

NURSE PRACTITIONER ADULT PRIMARY CARE

Distance Accessible

What is an Adult Nurse Practitioner?

The Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP) works interdependently with other health professionals to provide primary health care to adults. The focus of the class content and clinical experience is on health promotion through identification of health risks, education and counseling for development of health promoting lifestyles, identification and management of acute, episodic health problems, management of stable chronic disease, and appropriate and effective collaboration and referral. Graduates are 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 a comprehensive plan of therapeutic measures that promote, maintain, or restore health. This plan may include consultation with other health professionals or referral for complicated medical management. Emphasis is placed on putting prevention into practice, involving adults in decision making as self responsible health care consumers; educating consumers, decreasing health complications, providing cost-efficient health care, and recognizing the importance of the community in primary care.

Who employs Adult Nurse Practitioners?

Adult Nurse Practitioners (ANP) are employed in primary care clinics. They may work in clinics that provide care to an adult population, or they may work in a family clinic and manage only the adult patients in that clinic. Internal Medicine clinics and some specialty clinics such as Gastroenterology Clinics may employ ANPs.

Can I specialize as an Adult Nurse Practitioner?

You have the opportunity for secondary specialization in Occupational Health Nursing. Elective courses are available for knowledge base enhancement in areas such as cardiovascular and diabetes management.

What kind of nursing experience do I need prior to entering the program or prior to starting clinical practicum?

There are no requirements for clinical experience prior to admission. However, students admitted to this option should have at least one year of professional nursing or primary care experience in an area of medical or surgical nursing prior to enrolling in the advanced nursing clinical courses. Your program of study can be arranged so that you can gain the required experience while you are taking prerequisite courses. In this case, you will have a part-time program of study in order to acquire the nursing experience. Additionally, before beginning clinical courses, you must verify 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

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 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).
- 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: 40; Didactic Hours: 28; Clinical Hours: 12; Total Hours of direct Patient Care: 630 contact hours

Descriptive narrative: Advanced practice nursing didactic content is provided in 2 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 two 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 are commonly needed to complete in the Adult Primary Nurse Practitioner specialty track?

Time to complete the Master’s degree varies depending on what semester a student begins the program. The time ranges from 4 semesters (very difficult and few students are able to do this), to 7 semesters. In some cases students need to slow progress a little more. However, a minimum of two courses each semester must be taken unless two required courses are unavailable.

Are there special requirements before beginning practicum courses?

There are no requirements for clinical experience prior to admission to the MSN program. However, students admitted to this specialty track are strongly encouraged to have at least one year of professional nursing or primary care experience in an area of medical or surgical nursing prior to enrolling in the advanced nursing clinical courses. Your program of study can be arranged so that you can gain the required experience while you are taking prerequisite courses. You will not be able to do full-time program of study if you are acquiring the needed experience while matriculating.

Additionally, before beginning clinical courses, you must verify professional nurse licensure by the board of nursing in the state in which you will contract for clinical preceptorships.

Will I be able to apply to take a nurse practitioner certification examination if I complete this program?

The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing is fully accredited making our graduates eligible to take national certification examinations. The content of these examinations changes as evidenced-based knowledge grows, as well as national qualifications to practice as a Nurse Practitioner are strengthened. Our faculty keep up to date with any changes in national professional requirements, and make sure that current content is provided in courses to prepare graduates for the certification examinations. Currently, Adult Primary Nurse Practitioners can take the examination offered by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and by the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center

How do I become eligible to practice as an ANP in my state of residence?

ANPs are 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 is a typical program of study like?

Coursework

NUR 600	Research and Statistics For Advanced Practice	4	Fall Year 1	Spring Year 1
			NUR 601	NUR 601
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	NUR 612	NUR 613
NUR 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Nursing Practice	4	Spring Year 1	Summer Year 1
			NUR 614	NUR 602
NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3	Summer Year 1	NUR 612
NAH 621	Advanced Adult Nursing I	4	NUR 600	Fall Year 1
NAH 685	Practicum I: Adult Nurse Practitioner	3	NUR 602	NUR 600
NUR 601	Role Development for Advanced Nursing Practice	3	NUR 613	NUR 614
NAH 622	Advanced Adult Nursing II	4	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 2
NAH 686	Practicum II: Adult Nursing Practitioner	3	NUR 613	NAH 621
NUR 602	Issues Affecting Advanced Nursing Practice	3	Spring Year 2	NAH 685
NAH 692	Residency: Adult Nurse Practitioner	6	NAH 621	Summer Year 2
			NAH 685	NAH 622
	Total	40	Summer Year 2	NAH 686
			NUR 622	Fall Year 2
			NUR 686	NAH 692
			Fall Year 2	
			NUR 692	

Where can I get more information?

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

General information about the application process

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