



WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

School of Nursing

Graduate Program
APPLICATION FOR DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)
Postmasters Entry

Action on Admission: The Admissions Committee will select the best qualified applicants for the DNP program based on a composite assessment of:

- Academic performance on all coursework taken, with particular emphasis on the sciences (because of their relationship to assessing analytical problem-solving abilities), relevance to selected DNP focus, patterns of course withdrawals and course repeats, and the nature of course selections.
Applicant-supplied information and statements on the application forms and essay.
Responses from References.
If necessary, a personal interview with representatives of the Admission Committee.
Writing and verbal communication skills.
Completeness of application forms.

Admissions will be granted to the most highly qualified applicants. The next most highly qualified applicants will have their names placed on a waiting list. Some students may not be admitted. They will be referred to appropriate advising offices for assistance.

Name: _____

Are you licensed as a registered nurse? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, what state? _____
(A copy of your valid State of Kansas nursing license is required prior to admission)

REQUESTED FOCUS (SPECIALIZATION)

I have an NP or CNS national certification in the follow specialization:

Acute Care NP ___ Family NP ___ Psychiatric/Mental Health NP ___ Adult CNS ___
Other Specialty (please specify) _____

In addition, please upload the following to the SLATE application with the WSU Graduate School:

- Current Resume for Curriculum Vitae
Three Recommendations
Personal Goals Essay A maximum of 1000 words (double space; 12 font; Times New Roman; 1 inch margin) in the form of a typed essay which addresses your:
Reasons for pursuing the DNP including your professional goals and how the program will enhance your future roles/activities as an advanced practice nurse,
Focused area of interest in pursuing DNP (e.g., practice area of interest in which you may be interested in developing the final project), and
Most difficult issues that you anticipate while in the DNP program and your plans to handle them.
Your essay will be evaluated on content and writing abilities. If admitted, this essay will also be used to help tailor the learning experience toward the individual's area of interest.

CERTIFICATION/EXPERIENCE

For Post-masters entry to Individual/Family Focus

Current national certification in specialization and relevant experience as an advanced practice nurse not listed above. Attach your documentation including copies of current certification and APRN designation with a listing of relevant experience including dates and the supervisor's name and contact information. *Applicants not meeting this criterion may be considered on an individual basis.*

Following receipt of application materials, an interview may be required. Selected applicants will be notified of the date, time, and location for the interview. Interviews are evaluated and provide information to the Admission Committee. Accepted students must meet the admission criteria for the DNP program (GPAs, prerequisites), and be admitted to Wichita State University Graduate School.

Mission and Vision Statement

The School of Nursing mission is to improve the health of the community (public good) by inspiring change in health care (cultural/economic driver) through innovation and excellence in nursing education, scholarship, practice, and service (essential educational driver).

Vision: INSPIRE INNOVATE EXCEL

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Introduction

Wichita State University Nursing Programs have a responsibility to educate competent nurses to care for their patients (persons, families and/or communities) with critical judgment, broad-based knowledge, and well-honed technical skills. All individuals admitted to the Wichita State University Nursing Programs will be asked to verify that they can meet these standards with or without accommodation(s). Wichita State University Nursing Programs provide the following description/examples of technical standards to inform prospective and enrolled students of a sampling of technical standards required in completing their nursing science curriculum.

1. These technical standards reflect a sample of the performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of the Nursing Programs. Please note: the standards are not requirements of admission into the Nursing Programs and the examples are not all-inclusive.
2. Individuals interested in applying for admission to the Nursing Programs should review these standards to develop a better understanding of the skills, abilities and behavioral characteristics required to successfully complete the Programs. Key areas for technical standards in nursing include certain:
 - (a) sensory and motor coordination and function;
 - (b) communication skills;
 - (c) assessment skills;
 - (d) cognitive skills; and
 - (e) behavioral and social attributes.

Reasonable Accommodation(s)

Wichita State University is committed to providing educational opportunities to otherwise qualified students with disabilities to afford such students an opportunity equal to that provided to non-disabled students to achieve a desired educational outcome. A "qualified individual" with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodations, meets Wichita State University Nursing Program academic requirements and Technical Standards. Students wishing

to request reasonable accommodations must contact the Wichita State University Office of Disability Services (ODS).

ODS determines qualified disability status and assists students in obtaining appropriate accommodations and services. Decisions regarding reasonable accommodation are determined on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration each student's disability-related needs, disability documentation, and program requirements. While the Nursing Program will make every effort to work with students with a disability to accommodate their disability-related needs, the Nursing Program is not required to provide accommodations that fundamentally alter or waive essential program requirements. Students should contact OSD directly at disability.services@wichita.edu or 316-978-3309.

SENSORY & MOTOR COORDINATION & FUNCTIONS

Students must be able to execute gross and fine motor movements required to provide assessment, general care, and emergency treatment of patients.

