

NURSING: ADULT-GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER (D.N.P.)

<https://chhs.unh.edu/nursing/program/dnp/adult-gerontology-acute-care-nurse-practitioner-online>

Description

Bachelor's of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP): Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) The Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (PB-DNP) program is designed for registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree in nursing who aspire to become certified as Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners (AGACNPs) and develop leadership skills for advanced nursing practice.

The **online Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program** prepares nurses for the highest level of specialized nursing practice. Graduates emerge as innovative leaders equipped to translate evidence into practice, improve systems of care, and measure health outcomes across diverse settings.

As part of the program, students transitioning to the role of an AGACNP will assess clinical practice sites to identify opportunities for quality improvement. They will design, implement, and evaluate a customized quality improvement project tailored to their professional aspirations.

Clinical Requirement

In addition to 750 clinical hours of direct patient care for the AGACNP component, the DNP component requires 500 hours of practicum work in the project courses NURS 980, NURS 981 and NURS 982. Students are required to successfully complete DNP coursework, produce a publishable scholarly paper, and present their DNP Project.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of the BSN-DNP AGACNP program are fully prepared to practice as Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners in acute care settings such as hospitals and ambulatory care centers, apply advanced clinical knowledge and skills acquired through the program to improve patient outcomes and healthcare delivery and sit for national certification exams offered by the AACN or ANCC.

Admission Requirements

Applicants to the BSN-DNP program must meet the following requirements:

1. **Registered Nurse Licensure**- Hold an unencumbered RN license in the United States.
2. **Letters of Recommendation** - Submit three letters of reference that address academic ability, professional competency, and personal character.
3. **Updated Resume** - Provide a current resume detailing relevant education, work experience, and professional achievements.

4. **Professional Statement** - Include a written essay addressing the following topics:

- **Professional Goals:** Discuss your immediate and long-term goals as an AGACNP, focusing on one of the following areas:
 - Healthcare quality improvement.
 - A local or global policy or health issue you are passionate about and how the University of New Hampshire's DNP program can help develop your leadership skills to address this issue.
- **Interest in the AGACNP Program:** Explain your specific professional interests, experiences, or research in this area and your motivation to pursue the AGACNP role.

5. **Interview** - Applicants may be contacted for an interview following the initial review of their application.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Clinical Hours: 750*

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
NURS 812	Advanced Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3
NURS 814	Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 816	Health Promotion Theory and Population Health	3
NURS 818	Foundations of Evidence Based Practice	3
NURS 820	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 910	Genomics & Ethics	3
NURS 911	Diagnosis & Management - Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NURS 915	Leadership, Role & Collaboration	3
NURS 917	Biostatistics and Epidemiology	3
NURS 850	Foundations in Acute Care	3
NURS 851	Foundations in Acute Care Clinical Practicum	3
NURS 852	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I	3
NURS 853	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I Clinical Practicum	3
NURS 854	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner II	3
NURS 855	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner II Clinical Practicum	3
NURS 856	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner III	3
NURS 857	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner III Clinical Practicum	3
NURS 858	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV	3
NURS 859	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV Clinical Practicum	3
NURS 964	Information Systems and Technology Improvement	3
NURS 967	Evidence Based Practice Methods	3
NURS 969	Health Systems Policy, Economics & Financial Planning	3
NURS 973	Quality & Safety	3
NURS 980	Doctoral Scholarly Project I	3
NURS 981	Doctoral Scholarly Project II	3
NURS 982	Doctoral Scholarly Project III	3
Total Credits		78

* Clinical hours are completed through the following required courses: NURS 851, NURS 853, NURS 855, NURS 857, NURS 859.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Science in Nursing, the graduate student is expected to:

- Employ strategic leadership skills to shape practice environments to produce positive, patient centered, healthcare outcomes at individual and system levels.
- Serve in a healthcare leadership and change agent role as part of a diverse, complex, and patient-centered health care system.
- Act as a practice scholar to design, direct and evaluate system changes to promote safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable and patient-centered care.
- Use data analytic methods, information systems and technology to evaluate, integrate and apply knowledge that will improve programs of care, outcomes of care and care systems.
- Use translational science and analytic methods to develop, identify, implement, and evaluate best practices to improve health care and health care systems.
- Design and implement health promotion and clinical prevention strategies across the health/illness continuum to optimize health and disease management.
- Systematically use improvement methods to monitor and evaluate care processes and outcomes and applies data for continuous improvement and safety
- Advocate for social justice through policy, professional and political engagement.
- Applies leadership principles that support inter-professional practice.
- Facilitate interprofessional collaboration to implement practice models, peer review, practice guidelines, health policy, and standards of care.

In addition, the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner graduate will:

- Meet eligibility requirements for certification as an AGACNP with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or as an ACNPC-AG with the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN).
- Meet state requirements for certification, licensure, and prescriptive authority.
- Obtain federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) authorization to prescribe controlled substances (Schedules II through IV) for patients within the AGACNP's practice area.
- Participate in the education of future AGACNPs through preceptorship.
- Be lifelong learners.

New Hampshire. However, completing a UNH degree/program does not guarantee professional licensure or certification. Eligibility may also depend on factors like years of work experience, professional examinations, passing a background check, and other criteria.

UNH does not guarantee that its professional licensure programs will satisfy the criteria of professional licensure boards in other states. Some states maintain different requirements for professional licensure or certification and requirements can change frequently. Federal regulations require the University to make public disclosure of certain information regarding professional licensure or certification programs, regardless of the modality the program is offered (i.e., in-person or online). The University provides guidance below but recommends students contact their state/territory licensing or certification board to ensure a program meets specific state/territory requirements.

Visit the Office of the Registrar's [website](#) for information about whether this program meets professional licensure requirements in your state.

Disclosures

Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures

The University of New Hampshire offers a number of academic programs designed to lead to professional licensure or certification in