



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The University of Maryland was established in Baltimore in 1807 and is the founding campus of the University System of Maryland. A national leader in health sciences research, public service, and patient care, the University was awarded \$529.1 million in extramural funding in Fiscal Year 2012, including significant funding from the National Institutes of Health.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Established in 1889 by Louisa Parsons, a graduate of the renowned Nightingale Fund Training School in London, the University of Maryland School of Nursing has pioneered programs in nurse practitioner education, health policy, informatics, gerontology, and community health. The School of Nursing consistently ranks among the top schools of nursing in the nation and is one of the largest. To provide clinical programs for students, the School maintains affiliations with more than 300 hospitals and health care entities throughout Maryland.

LEADERSHIP

Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, is dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing and director of interprofessional education for the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She is serving as president of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing through March 2014. She is nationally recognized for her commitment to meeting the needs for a highly educated nurse workforce.

ACCREDITATION

The University of Maryland, Baltimore is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges. The University of Maryland School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

CAMPUS

The School of Nursing shares a 61-acre campus in downtown Baltimore with the University of Maryland's six other professional schools—Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, Social Work, and the Graduate School. It is located across the street from the University of Maryland Medical Center and is a short walk from the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute and University of Maryland BioPark. The Baltimore VA Medical Center and the Baltimore Inner Harbor are also within walking distance. The School maintains facilities and conducts classes at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville, Md.

