

DNP Nurs Prac
Doctor of Nursing Practice
Under Review | Spring 2026


Proposal Information

Status

Active

Workflow Status

In Progress

Refresh  **Form Submission, Proposer**
Submitted for Approval | Proposer

collapse ▼

✓ Peter Meilleur | 9/29/2025 9:57 AM

Department Chair Approval, Nursing

Approved | Department Chair

✓ Rosario Medina | 10/10/2025 12:07 PM

Registrar Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check

Approved | HSC Technical Check

✓ Todd Hynson | 10/14/2025 8:50 AM

College/School Approval, College of Nursing

Approved | College or School approver

✓ Rosario Medina | 10/22/2025 1:36 PM

HSC Library Approval, HSC Library

Approved | Library Approval

✓ Melissa Rethlefsen | 10/22/2025 2:31 PM

SGPC Approval, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee

Approved | Chair

✓ Robben Brown | 11/20/2025 9:26 AM

FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

- ✉ Joe Anderson
- ✉ Laura Belmonte
- ✉ Sara Ice
- ✉ Mary Rice
- ✉ John Russell
- ✉ SueNoell Stone
- ✉ Jonathan Wheeler
- ✉ Kirsten Thomson
- ✉ Paulo Dutra
- ✉ Randi Archuleta
- ✉ Joan Lucas
- ✉ Julia So
- ✉ Jennifer Henry
- ✉ Christopher Holden
- ✉ Justine Ponce
- ✉ Isabella Goss
- ✉ Vanessa Ferguson
- ✉ Lauren McQuiston
- ✉ Jennifer Laws

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Approved | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

- ✖ Janet Vassilev
- ✓ Nicole Capehart

The FSCC voted to approve. Thank you!

2/24/2026 1:23 PM

HSC Vice President Academic Affairs Approval, HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

Approved | HSC Vice President Academic Affairs

✓ Shelly McLaughlin | 2/25/2026 12:35 PM

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook
Theresa Sherman

HLC Notification

Notification

Joseph Suilmann

NMNEC Approval, NMNEC Approval pending
Approval | NMNC Approval pending

Todd Hynson

External Review - HED CIP code approval, External Review
Approval | HED CIP code approval

Michael Raine
Anna Gay

Reg. Final Approval/Processing, Registrar
Approval | Registrar final approval

Michael Raine
Maggie Sumruld

Notification, Proposer
Notification | Proposer

Peter Meilleur

Notification, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee
Notification | Chair

Robben Brown

EMRT notification, EMRT users
Notification | EMRT user

Enrollment Mgt Reporting Team

Notification, LoboTrax Team
Notification | LoboTrax Staff

Sherri DeLeve
Paula Freitag
Hannah Epstein
Allie Martinez
Glenda Johnson

Changes

- Program Description
- participants
- Proposed Effective Term and Year
- Sponsoring faculty/staff member
- Sponsoring faculty/staff email
- Program Justification

Collapse ^

Proposal Information

Proposed Sponsoring faculty/staff member Gina Rowe		Proposed Sponsoring faculty/staff email gcrowe@salud.unm.edu
Existing Sponsoring faculty/staff member Christy Cogil		Existing Sponsoring faculty/staff email ccogil@salud.unm.edu
College College of Nursing	Department Nursing	Campus Health Sciences Center (Albuquerque)

Effective Term and Year

Proposed

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Spring 2026

Existing

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2023

Justification

Proposed

Program Justification

This submission is to edit the program description to remove the Clinical and Nurse Executive Organizational Leadership concentrations to which the College of Nursing is no longer admitting new students. The College of Nursing submitted a substantive change form to our accrediting agency CCNE closing these two concentrations in July 2025. Forms to retire the Clinical and Nurse Executive Organizational Leadership concentrations are also being submitted alongside this form.

Existing

Program Justification

***Registrar's note: associate concentration forms impact credit totals - DNP degree requirements section should be updated to reflect the new concentrations**

The DNP degree prepares healthcare leaders with an emphasis on advanced clinical practice, leadership, health care policy, information systems, and health care delivery systems. Expertise brought by the DNP-prepared nurse is grounded in the scholarship of application. The programs/tracks/concentrations we are proposing include: Nursing Administrative Leadership (NAL), Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP), Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP), and Nurse Midwifery (MIDW).

Currently, UNM offers a master's degree to DNP (MS-to-DNP) program. This program provides nurse clinicians and leaders the opportunity to increase their skills in healthcare systems, quality, leadership, and evidence-based practice. At the MS-to-DNP level, the program currently takes clinicians and leaders who already hold a master's degree as experts in leadership and/or practice and advances them to the next level. Using The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, last published in 2006 (AACN, 2006) using the eight foundational competencies, which build off of The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice, last published in 2008 (AACN, 2008) and The Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing, last published in 2011 (AACN, 2011). There are currently no BSN-to-DNP programs available at UNM so all post-baccalaureate (BSN-to-DNP) program options will be new tracks offered at the UNM College of Nursing.

