

NURSE PRACTITIONER PEDIATRICS PRIMARY CARE

Distance Accessible

What is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner?

The Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) is a nurse prepared at the master's level as an advanced practice nurse able to diagnose and manage common acute and chronic problems in infants, children and adolescents. The PNP assumes a leadership role in providing care and is prepared to obtain and assess health history and physical examination data, order and interpret appropriate diagnostic tests, identify actual and potential health problems and formulate with the client and family a comprehensive plan of therapeutic measures that promote, maintain and restore health. This plan may include consultation with other health professionals or referral to specialists for complicated medical management.

Who employs Pediatric Nurse Practitioners?

PNPs are employed in all sites that offer primary care to infants, children and adolescents. These practitioners form collaborative relationships with representatives of all disciplines concerned with the health of infants, children and adolescents. Examples of practice sites are primary care agencies and clinics, physicians' offices, public health departments, school based clinics, student health clinics, pediatric specialty practices and clinics.

Can I specialize further as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner ?

You have the opportunity for specialization in Palliative Care Nursing and other specialty practices. In addition, elective courses are available for knowledge base enhancement in areas such as genetics, electrocardiography and diabetes management.

What specific specialty requirements do I need prior to entering the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty Track?

There are no requirements for clinical experience prior to admission. However, students are required to have at least one year of pediatric nursing experience prior to enrolling in the advance nursing clinical courses. Your program of study can be arranged so that you can gain the required experience while you are taking prerequisite courses.

What are the admission criteria?

- A nursing degree (BSN or higher) from a regionally accredited institution, equivalent to the one offered by UAB School of Nursing
- Possess an unencumbered nursing license to practice nursing in the state where you plan to conduct your clinical practicum
- An undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale either cumulatively or on the last 60 semester credit hours
- (3) Letters of professional reference attesting to the applicant's potential for graduate study
- Standardized test score (MAT, GRE, GMAT)* A minimum score of 410 on the MAT; or a minimum score of 480 on the GMAT; or a combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or combined score of 297 on the New 2011 GRE*
- Additional – Selected options may require experience prior to enrollment in a specialty courses.

* GRE/GMAT/MAT Waiver Process: https://www.uab.edu/nursing/home/images/stories/info_sa/GRE_MAT_Waiver.pdf

Approval for the GRE/GMAT/MAT Waiver does not imply or guarantee admission to the MSN program. When all of your transcripts are evaluated, if you do not meet the requirements, you will be notified that you need to take the GRE/GMAT/MAT. Candidates not approved for the GRE/GMAT/MAT waiver will be required to take the GRE/GMAT/MAT before final action on their application for master's study. The School of Nursing at UAB must receive the official score by the posted materials deadline. Applicants for the GRE/GMAT/MAT waiver must meet the same requirements for admission to the MSN program as all other applicants.

*****The following individuals are not eligible for the GRE waiver process:**

- International applicants
- Non-Native English speaking applicants
- Dual degree seeking program applicants MSN/MPH

For International Students:

- Prospective international students are asked to first contact International Recruitment and Student Services at iss@uab.edu, (205), 934-3328, FAX 934-8664 to determine eligibility in order to submit an application into any academic program.
- All foreign transcripts evaluated by the Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc www.ece.org OR the World Education Services www.wes.org, sent from the evaluators directly to the School of Nursing
- A degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited educational institution in the United States
- A score of 500 or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language, TOEFL
- Standardized test score. A minimum combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Possess an unencumbered nursing license to practice nursing in the state where you plan to conduct your clinical practicum

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

You will be notified of your acceptance or denial within 60 days after the application submission deadline.

What are the classroom and clinical requirements?

Total credit hours: 45 Didactic hours: 32 Clinical hours: 13; Total hours of direct patient care: 560 contact hours

Descriptive narrative: Specialty-specific didactic content is provided in 4 specialty courses and provides the student with a strong advanced primary care base for caring for patients with common health problems. Clinical experiences in a variety of primary care and specialty clinic settings offer extensive preparation for the advanced practice role. Students are required to visit the campus in Birmingham, AL for orientation and three multiday intensives, and students must pass a comprehensive examination in order to graduate. Should academic problems arise, an additional on-campus visit may be required.

How many semesters of study are required?

Students who start course work in the summer semester will take seven semesters to complete the program and students starting in the fall semester will take six semesters. The programs of study are listed below.

Distance Accessibility

Applicants to any of our distance-accessible programs should become familiar with the regulations governing distance accessible programs in their state. Prospective students residing in states other than Alabama should contact their state's Board of Nursing and Department of Education for specific rules and regulations pertaining to completion of clinical learning experiences in that state when enrolled in a distance accessible program. The ability to conduct course work is only guaranteed for student is Alabama and in states with an established agreement.

Will I be able to take a national certification examination when I complete the program of study?

Once you successfully complete the program, you will be awarded a Master of Science in Nursing degree and you can apply to take the certification examination through the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB) or the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

How do I become eligible to practice as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in my state of residence?

The PNP is licensed by the state in which practice occurs and is 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 is a typical program of study like?

Program of Study Options

Coursework

NUR 604	Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice Roles	3
NUR 606	Translating Evidence into Practice	3
NUR 610	Health Care Systems for Adv. Nursing Practice.....	3
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3
NUR 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Nursing Practice.....	3
NPE 618	Focus on Adv. Nursing Practice Specialization.....	3
NPE 621	Advanced Pediatric Nursing I.....	5
NPE 685	Practicum I: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.....	3
NPE 622	Advanced Pediatric Nursing II.....	4
NPE 686	Practicum II: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.....	3
NPE 623	Advanced Pediatric Nursing III.....	5
NPE 692	Residency: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.....	4
	Total	45 credits

Summer	Fall
<u>Summer Year I</u>	<u>Fall Year I</u>
NUR 604	NUR 604
NUR 612	NUR 612
<u>Fall Year I</u>	<u>Spring Year I</u>
NUR 606	NUR 606
NUR 613	NUR 613
<u>Spring Year I</u>	<u>Summer Year I</u>
NUR 614	NUR 610
NPE 618	NUR 614
	NPE 618
<u>Summer Year II</u>	<u>Fall Year II</u>
NUR 610	NPE 621
<u>Fall Year II</u>	NPE 685
NPE 621	
NPE 685	<u>Spring Year II</u>
<u>Spring Year II</u>	NPE 622
NPE 622	NPE 686
NPE 686	<u>Summer Year II</u>
<u>Summer Year III</u>	NPE 623
NPE 623	NPE 692
NPE 692	

Where can I get more information?

Internet website: <https://www.uab.edu/nursing/home/>

General information about the application process

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Information about Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

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