Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

What is a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree?

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program prepares nurse leaders to apply advanced practice skills at the highest level of clinical practice. Students will acquire the skills to influence change that will improve health outcomes in populations specific to their advanced specialty preparation. The development of evidenced-based interventions, quality improvement methodologies, and health policy changes to enhance health care delivery at the system-wide practice level will be emphasized. The program culminates with practice immersion experiences in which the student develops, implements, and evaluates a practice change initiative within the clinical setting.

What additional skills does an APN with a DNP Degree acquire?

The DNP degree will prepare the APN to:

- Develop and implement evidence-based interventions in the practice setting
- Plan quality improvement strategies that address patient safety and health disparities
- Use information systems for data mining to enhance health care delivery
- Influence complex health care systems to implement policy changes that improve patient outcomes

Why consider the York College Doctor of Nursing Practice program?

- Post-master's program designed for the working APN
- Each semester, courses will be held either during intensive week-long classes for 5 consecutive days prior to the start of the regular semester, or in day-long classes, twice per month throughout the semester.
- Small cohort group
- Flexible clinical hour requirements based on previous master's program
- Ability to complete the program in five semesters
- Highly qualified, dedicated faculty committed to providing an individualized education

What criteria must be met to apply?

- GPA of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher from an NLNAC or CCNE accredited master's of nursing program from a regionally accredited institution or the equivalent as determined by the Department of Nursing faculty
- Completion of a master's level health policy course (may be completed after enrollment during the first year)
- Submission of a professional portfolio which includes a description of previous master's-level supervised clinical hours
- Proposal identifying an evidence-based practice change project idea that targets a specific population and can be implemented in a practice setting
- Interview with DNP Admissions Committee

Application deadline is March 1 of each year.

Are we in your future?

Just the facts: DNPs

- The DNP is a terminal degree in nursing that offers an alternative to research-focused doctoral programs.
- The DNP prepares nurse leaders for advanced practice and clinical roles.
- The plan to move the education of APNs has been endorsed by seven national nurse practitioner organizations (AANP, ACNP, AFPNP, NCGNP, NONPF, NPWH, NPNP) and the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthetists has stated that by 2025, only CRNAs who hold a practice doctorate will be licensed to practice.
- According to the 2009 salary survey conducted by *ADVANCE for Nurse Practitioners* magazine, DNP-prepared NPs earned $7,688 more than master's-prepared NPs.

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Graduate Programs in Nursing

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