP 711 Healthcare Policy and Innovation (3)

DNP 712 Clinical Residency and Management (12)

DNP 715 Dynamics and Principles of Information in Health Care (3)

Electives and Research (6 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)

DNP 707 Disseminating Evidence to Advance Best Practice in Health Care and Health Policy (3)

Additional Curriculum Information

Completion of an evidence-based doctoral applied project focused on a clinical issue relevant to advanced practice nursing is required.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center has recommended a minimum of 1,000 postbaccalaureate practicum hours for all students completing the Doctor of Nursing Practice. The program includes 1,125 practicum hours, exceeding the ANCC requirement.

For electives or research, students should see the academic unit for the approved course list. Other coursework may be used with the approval of the academic unit.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows up to 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this program.

Other requirement coursework may be substituted with approval of the academic unit if the student is in an approved concurrent program.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing from a nationally recognized, regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or they must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three professional letters of recommendation
4. resume
5. goal statement
6. admission essay
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide [proof of English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency per the Graduate College requirement and all requirements for the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools.

A current unencumbered RN license in the state in which the student plans to do clinical practicums is required. All students are also required to have an unencumbered Arizona RN license or an unencumbered compact state RN license as mandated by the Arizona State Board of Nursing. The RN license must remain unencumbered throughout enrollment in any nursing program.

An interview with program faculty is required.

One year of clinical experience working within the student's specialty population is preferred.

Health and safety requirements include passing disposition on a background clearance and satisfactory completion of a substance screen.

An admission examination is not required.

Any deficiency courses determined by the student's unique gap analysis must have been completed in the past five years to be eligible for credit.

Applications are reviewed on a space-available basis after the priority deadline; application deadlines are posted on the program website.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Application deadlines

Fall

[expand](#)

Career opportunities

The Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation prepares graduates for excellence upon entering the workplace. Doctor of Nursing Practice graduates are prepared to practice at the most advanced level of nursing.

Graduates of the adult gerontology nurse practitioner program have the knowledge and training to provide health care for patients in a wide variety of settings. The broad base of comprehension and clinical expertise enable graduates to participate effectively and lead within clinical, community and academic arenas.

Career examples:

- business owner
- community advocate
- nurse practitioner
- professor

Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

Contact information

[Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation](#) | MERCC 250
nursingandhealth@asu.edu | 602-496-0937