1. Perform and /or assist appropriately to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
2. Obtain accurate information from patients using gross and fine motor skills appropriate to the technique required.
3. Strength sufficient to move, transfer, and/or position patients or equipment safely under a variety of circumstances. Ability to lift independently or with assistance of a lift team/device for the delivery of general nursing care or in emergency situations.
4. Perform and/or assist appropriately with expected procedures, using sterile or clean techniques appropriate to the type of procedure or treatment.
5. A candidate should be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide nursing care and emergency response to patients (e.g. IV insertion, venous blood draw, urinary catheter insertion, etc.). (Contact the Nursing Office for a full list of skills and procedures).

Rationale for standard

1. Must possess current Healthcare Provider CPR certification issued by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross.
2. Must be able to provide safe and effective care.

ASSESSMENT

Students must be able to safely assess the health needs of patients.

1. Ability to assess patient conditions and responses to health and illness.
2. Ability to assess and monitor health needs.
3. Computational thinking.
4. Cognitive load management.

Rationale for standard

1. Nursing student competencies include the knowledge, attitude, and skills necessary to provide quality and safe patient care to patients across the continuum.
2. Use and interpret information obtained from digital, analog, and waveform diagnostic tools (e.g., sphygmomanometer, otoscope, stethoscope, ophthalmoscope, EKG, IVs) and other diagnostic tools.
3. Assess a patient during the course of comprehensive or focused assessments.

4. Translate data into abstract concepts and understand data-based reasoning.
5. Obtain and interpret information for evaluation of responses to nursing actions.

COMMUNICATION

Students must be able to complete accurate assessments of client status. Communication includes verbal, reading, writing, non-verbal, and electronic behaviors with patients and the healthcare team that reflect sensitivity, clarity, and mutual comprehension.

1. Communication abilities for sensitive and effective interactions with patients/clients (persons, families, and/or communities).
2. Communication abilities for effective interdisciplinary collaboration with the healthcare team (patients, their supports, other professional and non-professional team members).
3. Sense-making of information gathered from communication.
4. Social intelligence.

Rationale for standard

1. Must be able to initiate and maintain nurse-patient relationships.
2. Must be able to give professional (using standard nursing and medical terminology) verbal and/or written reports to other healthcare team members with clarity.
3. Must be able to document accurately and clearly in written and/or electronic format.
4. Must be able to accurately convey information and interpretation of information using one or more means of communication (verbal, written, assisted (e.g., TTY) and/or electronic) to patients/the healthcare team.
5. Must be able to determine a deeper meaning or significance in what is being expressed.

COGNITIVE

Students must have sufficient critical thinking skills. The student will need to problem solve clinical issues and situations by synthesizing information in an analytical, deliberative, evaluative, and decisive manner. Students must demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to provide quality and safe patient care in all health care settings.

1. Accurately measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize subjective and objective data to carry out the nursing process in relation to patient assessment, diagnosis, goals, plan of care/interventions, and evaluation.
2. Analyze data to prioritize all aspects of the client's health care needs and nursing diagnoses.
3. Use synthesized data to develop a plan and implement nursing interventions relevant to client's needs which integrates client preferences to deliver appropriate, evidenced-based, quality and safe patient care.
4. Demonstrate intellectual and conceptual abilities to accomplish the essentials of the nursing program (for example, baccalaureate essentials).
5. Demonstrate cognitive abilities related to course and program outcomes, which include intellectual, conceptual, integrative, quantitative, critical thinking, and comprehension skills that indicate that the student is able to carry out the nursing process in the care of patients.
6. Comprehend extensive information from written documents, visual and/or oral presentations, and patient computer information.
7. Accurately follow course syllabi, assignment directions, patient protocols, and any action plan(s) developed by deans, faculty, administrators, or health care agency staff.
8. Media literacy

Rationale for standard

1. Accomplish, direct or interpret assessment of persons, families and/or communities and develop, implement and evaluate plans of care or direct the development, implementation and evaluation of care.
2. Make proper judgments regarding safe and quality care.
3. Critically assess and develop content that uses new media forms, and to leverage these media for persuasive communication.
4. Literacy in and ability to understand concepts across disciplines.
5. Represent and develop tasks and work processes for desired outcomes.

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES

Students must possess the emotional stability to enable them to develop therapeutic relationships and successfully communicate with individuals and aggregates from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Students should possess the qualities of self-awareness, emotional maturity, objectivity, flexibility, empathy, and integrity. Students should be emotionally able to handle demanding workloads and to function effectively under stress.

1. Concern for others, integrity, ethical conduct, accountability, interest and motivation.
2. Acquire interpersonal skills for professional interactions with a diverse population of individuals, families and communities.
3. Acquire interpersonal skills for professional interactions with members of the health care team including patients, their supports, other health care professionals and team members.
4. Acquire the skills necessary for promoting change for necessary quality health care.
5. Cross-cultural competency.

Rationale for standard

1. Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with patients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals under all circumstances.
2. Function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments inherent in clinical practice.
3. Demonstrate professional role in interactions with patients, intra and inter professional teams.
4. Operate in diverse settings.