Along with the recent recommendations to progress advanced nursing education to the doctoral level, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) recently released The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education (AACN, 2021). This framework identifies ten functional domains of competencies for all professional nursing practice. This document aligns the expectations of the discipline of nursing across baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral education to align nursing education. We have chosen to align the revised DNP curriculum with the new essentials in order to bridge the gap between education and practice and align our nursing education program with the integration of the concepts for the discipline of nursing. We follow the coursework through the ten domains of competency for professional nursing education as follows:

Domain 1. Knowledge for Nursing Practice. Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a foundation in liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.

Domain 2. Person-Centered Care. Person-centered care focuses on the individual within multiple complicated contexts, including family and/or important others. Person-centered care is holistic, individualized, just, respectful, compassionate, coordinated, evidence-based, and developmentally appropriate. Person-centered care builds on a scientific body of knowledge that guides nursing practice regardless of specialty or functional area.

Domain 3. Population Health. Population health spans the healthcare delivery continuum from public health prevention to disease management of populations and describes collaborative activities with both traditional and non-traditional partnerships from affected communities, public health, industry, academia, health care, local government entities, and others for the improvement of equitable population health outcomes.

Domain 4. Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline. The generation, synthesis, translation, application, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to improve health and transform health care.

Domain 5. Quality and Safety. Employment of established and emerging principles of safety and improvement science. Quality and safety, as core values of nursing practice, enhance quality and minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.

Domain 6. Interprofessional Partnerships. Intentional collaboration across professions and with care team members, patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.

Domain 7. System-Based Practice. Responding to and leading within complex systems of health care. Nurses effectively and proactively coordinate resources to provide safe, quality, equitable care to diverse populations.

Domain 8. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies. Information and communication technologies and informatics processes are used to provide care, gather data, form information to drive decision making, and support professionals as they expand knowledge and wisdom for practice. Informatics processes and technologies are used to manage and improve the delivery of safe, high-quality, and efficient healthcare services in accordance with best practice and professional and regulatory standards.

Domain 9. Professionalism. Formation and cultivation of a sustainable professional nursing identity, accountability, perspective, collaborative disposition, and comportment that reflects nursing's characteristics and values.

Domain 10. Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development. Participation in activities and self-reflection that foster personal health, resilience, and well-being, lifelong learning, and support the acquisition of nursing expertise and assertion of leadership.

The College of Nursing currently has eighteen faculty who teach within the graduate professional programs who will be responsible for courses taught within the Doctor of Nursing Practice. In addition, the College is in the process of hiring and interviewing six additional faculty to support concentrations and the instruction of core coursework across the DNP. This program has an expected annual admission of 80-95 students per year. Based on these numbers and the College will have sufficient faculty to teach this program.

The faculty at the College of Nursing are experientially and academically prepared to teach within the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Graduate program revision

No

Program Category and Level

Program Category	Program Level	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name
Degree	Graduate	Doctor of Nursing Practice
Certificate or Degree Type		
Doctor of Nursing Practice		
Degree/Certificate Level		
Doctoral		
Is this program also offered online?	Format(s)	AOP MOU
Yes		

File Uploads

Document uploads

Associated Kualu Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist	Select any associated program forms that exist
NURS 700 - Introduction to Professional Inquiry (3)	
NURS 709 - Integrating Innovative Strategies for Systemic Health Change (3)	
NURS 708 - Evidence-Informed Practice II (3)	
NURS 707 - Formulating Strategies for Systemic Health Inquiry (3)	
NURS 701 - Evidence-Informed Practice I (3)	
NURS 710 - Evidence-Informed Practice III (3)	
NURS 796 - Systems Thinking for Healthcare Transformation I (2)	
NURS 797 - Systems Thinking for Healthcare Transformation II (1)	
NURS 795 - Advanced Nursing Fieldwork (1 - 7)	
NURS 799 - Systems Thinking for Healthcare Transformation IV (2)	
NURS 798 - Systems Thinking for Healthcare Transformation III (1)	

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program

No

Catalog Information

Proposed

Program Description

The College of Nursing offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) degree at both the post-bachelor's and post-master's levels. The D.N.P. degree prepares clinical leaders with an emphasis on advanced clinical practice, leadership, healthcare policy, information systems, and healthcare delivery systems. Expertise brought by the D.N.P.-prepared advanced practice nurse is grounded in the scholarship of application. The D.N.P., an alternative to the traditional research-focused Ph.D. in Nursing, has an emphasis on practice and is considered the terminal degree for advanced nursing practice.

Students entering the D.N.P. program at the post-bachelor's level complete one of six specialty programs: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse-Midwifery, Nursing Administrative Leadership, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care, or Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Students pursuing the Post-Master's D.N.P. option complete a general program and take elective coursework to advance their clinical and administrative leadership knowledge.

