

NURSE PRACTITIONER PEDIATRIC ACUTE AND CONTINUING CARE

Distance Accessible

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

The Pediatric Nurse Acute and Continuing Care Practitioner (PACC-NP) is prepared at the master's level in advanced practice nursing and is able to diagnose and manage the health problems of infants, children and adolescents who are acutely ill or have a long-term health problem that requires monitoring or hospitalization.

The PACC-NP takes responsibility for admission of clients to acute care facilities. The PACC-NP is prepared to obtain and assess health history and physical examination data, and order and interpret appropriate diagnostic tests while functioning as a member of an interdisciplinary health care team. The PACC-NP works with children, adolescents, and their families to develop plans of care that address both short and long term health care needs and goals for health maintenance.

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

PACC-NPs are 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 practices.

Can I specialize further as a Pediatric Acute and Continuing Care Nurse Practitioner?

You have the opportunity for secondary specialization in Palliative Care Nursing. Elective courses are available for knowledge base enhancement in areas such as 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 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: 46; Didactic Hours: 34; Clinical Hours: 12; Total Hours of direct Patient Care: 630 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 during their health assessment and clinical courses for 2-3 day intensives. Students must pass a comprehensive examination in order to graduate. Should problems arise, an additional on-campus visit may be required.

How many semesters are required for full-time study in the PACC-NP specialty track? Is part-time study available?

Full-time study as defined by the University, 9 credit hours per semester, is available for this specialty track during the fall academic semester. Part-time programs of study are available for entry during the fall and spring academic year semesters, as listed below.

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

Graduates of the program care apply to take the certification examination offered by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB).

How do I become eligible to practice as a Pediatric Acute and Continuing Care NP?

PACC-NPs are licensed by the states in which they practice and are subject to the rules and regulations of the State's Practice Acts. 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

<u>Coursework</u>					
NUR 600	Research and Statistics for Advanced Practice.....	4	Fall Full-Time	Fall Part-Time	Spring Part-Time
NUR 601	Role Development for Advanced Nursing Practice.....	3	<u>Fall Year I</u>	<u>Fall Year I</u>	<u>Spring Year I</u>
NUR 602	Issues Affecting Advanced Nursing Practice.....	3	NUR 600	NUR 612	NUR 601
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology.....	3	NUR 612	<u>Spring Year I</u>	NUR 613
NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics.....	3	NUR 614	NUR 601	<u>Summer Year I</u>
NUR 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Nursing Practice.....	4	<u>Spring Year I</u>	NUR 600	NUR 612
NCC 613	Acute Care Pediatric Pharmacology.....	1	NUR 613	<u>Summer Year I</u>	NUR 633
NCC 621	Child/Adolescent Advanced Nursing I: Acute and Continuing Care.....	4	NCC 613	NUR 602	<u>Fall Year I</u>
NCC 622	Child/Adolescent Advanced Nursing II: Acute and Continuing Care.....	2	NCC 621	NUR 633	NUR 600
NCC 623	Child/Adolescent Advanced Nursing III: Acute and Continuing Care.....	4	NCC 685	<u>Fall Year II</u>	NDP 613
NUR 633	Growth and Development.....	3	<u>Summer Year I</u>	NUR 613	NDP 614
NCC 685	Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Practicum I....	2	NUR 633	NUR 614	<u>Spring Year II</u>
NCC 686	Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Practicum II...	2	NCC 622	NDP 613	NCC 621
NCC 688	Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Practicum III..	2	NCC 686	<u>Spring Year II</u>	NCC 685
NCC 692	Residency: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.....	6	<u>Fall Year II</u>	NUR 602	<u>Summer Year II</u>
	Total.....	46 credits	NUR 602	NCC 621	<u>Summer Year II</u>
			NCC 623	NCC 685	NCC 622
			NCC 688	<u>Summer Year II</u>	NCC 686
			<u>Spring Year II</u>	NCC 622	<u>Fall Year III</u>
			NUR 601	NCC 686	NCC 623
			NCC 692	<u>Fall Year III</u>	NCC 688
				NCC 623	<u>Spring Year II</u>
				NCC 688	NCC 692
				<u>Spring Year II</u>	NUR 602
				NCC 692	

Where can I get more information?

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

General information about the application process

Lacy Lazenby, BS
MSN Program Manager
(205) 934-3534
E-Mail: lazenby@uab.edu

Information about Child/Adolescent Acute and Continuing Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Jean Ivey, DSN, CRNP
Specialty Track Coordinator
(205) 934-0448
E-Mail: pnp1@uab.edu

Master's Program Coordinator

Lygia Holcomb, DSN
Assoc Prof/Asst Dean
(205) 996-6935
E-Mail: lholcomb@uab.edu