DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) degree is a three-year, 65-unit, post-master’s degree curriculum that began Summer Quarter 2010. This curriculum allows master’s degree-level registered nurses to earn doctorates, which will prepare them for assuming advanced practice (patient care) and leadership (health-care systems) roles. It has also addressed and met outcome expectations as articulated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in accordance with their recommendation that by 2015, advanced practice specialty areas be staffed by nurses with doctoral degrees.

Learning outcomes for Doctor of Nursing Practice

The learning outcomes for the D.N.P. degree program are designed to prepare nurse leaders with a Christian perspective to enable them to contribute to professional nursing through clinical practice, teaching, and administration. Upon completion of the D.N.P. degree, the graduate will demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Wholeness: Engage in the lifelong, harmonious development of physical, intellectual, emotional, relational, cultural, and spiritual qualities that are unified through a loving relationship with God.
2. Values: Promote ethical and compassionate Christian service, respecting the diverse experiences of others.
4. Lifelong Learning: Utilize current scientific underpinnings for practice and as a basis for discovery and lifelong learning.
5. Communication: Demonstrate effective communication skills in English.
6. Technology: Provide leadership in the use of information systems/technology and patient care technology for the improvement and transformation of health care.
7. Diverse World: Embrace and serve individuals, populations, and systems in a diverse world through advanced practice.
9. Leadership: Provide organizational and systems leadership to promote evidence-based practice.
11. Quality Improvement: Plan and implement quality improvement programs for the advancement of patient and client care in specific health-care delivery systems.
12. Prevention: Incorporate into his/her practice the principles of practice prevention and population health for improving the nation’s health.
13. Advanced Practice: Demonstrate leadership in the promotion of advanced nursing practice and the nursing profession.

Master’s degree option

A Master of Science degree option is available for students experiencing life events resulting in unlikely completion of the D.N.P. degree. This degree option is not available at admission. The M.S. degree will provide a basic advanced practice preparation, but will not include the leadership or scholarship emphasis of the D.N.P. degree. The M.S. degree option is subject to application and approval by the joint D.N.P. and M.S. Academic Review Committee. Completion of the D.N.P. degree does not include conferral of the M.S. degree.

Admissions

In addition to Loma Linda University (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/admission-policies-information/#admissionrequirementstext) admission requirements, the applicant to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program must also complete the following requirements:

Bachelors to Doctor of Nursing Practice program admissions criteria

1. Baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program
2. GPA of 3.0, both cumulative and in nursing courses
3. Current United States RN license before application
4. Three electronic recommendations from recent professors or current work supervisor.
5. Interview by faculty members in the School of Nursing
6. Health Science Reasoning Test

Post-Masters to Doctor of Nursing Practice program admissions criteria

1. Completion of a master’s degree in nursing with a clinical major from a program or completion of a Bachelor’s degree in nursing and a Masters in a closely related field. The nursing degrees must be accredited by Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), national League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
2. Undergraduate and Graduate GPA of 3.0, both cumulative and in nursing courses
3. Three electronic recommendations from recent professors or current work supervisors
4. Interview by faculty members in the School of Nursing
5. Health Science Reasoning Test
6. Essay to assess writing skills

Program requirements

Bachelor of Science to Doctor of Nursing Practice:

Clinical Nurse Specialist concentration areas:

- Clinical Nurse Specialist: Adult-Gerontology (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/clinical-nurse-specialist/adult-gerontology-concentration)
- Clinical Nurse Specialist: Pediatrics (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/clinical-nurse-specialist/pediatrics-concentration)

Nurse Practitioner concentration areas:

- Primary Care Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/nurse-practitioner/primary-care-adult-gerontology-concentration)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/nurse-practitioner/family-concentration)
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/nurse-practitioner/neonatal-concentration)
- Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/nurse-practitioner/primary-care-pediatric-concentration)
• Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/nursing/graduate/dnp/nurse-practitioner/psychiatric-concentration)

Post-Masters to Doctor of Nursing Practice

Students with a Master's degree in nursing or a closely related field may apply.