

**New Graduate Program (Majors, Sequences, Certificates) Proposal  
Illinois State University - Graduate Curriculum Committee**

**Program Department** Mennonite College of Nursing

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**Title of New Program** Doctor of Nursing Practice: Post Master's Sequence

**Submission Date** Thursday, November 14, 2019

**Email** kmastro@ilstu.edu

**Campus Address** Campus Box 5810 Mennonite College Of Nursing

**Version** 2 **ID** 95

**Proposed Starting Catalog Year** 2020-2021

**1. Proposed Action**

New Major

✓ New Sequence

New Certificate

✓ More than 50% of courses in this program are Distance Education

**Sequence Major**

Doctor of Nursing Practice

**2. Provide Graduate Catalog copy for new program.**

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The DNP program is based on national expectations and competencies for graduates of DNP programs as stated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. There are two entry points to the DNP program. Students admitted with a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree will be required to complete up to 78 semester hours depending on the sequence selected. Students admitted with a master of science in nursing (MSN) degree will be required to complete a minimum of 34 semester hours beyond the master's degree. For students with an MSN who completed the MCN NSA sequence, advanced standing credits may be transferred from the NSA degree. Advanced standing credit will only be granted for courses completed within five years of admission to the doctoral professional practice program. All courses applied to the degree must be completed at the graduate level. Mennonite College of Nursing requires that any student receiving a grade of C or below in graduate coursework must repeat the course. Students may repeat a maximum of 3 semester hours.

A student with a BSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in 4 to 5 years depending on the sequence selected. Prerequisites to the DNP curriculum for applicants with a BSN degree include:

BSN degree from a CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) or an NLN (National League for Nursing)-accredited program

Minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate coursework; to include courses in which the student is currently enrolled

Evidence of satisfactory completion of statistics, nursing research, and physical assessment courses with a grade of a C or better at the baccalaureate level

A student with a MSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in a minimum of seven (7) semesters of study. Prerequisites to the DNP curriculum for applicants with a MSN degree include:

MSN degree from a CCNE or NLN-accredited program

A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the last 30 hours of graduate or 60 hours of undergraduate coursework; to include courses in which the student is currently enrolled

Certified and licensed as an advanced practice nurse (certified nurse practitioner, certified clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist) or have completed a master's degree program in nursing administration/leadership. Other MSN specialties will be considered.

A graduate level epidemiology course, a graduate level theory course, a graduate level research course, and a master's level statistics course

Completion of 640 post-BSN clinical hours. Students who do not meet the prerequisite post-BSN clinical hours will be required to register for NUR 560 Advanced Nursing Practice Experience.

All applicants will be evaluated individually based on prior educational work as well as current experience. Their programs of study will be designed to include additional coursework, if necessary, to position them to achieve the educational objectives of the curriculum.

DNP Post-Master's Sequence

The Doctor of Nursing Practice: Post-Master's Sequence is designed so that a student with a MSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in a minimum of seven (7) semesters of study. Prerequisites to the DNP curriculum for applicants with a MSN degree include:

MSN degree from a CCNE or NLN-accredited program

A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the last 30 hours of graduate or 60 hours of undergraduate coursework; to include courses in which the student is currently enrolled

Certified and licensed as an advanced practice nurse (certified nurse practitioner, certified clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist) or have completed a master's degree program in nursing administration/leadership. Other MSN specialties will be considered.

A graduate level epidemiology course, a graduate level theory course, a graduate level research course, and a master's level statistics course

Completion of 640 post-BSN clinical hours. Students who do not meet the prerequisite post-BSN clinical hours will be required to register for NUR 560 Advanced Nursing Practice Experience.

All applicants will be evaluated individually based on prior educational work as well as current experience. Their programs of study will be designed to include additional coursework, if necessary, to position them to achieve the educational objectives of the curriculum.

DNP Program Requirements

The DNP Post-Master's sequence is fully-online and consists of a minimum of 34 semester hours, including the following requirements:

- 18 hour core: NUR 451, 509, 511, 562, 564, 565

- 3 hours applied data analysis and management: NUR 535

- 6 hour clinical residency: an in-depth clinical experience emphasizing DNP role development and expansion of clinical expertise: NUR 550, 552, 554

- 7 hour scholarly project: NUR 539, 543, 545, 547

- a minimum of 1,000 clinical hours post-baccalaureate degree

**3. Provide a description for the proposed program.**

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP): Post-Master's Sequence is designed so that a student with an MSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in seven semesters of study.

The Post-Master's Sequence is currently offered as the Post Master's DNP option. It is being submitted as a new sequence due to it being designated as one of the three available sequences within the DNP Program.

Students admitted with a master of science in nursing (MSN) degree will be required to complete a minimum of 34 semester hours beyond the master's degree. For students with an MSN who completed the MCN NSA sequence, advanced standing credits may be transferred from the NSA degree. Advanced standing credit will only be granted for courses completed within five years of admission to the doctoral professional practice program.

**4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.**

We currently have the post-master's DNP program with the Family Nurse Practitioner sequence and the Nursing System Administration sequence offered at the master's level. The National Organization of Nursing Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) that serves as a consultant in the area of DNP education for American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), through which Mennonite College of Nursing is accredited via their Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) branch, is recommending that the DNP degree be the entry level for advanced nursing practice by 2025. The proposed program revisions will meet the recommendations of our accrediting body.

**5. Describe the expected effects of the proposed program on existing campus programs (if applicable).**

None

**6. Describe the expected curricular changes required, including new courses. If proposals for new courses that will be or have been submitted, please reference those related proposals here:**

These courses have been approved:

NUR 539 Scholarly Project Design (New)

NUR 543 Scholarly Project I (revised)

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**7. Anticipated funding needs and source of funds.**

No additional funds needed

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**8. No Does this program count for teacher education?**

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**9. The following questions must be answered.**

**No** Have you confirmed that Milner Library has sufficient resources for the proposed program?

Explain why Milner Library has not been contacted.

The course and program requirements in terms of resource use at Milner have not changed.

**N.A.** Have letter(s) of concurrence from affected departments/schools been obtained?

*A departments/school is affected if it has a program with significant overlap or if it teaches a required or elective course in the program.*

