

CHILD/ADOLESCENT ACUTE AND CONTINUING CARE PEDIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER

Distance Accessible

What is a Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner?

This Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) is prepared at the graduate level and is qualified to diagnose and manage the care of children and adolescents who are acutely ill or have a long-term health problem that requires monitoring or hospitalization. Core and support courses prepare the student for specific content about health problems common to this population. Clinical practica provide specific management strategies and allows the student to sit for the national certification examination.

The Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner takes responsibility for admission of clients to acute care facilities, including history taking, physical examination, ordering appropriate diagnostic tests and functions as a member of an interdisciplinary health care team. In addition this PNP's work with children, adolescents and their families to develop a plan of care that addresses both short and long term health care needs and goals for health maintenance.

Who employs Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioners?

Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care PNP's can be employed by individuals and groups that serve children and adolescents who have serious and ongoing health problems. Examples of practice sites are emergency rooms and urgent care centers, intensive care, special care or step down units, medical and surgical units and specialty interdisciplinary teams or practices.

What are the classroom content and clinical requirements for Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioners?

In addition to the core courses required of all masters' students, PNP's complete support courses, such as advanced Growth and Development and Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Clinical didactic courses and associated clinical practicum experiences complete the preparation. The clinical practica total a minimum of 630 hours of clinical experience.

Who will serve as my preceptor in the clinical courses?

A preceptor may be a nurse practitioner, physician or physician's assistant approved by the School of Nursing faculty. Students may select a preceptor in the specialty area they are interested in or their clinical advisor may suggest one. Approved preceptors and information about selecting preceptors and completing preceptor agreements will be provided to you as a student. Faculty are always available to students during their clinical preceptorships.

How long is the program of study?

The Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner option can be completed in a minimum of 20 months (4 semesters) of full time study beginning in the fall semester. However, many students choose to attend part-time and complete the program in 24-32 months (5-6 semesters).

Will I be eligible to take a nurse practitioner certification examination when I complete the program?

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for certification by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB). Maintenance of national certification is the professional responsibility of the PNP and is a requirement for practice in most states.

How do I become eligible to practice as a Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care PNP?

The PNP is licensed by the states in which they practice and are subject to the rules and regulations of that State's Practice Act. You will need to contact your State's Board of Nursing to learn their particular requirements.

What are the admission requirements?

- BSN degree from a regionally accredited institution, equivalent to the one offered by the School of Nursing at UAB
- A grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale either cumulative or on the last 60 semester credit hours
- Letters of professional reference attesting to the applicant's potential for graduate study
- A minimum of 410 on the MAT, or a minimum of 480 on the GMAT or a combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)*

*An interview may be required based on the student's means of entry into the program. All students need to be prepared to schedule an interview.

***GRE, MAT, or GMAT is waived for students with a 3.2 or better GPA.** For complete details, please visit http://www.uab.edu/images/sonimg/PDF/GREMAT_waiver.pdf

If I do not meet the requirements, can I be admitted on probation?

No, probationary admission is not available to students who do not meet these requirements.

When will I receive confirmation that I have been accepted into the program?

You will be notified by Email of your acceptance or denial within 30 days after the application submission deadline.

For International Students: If your Visa status is F1 or J1, make an appointment with your course faculty by week 2 of each semester to plan how you will meet Federal Regulations.

What is a typical program of study like?

Fall - Year I

NUR 600	Research and Statistics for Advanced Practice	4
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology.....	3
NPE 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Practice Nursing	4

Spring - Year I

NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3
NCC 613	Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Pharmacology	1
NCC 621	Child/Adolescent Advanced Nursing I: Acute and Continuing Care	5
NCC 685	Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care PNP Practicum I.....	3

Summer - Year I

NUR 601	Role Development for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NUR 633	Growth and Development	3
NCC 622	Child/Adolescent Advanced Nursing II: Acute and Continuing Care	5
NCC 686	Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care PNP Practicum II	3

Fall - Year II

NUR 602	Issues Affecting Advanced Practice Nursing	3
NCC 692	Residency: Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care PNP	6

Total46 credits

Where can I get more information?

<http://www.uab.edu/son/npe/>

School of Nursing Internet website: <http://www.uab.edu/son>

General Information Regarding MSN Study

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