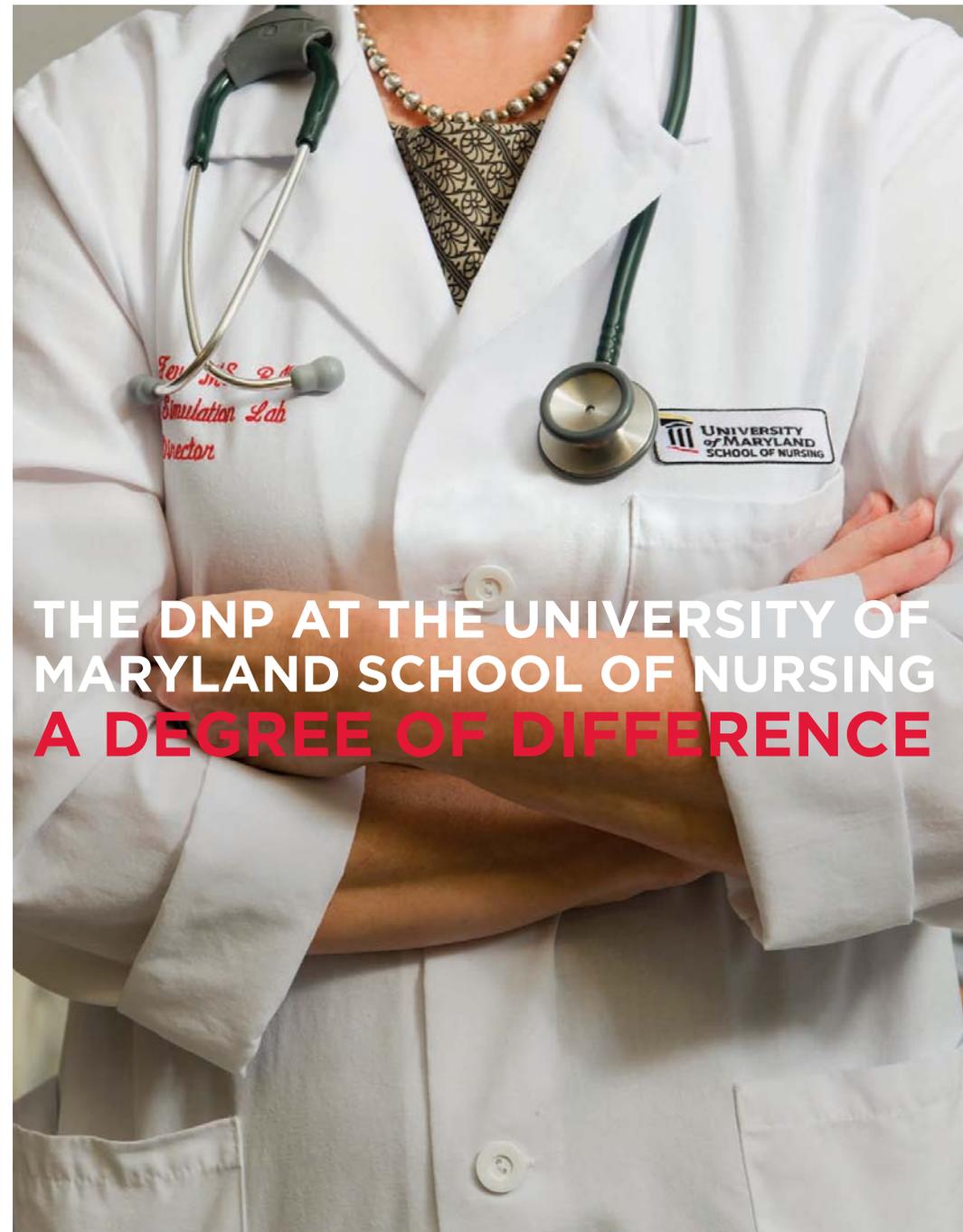
REGION

The Baltimore-Washington, D.C. region is a hub for biotechnical, political, and educational resources, as well as world-class medical institutions. The School of Nursing is 45 minutes from Washington, D.C., putting our students and graduates in prime position to affect health care policies at the highest level.



CONTACT US

University of Maryland
School of Nursing
655 W. Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-0501 (option #2)
admissions@son.umaryland.edu
nursing.umaryland.edu



THE DNP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING
A DEGREE OF DIFFERENCE

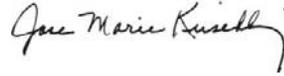
A Message from the Dean

This is an exciting time in the discipline of nursing, as nurses returning to graduate education may now choose to pursue the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. At the University of Maryland School of Nursing, we are launching a new entry option to the DNP straight from the BSN—nurses are no longer required to obtain a master's degree first. We will continue to offer entry options for

nurses with a master's degree. Our DNP program positions graduates to provide leadership throughout the health care system, advancing evidence-based practice to improve patient care.

Our faculty has tremendous expertise and a deep understanding of clinical practice, so students have access to expert mentors in every specialty. Because of our commitment to interdisciplinary learning, our School of Nursing

leverages knowledge from our PhD colleagues and also from other University of Maryland professional schools. We invite you to explore the difference in our exceptional DNP program.



*Jane M. Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor,
University of Maryland School of Nursing
Director of Interprofessional Education,
University of Maryland, Baltimore*



THE DNP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

As a nurse who wants to keep learning and advancing in your profession, you have two options for the highest degree in your field—the doctor of nursing practice (DNP), and the PhD. The DNP enables you to remain in direct patient care with the knowledge and training to be a leader in an increasingly complex health care environment. With a DNP, you will be well equipped to translate advances in scientific research into improved outcomes for your patients.

DIFFERENT ADVANTAGES

The DNP is the preferred degree and is the highest standard for advanced nursing practice. From the individual patient to federal policy, this degree provides a comprehensive perspective on nursing practice.

DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITIES

DNP graduates serve as nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, informaticians, community health practitioners, nurse administrators, and educators. Employers increasingly recognize the degree as valuable and welcome these well-prepared professionals to their organizations.

DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS

Our renowned, highly credentialed faculty members share their knowledge in both the classroom and clinical settings. A commitment to interdisciplinary learning gives DNP candidates the ability to collaborate with peers in other fields.

DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

DNP graduates receive a wide variety of experiences during the program—from acute care and community agencies to federal health organizations, and policy-making at all levels. The DNP degree leads to countless employment opportunities that directly advance health care outcomes.

**The Doctor of Nursing Practice at the University of Maryland School of Nursing—
A Degree of Difference.**



In her role as a nurse practitioner, Fran Valle interacts with patients and families in a clinical setting.

DIFFERENT ADVANTAGES

“The University of Maryland School of Nursing has a diverse field of clinical experts among its faculty, allowing the DNP student to be linked with an expert in any area of interest.”

*Fran Valle, DNP '10, MS '99, CRNP
Assistant Professor
University of Maryland School of Nursing*



In her role as assistant professor, Valle consults with a student in the School of Nursing's Clinical Education and Evaluation Lab.

Fran Valle found her clinical passion while practicing as a surgical wound consultant. But she always knew that someday she would like to become a nurse educator so she could teach and inspire the next generation of nurses. As a DNP, Valle teaches in the School of Nursing's undergraduate and graduate programs, works as a nurse practitioner one day per week, and engages in wound research with expert clinicians worldwide. “The DNP has afforded me the opportunities to apply my knowledge and passion to education, patient care, and the translation of evidence-based wound research.”

