

# 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 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: 47 Didactic hours: 35 Clinical hours: 12; Total hours of direct patient care: 630 contact hours  
Descriptive narrative: You must be on-campus three times during the MSN Program for a total of 8-10 days. During these times, you will be tested in a simulation laboratory for your history-taking, physical examination and clinical skills. Should problems arise, an additional on-campus visit may be required.

**How many semesters are required for full time study? Is part time study offered?**

Full-time study as defined by the University, 9 credit hours, is available for 4 of the 5 semesters and must be started in the fall semester. If full-time status is required, an elective can be taken during the final semester to achieve 9 credit hours. Part-time study is available beginning in any of the three academic year semesters.

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

Graduates of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program 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 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 1</u>	<u>Fall Year 1</u>	<u>Spring Year 1</u>
NUR 602	Issues Affecting Advanced Nursing Practice.....	3	NUR 600	NUR 600	NUR 600
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology.....	3	NUR 612	<u>Spring Year 1</u>	NUR 612
NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics .....	3	NUR 614	NUR 612	<u>Summer Year 1</u>
NUR 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Nursing Practice.....	4	<u>Spring Year 1</u>	NUR 613	NUR 601
NDP 613	Pediatric Pharmacology.....	2	NDP 613		NUR 633
NPE 621	Advanced Pediatric Nursing I.....	4	NUR 613	<u>Summer Year 1</u>	<u>Fall Year 1</u>
NPE 622	Advanced Pediatric Nursing II .....	2	NPE 621	NUR 601	NUR 613
NPE 623	Advanced Pediatric Nursing III .....	4	NPE 685	NUR 633	NUR 614 NDP
NUR 633	Growth and Development .....	3	<u>Summer Year 1</u>	<u>Fall Year 2</u>	613
NPE 685	Practicum I: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner .....	2	NUR 633	NUR 614	<u>Spring Year 2</u>
NPE 686	Practicum II: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner .....	2	NPE 622	NDP 613	NPE 621
NPE 687	Practicum III: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner .....	2	NPE 686	<u>Spring Year 2</u>	NPE 685
NPE 692	Residency: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner .....	6	<u>Fall Year 2</u>	NPE 621	<u>Summer Year 2</u>
	Total .....	47 credits	NUR 602	NPE 685	NPE 622
			NPE 623	<u>Summer Year 2</u>	NPE 686
			NPE 687	NPE 622	<u>Fall Year 2</u>
			<u>Spring Year 2</u>	NPE 686	NPE 623
			NUR 601		NPE 687
			NPE 692	<u>Fall Year 3</u>	<u>Spring Year 3</u>
				NPE 623	NUR 602
				NPE 687	NPE 692
				<u>Spring Year 3</u>	
				NUR 602	
				NPE 692	

**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 Pediatric Nurse Practitioner**

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