Existing

Program Description

The College of Nursing offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) degree at both the post-bachelor's and post-master's levels. The D.N.P. degree prepares clinical leaders with an emphasis on advanced clinical practice, leadership, healthcare policy, information systems, and healthcare delivery systems. Expertise brought by the DNP-prepared advanced practice nurse is grounded in the scholarship of application. The D.N.P., an alternative to the traditional research-focused Ph.D. in Nursing, has an emphasis on practice and is considered the terminal degree for advanced nursing practice.

Students entering the DNP program at the post-bachelor's level complete one of nine concentrations: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Clinical, Family Nurse Practitioner, General Post-Master's DNP, Nurse-Midwifery, Nursing Administrative Leadership, Nurse Executive Organizational Leadership, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care, or Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Students pursuing the post-master's DNP option complete a general concentration and take elective coursework to advance their clinical and administrative leadership knowledge.

Admissions Requirements

Admission Requirements for D.N.P. Program

Post-Bachelor's DNP concentrations Admission Criteria:

All applicants applying to post-bachelor's DNP concentrations must complete the following admission requirements. This includes the following concentrations: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse-Midwifery, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner-Primary Care, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Nursing Administrative Leadership.

- A Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from an accredited college or university or foreign equivalent.
 - RNs with baccalaureate degrees from non-nursing fields are considered on an individual basis and, if admitted, are required to complete additional coursework in order to meet AACN BSN Essentials prior to beginning graduate-level coursework.
- Current unencumbered New Mexico RN license, or eligible for NM licensure, which must be obtained within the first term of the program.
- One year or more of work experience in nursing or a relevant field prior to starting the program.
- NursingCAS Application
 - Three essay responses
 - Three letters of reference
 - Current resume or curriculum vitae
 - Official Transcripts from all institutions attended
 - Application form and fee
- Completed University of New Mexico application

Post-Master's DNP General concentration Admissions Criteria:

- Applicants must have either a master's degree in nursing or a BSN and a master's degree in a related field from an accredited college or university or foreign equivalent.
- NursingCAS Application
 - Three essay responses
 - Three letters of reference
 - Current resume or curriculum vitae
 - Official Transcripts from all institutions attended
 - Application form and fee
- Completed University of New Mexico application
- Current and unencumbered registered nurse (RN) license from one of the 50 U.S. states or territories; if an advanced practice nurse or certified in a nursing specialty, a copy of the applicant's advanced practice license or certification must be submitted.

Exceptions to any admission criterion are considered on an individual basis and are at the discretion of the D.N.P. program committee recommendations with approval by the Academic Dean.

Once admitted, students must fulfill the UNM Health Sciences Center's (HSC) and College of Nursing deadlines during the first semester, including, but not limited to, immunization records, urine drug screen, background screenings, life support certifications, bloodborne pathogens and HSC Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) trainings.

For additional information regarding application requirements and deadlines, please visit the College of Nursing's website: <https://hsc.unm.edu/nursing/admissions/>.

Graduation Requirements

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program

No

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education

Degree Information

Degree Hours

30-71

Minimum Major Hours

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Completed between 30 and 71 credits from the following types of courses:
Choose one concentration from the list below. Total credits for the degree will vary based on the concentration chosen.

Grand Total Credits: 30 - 71

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code	Title
CON Adult-Geron Acute Care NP	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
CON Family Nurse Practitioner	Family Nurse Practitioner
CON Gen Post-Master's DNP	General Post-Master's DNP
CON Nurse-Midwifery	Nurse-Midwifery
CON Nurse Admin Leadership	Nurse Administrative Leadership
CON Psych Mental Health Nurse Pract	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
CON Ped Nurse Pract Primary Care	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care
CON Nurs Exec Lead	Nurse Executive Organizational Leadership
CON Clin	Clinical

Concentration Required

Yes

Emphases

Emphasis required	Emphasis Hours
No	

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Aligning with the mission and vision of the UNM College of Nursing and the nursing essentials, the DNP Program goals are:

- Prepare for advanced roles in nursing for safe, independent, and competent practice as clinicians, leaders, educators, and scholars.

2. Improve healthcare outcomes through innovation, application of technology, high quality nursing practice, and evidence-informed approaches to meet the needs of diverse, rural, and under resourced populations.
3. Advocate for individual and population health through a practice that embraces diversity, is inclusive, and centers the principles of justice and health equity.
4. Incorporate a holistic framework to support the health and well-being of patients, healthcare workers, and systems.
5. Influence the determinants of health through collaboration and interdisciplinary partnerships.

Registrar Office Only

CM Program Code DNP Nurs Prac	BANP	Banner Program Code DNP-NURP	Major Code NURP
Online Program Code	Online Major Code	Pre-major Program Code	Pre-major Major Code
CIP Code 513818	Concentration Inheritance Yes		
Catalog Main Campus		Catalog Activation Date 07/31/23	
Notes			