

Policy S-5.01
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF NURSING

TITLE: **ADMISSION TO DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM**

POLICY: The Academic Affairs Committee reviews admission criteria annually and advises the Associate Dean for Student Affairs (ADSA) on admission policy. Data on all applicants are compiled by the Office for Student Affairs (OSA)

RATIONALE: The College of Nursing screens applicants in order to select appropriate candidates and ensure adequate resources (e.g., faculty and clinical placements) for the delivery of high quality nursing education. Applicants are selected based upon criteria that demonstrate the greatest potential for success in the program.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION:

The following criteria will be utilized in the process of admission to the BSN to Doctor of Nursing Practice Program:

General Criteria:

1. A Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from a college of nursing that is accredited by an agency that is recognized by the US Department of Education National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity. The list of current agencies is found here:
https://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg5.html#health
2. A GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the upper division nursing major.
3. A score of 500 or higher on each of the verbal and quantitative sections in the prior version of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. In the current version of the GRE a minimum score of 153 in the verbal section and 144 in the quantitative section. Completion of the GRE Analytical Writing Measure is optional.
4. Current licensure (or eligibility) as a Registered Nurse in the State of Florida.
5. Demonstrated ability in (or potential for) clinical excellence and leadership.
6. Students must be either a U.S. citizen, legal U.S. resident, or hold a valid visa.
7. International students or students whose native language is not English are required to pass one of the following tests with a satisfactory score of:
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):
 - Computer-based: 213
 - Paper-based: 550
 - Web-based: 80
 - iBT Speaking Component: 26
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS):
 - Overall score: 6.5
 - Speaking Component: 7
 - Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB): Overall score: 79

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- Successful completion of the University of Florida English Language Institute Program. International students or students whose native language is not English with unsatisfactory scores on the TOEFL and TOEFL iBT Speaking Component, IELTS, or MELAB; unsuccessful completion of the UF English Language Institute Program; or an unacceptable score on the verbal part of the GRE must achieve an acceptable score on an essay administered by the Academic Written English Program at UF.

Criteria for Applicants with a Master's Degree in Advanced Practice Nursing:

1. A Master's Degree in Nursing in advanced practice from a college of nursing that is accredited by an agency that is recognized by the US Department of Education National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity. The list of current agencies is found here:
https://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg5.html#health.
2. A master's degree program GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).
3. A score of 500 or higher on each of the verbal and quantitative sections in the prior version of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. In the current version of the GRE a minimum score of 153 in the verbal section and 144 in the quantitative section. Completion of the GRE Analytical Writing Measure is optional.
4. Current RN and Nurse Practitioner licensure.
5. Current national certification as a nurse practitioner.
6. International students or students whose native language is not English are required to pass one of the following tests with a satisfactory score of:
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):
 - Computer-based: 213
 - Paper-based: 550
 - Web-based: 80
 - iBT Speaking Component: 26
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS):
 - Overall score: 6.5
 - Speaking Component: 7
 - Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB): Overall score: 79
 - Successful completion of the University of Florida English Language Institute Program. International students or students whose native language is not English with unsatisfactory scores on the TOEFL and TOEFL iBT Speaking Component, IELTS, or MELAB; unsuccessful completion of the UF English Language Institute Program; or an unacceptable score on the verbal part of the GRE must achieve an acceptable score on an essay administered by the Academic Written English Program at UF.

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NOTE: Applicants who are nationally certified as advanced practice nurses and hold a master's degree in a field other than nursing may be considered for admission on a case by case basis.

Additional Information for MSN to DNP Admission

1. Admitted DNP applicants who wish to pursue study in a track other than that of their MSN preparation, may request an individualized plan of study that will require additional coursework.
2. Prior to graduation, **all DNP** students will be required to demonstrate at least 1000 total clinical hours as a part of their graduate degree program (MSN plus DNP or DNP).

Additional Requirements for All DNP Applicants:

1. Three letters of recommendation: two must address clinical competence and leadership ability, and one must address academic ability.
2. An essay (double-spaced, 1500 word maximum, using current APA format guidelines) describing the following:
 - a. Your academic expectations of the program;
 - b. How the DNP will affect your future career;
 - c. The experiences that you feel have best prepared you for doctoral study (e.g., clinical, educational, or leadership experiences);
 - d. A clinical problem or area of interest in which you might be interested in developing your final project;
 - e. What the most difficult issues are that you anticipate while in the DNP program, and how you plan to handle them.
3. Resume/curriculum vitae. Please include awards, honors, and academic scholarships.
4. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

PROCEDURE:

Applications will be screened by the OSA, reviewed by the Admissions Advisory Committee and appropriate Track Coordinators; and recommended to the Dean for admission. Applicants meeting all criteria and requirements will be recommended for admission on a space-available basis, pending a review by the Track Coordinator.

1. Deadline for completion of applicant file is March 15 and September 15 for currently enrolled Accelerated BSN students for a Spring start date. Applications will be accepted after the March 15 deadline on a space-available basis.

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2. Applicants will be rank-ordered according to selection criteria, and this order will be considered in determining admission should there be more qualified applicants than spaces available.
3. Students who do not meet the stated criteria but have a minimum of 420 in each category of the prior form of the GRE or a minimum of 148 Verbal and a 140 Quantitative in the current form of the GRE and a minimum of 3.00 in their upper-division nursing BSN GPA or a minimum of 3.00 in their MSN program will be reviewed by the DNP Admission Committee for further consideration.
4. Successful applicants are recommended to the Dean of the College of Nursing for admission, and all applicants are informed of the outcome.

Review or Approval Authority	Responsible Party	Initial Approval / Review	Most Recent Approval / Review Of Changes	Editorial Changes	Policy A-01 Review
Approval	Academic Affairs Committee*	04/05	2/18		5/14
Review	Faculty Executive Committee	12/05	2/18		
Approval	General Faculty	12/05	2/18		
Approval	Dean	12/05	2/18	11/18	

***Bold = committee responsible for A-01 review**