THE NEED There is a critical need for clinicians who are equipped to design, evaluate, and improve the context of health care delivery. Our DNP degree enables nurses to develop the clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills to advance health care outcomes.

PREFERRED DEGREE The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has determined that the DNP is the preferred degree for advanced practice registered nurses and will become the standard for the profession. With three years of full-time study beyond the bachelor's degree, a nurse can earn our DNP and be prepared for tomorrow's complex health care environment.

WIDE APPLICATION Because the DNP expands the focus beyond individual patients to entire populations, graduates can envision how nursing practice in one setting has larger implications, from pocket communities to national and global health systems.

POLICY HUB This broader understanding equips DNP nurse clinicians to influence or shape health policy, from hospital initiatives to national population-based endeavors. The School of Nursing is ideally located where local, regional, and national health policies are created.

DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITIES

BROAD POSSIBILITIES Depending on their specialty area, DNP graduates may serve as nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, informaticians, community health practitioners, nurse administrators, and educators.

IMPROVED OUTCOMES The Institute of Medicine states that a better educated nursing workforce is needed to ensure that our nation's population has access to high-quality, patient-centered care. As employers see the contributions of DNP graduates, they increasingly recognize the value of these well-prepared professionals.

TRANSLATING RESEARCH Professionals who hold the DNP degree are prepared with the highest practice degree in nursing. They are especially well-equipped to apply new technologies and the science developed by graduates of research-focused nursing doctorates, such as the PhD and DNSc.

TAKING THE INITIATIVE The School of Nursing's DNP was among the first such programs in the state. The DNP curriculum leads the way as a complete progression from a bachelor's to a doctorate in three years of full-time study. For a master's-prepared nurse, there are two post-master's entry options.

With his DNP degree, Kimmith Jones shifted his focus from critical-care nursing to the challenge of nursing informatics, which uses technology to help nurses deliver better patient care. He focuses on developing electronic medical records to ensure that documentation entered into the computer is the most accurate and evidence-based. The protocols he creates aim to achieve outcomes that researchers claim possible, with far-reaching implications for patients. He is also determined to reduce the time it takes to apply the best evidence to everyday practice.

“This program is one of the best things I ever did for my career. Every course was applicable to my work, and I absolutely loved it. I approach problems differently now, and that helps me develop innovative solutions. I learned how to translate knowledge to the bedside, improving care while making it more efficient and cost effective.”

*Kimmith Jones, DNP '11, MS, RN, CCNS
Clinical Nurse Specialist for Nursing Informatics
Sinai Hospital of Baltimore*



Kimmith Jones integrates the best available evidence related to information technology, complexity science, and complex organizational systems while participating in the development of an electronic health record that facilitates the clinical workflow of the health care team.

DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS



Clinical Nurse Specialist
Marcia Harton speaks with a client about his upcoming trip to New York City. She says people with mental illness have the same hopes and dreams as anyone else, and that it's a privilege to help them make their goals a reality.

“The DNP faculty respected us as expert clinicians. Each professor was a valuable resource, enhancing our perspectives as we applied the course content to our individual practices. I enjoyed learning with other people who were committed and excited about their work, and that wonderful cohort became a great professional network.”

*Marcia Harton, DNP '12, PMHCNS-BC
Assertive Community Treatment
Team Program Manager
People Encouraging People*

Marcia Harton leads a team at People Encouraging People (PEP), a behavioral health agency that serves some of the most vulnerable members of our society, and she says the DNP program provided her with a richer, system-wide view of her work. The focus of her scholarly project was integrating primary health care into PEP, and she continues to take a leadership role in the successful transition, which includes translating evidence into practice, program development, and interprofessional collaboration. Although this health initiative added to her responsibilities, she says she feels greater rewards as health outcomes improve and she realizes the full potential of her position.

ACCESS TO EXPERTISE The School of Nursing's diverse faculty provides nationally recognized expertise and experience in the most immediate and important issues of nursing practice. Faculty members share their knowledge through scholarship and with students in the classroom and in clinical settings.

INTERPROFESSIONAL SYNERGY The School of Nursing shares the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) campus with the Schools of Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, Social Work, and the Graduate School—providing opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. DNP students may also take electives at other UMB schools, for example classes in health care law and policy or principles of epidemiology.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS There are 130 full-time faculty members, 63 percent of whom have doctoral degrees, and additional part-time faculty. Students also have access to faculty members in other schools on campus. Among the largest nursing schools in the nation, the School graduates more than 500 students each year. Its 19,000 alumni provide a valuable network of professional contacts.



