Family Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Graduate Certificate)

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Family Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (certificate)

This certificate program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, is designed for nurses who are board certified in a different APRN specialty area who seek additional certification as a family psychiatric nurse practitioner or for nurses with a doctoral degree in nursing who seek to become a family psychiatric nurse practitioner.

The certificate program for family psychiatric nurse practitioner emphasizes the assessment, diagnosis and evidence-based management of common and complex mental health disorders across the lifespan. Valid and reliable tools for screening and identification of mental health disorders as well as early interventions for these problems are highlighted. Content for each disorder include epidemiology, incidence, early signs and symptoms, differential diagnosis, and sociocultural variations in evidence-based management and treatment. Management includes psychopharmacologic and therapeutic skills building that are based in motivational interviewing, mindfulness, cognitive behavioral therapy and dialectical behavior therapy. Individual, group and family therapy techniques are emphasized.

This certificate program is offered in a hybrid iCourse and in-person format that requires students to travel to campus for up to a week for orientation at the beginning of the program and two or three times per semester.

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 DNP 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.

Experiences with disadvantaged and multicultural populations are encouraged as are experiences in rural areas when sites are available for these experiences.

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 SARA states in accordance with the Council's established policies and standards. California does not participate in SARA 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. These exceptions are noted on the ASU state authorization website: https://admission.asu.edu/academics/authorizations.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix

Degree Requirements

28 credit hours

This graduate certificate program (including 585 clinical hours) prepares nurses with a master's degree to become family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.

Required prerequisites (or equivalent courses taken while in master's degree program)

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)

Students have an individual review of their transcripts and an individualized plan of study designed to meet certification requirements. Depending on how many prerequisite courses are completed in the master's degree program, up to one year of additional study may need to be added to complete this specialty.
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 and master's degree in nursing from a nationally recognized, regionally accredited academic 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 applicants 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. a current unencumbered RN license in the state in which the student plans to do clinical practicums
4. three professional letters of recommendation
5. resume
6. goal statement
7. admission essay
8. health and safety requirements: passing disposition on a background clearance and satisfactory completion of a substance screen
9. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

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

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the USA on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission to be considered for admission to this certificate program.

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.

Applicants must be board certified in a different APRN specialty.

All applicants will have an interview with program faculty prior to admission to the program.

It is preferred that applicants have at least one year of clinical experience working within the student's specialty population.

Admission examinations are not required.
Application Deadlines

Fall

Career Opportunities

The Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation prepares graduates for excellence upon entering the workplace. Graduates of the family psychiatric nurse practitioner certificate program have the knowledge and training to provide healthcare for patients across the lifespan in a wide variety of settings.

Career examples include:

- 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: https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure.

Contact Information

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