

# McAuley School of Nursing

## POST-MASTER'S DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

### For More Information

#### Admissions:

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### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

The post-master's DNP builds upon the Master of Science in Nursing and requires a total of 36 credit hours to complete for those individuals who are advanced nursing practice (APRN or executive leadership). For students without this preparation a 6-credit bridge that prepares the student in advanced nursing practice. The curriculum includes formative course work that culminates in a practicum and a doctoral project. A total of 1000 clinical/practicum hours are required, which includes up to 500 hours at the master's level.

The post-master's DNP is designed for part-time or full-time study. Most students complete the program with part-time study in 24 months. The program is offered in a variety of formats including traditional classroom, on line and web-enhanced hybrid formats.

Close faculty-student contact is maintained to assist students in achieving professional goals.

For further information on McAuley School of Nursing graduate programs: <http://healthprofessions.udmercy.edu/academics/nursing/grad.php>

### FOR ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATION INFORMATION:

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### POST MASTER'S DNP ADMISSION CRITERIA:

1. Earned Master of Science in Nursing or Nurse Anesthesia from an accredited school\*\* with a graduate GPA > 3.2.
2. Current unencumbered Michigan Registered Nurse license and privilege to practice as a Registered Nurse that is not limited in any way by an employer.
3. National Board Certification in an area of clinical specialization, if applicable.
4. Recognized in Michigan with Specialty Certification Status as an APRN, if applicable.
5. Evidence of current nursing practice.
6. Three professional letters of recommendation are required. Recommendation letters should include:
  - a. At least one recommendation from a professional who can attest to the applicant's practice performance.
  - b. One recommendation from a professional who can assess the applicant's academic potential for professional doctoral study.
  - c. Recommendations from doctorally prepared professionals are preferred.
7. Official transcripts sent directly from each institution of higher education since high school.
8. Professional portfolio including curriculum vitae or resume, and an essay (500-1,000 words) addressing the applicant's goals for doctoral study and focused area of clinical interest for the doctoral project.
9. Interview.

*\*\*Applicants may require prerequisite coursework to meet the master's level essentials in Nursing.*

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a terminal professional degree representing the highest level of clinical nursing competence. The DNP program is designed to provide students the opportunity to assimilate and utilize in-depth knowledge of nursing, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical and organizational sciences, with sophisticated informatics and decision-making technology to develop collaborative strategies that optimize the health of individuals, families, communities and systems. Grounded in the Mercy and Jesuit traditions, the DNP program emphasizes the student's development as an expert clinician with strong leadership capacity, a commitment to service, and skills to act as change agents, translating clinical research into improved healthcare.

The post-master's DNP curriculum is designed to admit master's prepared certified APRNs in the following clinical specialties: nurse anesthetist, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist and MSN-prepared nurses in specialty areas such as nursing administration, executive leadership and nursing informatics. The DNP program curriculum is based upon the AACN (2006) Essentials of Doctoral Education.

