

# NURSING AND HEALTH SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION

## *Distance Accessible*

### **What is the graduate of the Master of Science in Nursing and Health Systems Administration prepared to do?**

The Nursing and Health Systems Administration (NHS) specialty track provides students with opportunities to explore innovative health care delivery systems in preparation for roles from unit managers to executive positions. The graduate is prepared for management at all levels of the organization, with a broad, system-wide knowledge base. The graduate has skills in customer service and finance, strategic and quality management, and the ability to design and implement care delivery models that extend beyond the walls of the organization into the community and its stakeholders.

### **Who employs Nursing and Health Systems Administration graduates?**

Graduates may assume a variety of positions in health care systems. National and international health systems employ advanced level nurses for management and executive positions. Employers include home health agencies, managed care entities, public and private sector hospitals, long-term and ambulatory care facilities, and insurance companies. The NHS specialty track prepares graduates for unit manager, consultant, clinical coordinator and manager, product and service line manager, executive director, director of operation, and nurse executive positions.

### **Can I further specialize?**

Elective courses are available for knowledge base enhancement in areas such as informatics and teaching.

### **What kind of experience do I need prior to entering the Nursing and Health Systems Administration Specialty Track?**

There is no requirement for clinical experience prior to admission. However, faculty strongly encourage that students admitted to the Nursing and Health Systems Administration option must have at least one year of professional nursing and management, for example a charge nurse, experience prior to enrolling in the clinical courses. Your program of study can be planned so that you gain experience while taking prerequisite courses. If you must have time to gain the year of experience, you will have to do a part-time program of study. You must provide verification of professional nurse licensure by the board of nursing in the state in which you will contract for clinical preceptorships.

### **What are the admission criteria?**

- A nursing degree (BSN or higher) from a regionally accredited institution, equivalent to the one offered by the School of Nursing at UAB
- 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: [http://www.uab.edu/nursing/images/stories/infostudents/GRE\\_MAT\\_waiver.pdf](http://www.uab.edu/nursing/images/stories/infostudents/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.

\*An alternate master's in nursing pathways option is available: <http://www.uab.edu/nursing/student-information/acad-prog/amnp>

\*\*\*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:**

- All foreign transcripts evaluated by the Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org) OR the World Education Services [www.wes.org](http://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).
- If your Visa status is F1 or J1, meet with your course faculty by week 2 of each semester to plan how you will meet Federal Regulations
- Possess a 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 30 days after the application submission deadline.

**What are the classroom and clinical requirements?**

Total credit hours: 34 hours; (didactic hours: 23; clinical hours: 11); total contact hours of practicum experience: 495.

Descriptive narrative: Didactic content is provided in 3 specialty courses and provides the student with a strong advanced nursing role base for nursing administration. Practicum experiences offer extensive preparation for the advanced nursing administration role. The School of Nursing courses are distance-accessible. Electives or thesis hours can be taken in any semester.

**How many semesters are required for full-time study in the Nursing and Health systems Administration specialty track? Is part-time study offered?**

Full-time study as defined by the University (9 or more credits) is available for students who begin study in Fall semester. This specialty track can be completed in four semesters for the student who enters in fall semester. Part-time programs of study are available for students who enter during the fall or spring academic year semesters.

**Will I meet requirements to take a certification examination when I graduate?**

Graduates of the NHA specialty track meet the *educational* requirements to apply for certification in Nursing Administration either through the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) or the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). In order to sit for the examination, the ANCC has additional experience requirements. The applicant must also have held an administrative position at the nurse manager or nurse executive level for at least the equivalent of 24 months full-time practice within the past 5 years.

**How do I become eligible to practice in my state of residence?**

The graduate of NHA 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 600	Research and Statistics for Advanced Practice .....	4
NUR 601	Role Development for Advanced Nursing Practice ..	3
NUR 643	Nursing Informatics .....	3
NUR 616	Nursing Financial Management .....	3
NHSA 617L	Nursing Financial Management Practicum.....	3
NHSA 618	Human Resource Management .....	3
NHSA 631	Advanced Quality and Patient Safety.....	3
NHSA 681L	Advanced Quality and Patient Safety Practicum I....	3
NHSA 632	Nursing Health Systems Administration I.....	2
NHSA 682L	Nursing and Health Systems Administration Practicum I.....	2
NHSA 633	Nursing Health Systems Administration II.....	2
NHSA 683L	Nursing and Health Systems Administration Practicum II.....	3
	Total .....	34 credits

Fall Full-Time	Fall Part-Time	Spring Part-Time
<u>Fall Year 1</u>	<u>Fall Year 1</u>	<u>Spring Year 1</u>
NUR 600	NUR 600	NUR 600
NHSA 616		NHSA 601
NHSA 617L	<u>Spring Year 1</u>	<u>Summer Year 1</u>
	NHSA 618	NUR 643
<u>Spring Year 1</u>	<u>Summer Year 1</u>	
NHSA 618	NUR 601	<u>Fall Year 1</u>
NHSA 631	NUR 643	NHSA 616
NHSA 681L		NHSA 617L
<u>Summer Year 1</u>	<u>Fall Year 2</u>	<u>Spring Year 2</u>
NUR 643	NHSA 616	NHSA 618
NHSA 632	NHSA 617	NHSA 631
NHSA 682L	<u>Spring Year 2</u>	NHSA 681L
	NHSA 631	
<u>Fall Year 2</u>	NHSA 681L	<u>Summer Year 2</u>
NUR 601		NHSA 632
NHSA 633	<u>Summer Year 2</u>	NHSA 682L
NHSA 683L	NHSA 632	
	NHSA 682L	<u>Fall Year 2</u>
	<u>Fall Year 3</u>	NHSA 633
	NHSA 633	NHSA 683L
	NHSA 683L	

**Where can I get more information?**

Internet website: <http://www.uab.edu/nursing>

**General information about the application process**

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**Information about Nursing and Health Systems Administration**

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