

NURSING AT THE TOP.

TOP OF THE FIELD. TOP OF YOUR CAREER.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

Offering post-bachelor's,
post-master's, and
post-doctoral APRN
certificate options

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is the highest practice degree in nursing. It enables you to remain in direct patient care while providing you with the knowledge and education you need to be a leader in the fast-changing health care environment. With a DNP from the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON), you'll be well equipped to translate advances in scientific research into improved outcomes for your patients.

UMSON's DNP is nationally top ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*. The curriculum provides you an immersive education in:

- evidence-based practice
- quality improvement
- systems leadership.

Our graduates possess clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills that have a direct impact on health care outcomes.

We offer these advanced practice nursing (APRN) specialties:

- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner/Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Anesthesia
- Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Plus:

- the Post-Master's Option, which allows master's-level APRNs or those practicing in another area of advanced nursing to earn a DNP without repeating coursework you've already completed, saving you time and money
- post-doctoral APRN certificates, for nurses with a DNP or PhD who want to add or change an area of advanced practice specialty; you'll complete only those courses necessary for certification in that specialty.



Learn more:
nursing.umaryland.edu/dnp

Which DNP Pathway Do You Choose?

Through these **DNP pathways**, you'll be able to focus your energy and resources only on those courses that you need to achieve your goals.

I have a...	BSN	Master's in Nursing* or a Related Field			Graduate Degree in Nursing and Doctoral Degree (DNP, PhD, EdD, etc.)
What is your situation?	You want to become a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or nurse anesthetist.	You want to become an advanced practice registered nurse. You'll choose a specialty.	You're already an advanced practice registered nurse or you're not interested in becoming one.		You want to add or change your area of specialty.
Why is it a good fit?	The DNP allows you to specialize in one of eight areas in which you can excel in direct patient care. The program will prepare you for board certification.	The DNP allows you to specialize in one of eight areas in which you can excel in direct patient care. The program will prepare you for board certification.	You want to earn a DNP. No need to retake all the courses you took to earn your master's degree. Complete only those courses necessary to earn the DNP.		You'll complete a post-doctoral APRN certificate that allows you to take only those courses necessary for certification in that specialty.**
How many credits?	80-93	48-93	as few as 37		13-62
Your pathway	post-baccalaureate DNP with specialty	post-master's DNP with specialty	post-master's DNP		post-doctoral certificate

DID YOU KNOW?

Nurse practitioners (NPs) who hold a DNP degree earn an average of \$8,500/year more than their master's-prepared colleagues.

according to the most recent American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) National Nurse Practitioner Compensation Survey

DNP degree holders have certification pass rates that are 7% higher than master's-prepared NPs.

according to the AANP certification board

* If you have a master's specialty in education, please call us at 410-706-0501 (option 2) for information about the best pathway to your DNP.

** This option is not yet available for our Neonatal Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Anesthesia specialties.

Contact Us

Office of Admissions
410-706-0501 (option 2)
admissions.nursing@umaryland.edu