DIFFERENT CHOICES

“My goal is to be an executive leader in health care administration. If I look at the options that interest me—a direct managerial role, leadership in a health care environment, education, or health care consulting—the DNP, which focuses on translating best research into practice, is the right choice for me.”

*Ayyub Hanif, MS '12, BSN '10, RN, current student in the post-master's DNP program
Transplant Coordinator, University of Maryland Medical Center*

After experience with several facets of the University of Maryland, Ayyub Hanif is convinced that his decision to pursue the DNP at the School of Nursing will ensure that he receives the best value and return on his investment. He says the DNP is the gold standard for clinical executive positions and is “the best pound-for-pound education” available. He plans to continue to work and take as many in-class and online courses as possible, aiming to complete his DNP in 2016. Then he expects his choices to be even more varied and appealing.

Left: Ayyub Hanif teaches a patient about medication management at the University of Maryland Medical Center's Division of Transplantation, where he works as a post-transplant nurse coordinator.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE Choices abound for DNP graduates' clinical experience—from acute care hospitals to community-based health care organizations, from national nursing organizations with headquarters in Washington, D.C., to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, from opportunities to shape health policy at the state level in Annapolis to the federal level in nearby D.C.

OPPORTUNITIES DNP graduates are well-suited for nursing practice and leadership in a variety of settings. They are prepared to manage quality initiatives, become executives in health care organizations, direct clinical programs, and serve as clinical educators.

LEADERSHIP Graduates of the DNP program are leaders in their organizations such as nurse practitioners in direct care settings, nurse anesthetists, informatics officers, community health leaders, and hospital administrators. Others are shaping health policy at the local, state, and national levels.

STAYING IN PRACTICE The DNP program is designed for nurses who wish to obtain the highest practice degree in nursing. The DNP offers parity with other clinical doctorates such as the MD, JD, and PharmD, and prepares nurses to implement the scientific knowledge developed by research-focused health care professionals. The curriculum provides education in evidence-based practice, quality improvement, and systems leadership. DNP graduates possess clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills that have an impact on health care outcomes.



Assistant Professor Susan Bindon, DNP '11, RN-BC, is thriving in her role as a nursing faculty member. Formerly a senior consultant in education development at a Baltimore area hospital, Bindon decided to change career paths and become a nurse educator in an academic setting.

DIFFERENT CURRICULUM

“The DNP program at UMSON prepares students for the highest level of the nursing practice profession. Each course provides students with the latest evidence in health care along with the tools to develop cutting-edge health care innovations and technological enhancements. Our DNP program’s reputation is stellar, with our graduates are paving the way for DNP leadership around the globe.”

*Shannon Idzik, DNP, CRNP, FAANP
Associate Professor and Associate Dean for the DNP Program
University of Maryland School of Nursing*

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The DNP program is designed for nurses who wish to obtain the highest practice degree in nursing. The curriculum provides education in evidence-based practice, quality improvement, and systems leadership. DNP graduates possess clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills that have an impact on health care outcomes.

THE DNP DEGREE

Curriculum is determined by the DNP students’ previous nursing education. Those entering with a bachelor’s degree in nursing will complete 79 credits—55 didactic and 24 clinical (1,080 clinical hours). Classes must be taken in sequence. Nurses who already have a master’s degree must complete a minimum of 36 credits to earn the DNP degree, and if they choose a specialty area, they must complete the required coursework in that

specialty area to be eligible for certification in that specialty. Our website has details on different paths to entry. There are three plans of study from which BSN-DNP or DNP with Specialties students may choose: three-year, full-time; four-year, part-time; or five-year, part-time. These options vary according to the specialty and are explained on the website. Students who choose the post-master’s DNP without specialty may choose either a two-year, full-time plan of study or a longer part-time plan of study.

SPECIALTIES

Applicants choosing a specialty area will select from the following:

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner/Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Anesthesia

- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (Acute and Primary Care Options)
 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Family Focus
- Clinical hours may be completed in a variety of approved clinical settings. Students who work in clinical settings are advised to select a different work environment for their clinical experience. After successful graduation from the DNP program, students who have completed the required coursework for one of the specialties listed above will be eligible for certification in that specialty through a national specialty certification examination.

SCHOLARLY PROJECT

Each DNP degree candidate will complete a rigorous, practice-oriented scholarly project that applies accumulated knowledge to a clinical problem. The scholarly project will culminate in a paper suitable for publication.

