Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a practice-focused terminal degree to prepare graduates at the highest level in specialty practice or to assume leadership positions in healthcare. Graduates of the DNP program will focus on providing care to populations and communities with an emphasis on improving quality and access to undeserved, diverse populations. Three components of the DNP are advanced clinical specialty practice, leadership, and practice inquiry.

Graduates will employ abilities and skills in these areas to advocate for reasonable, rational, and data-driven health regulations, standards, and evidence-based practices; sustain collaborative and strategic relationships, promote innovative, effective health care programs; and form partnerships with diverse groups to address health disparities. In addition, graduates will be prepared to assume clinical faculty positions to address the critical nursing faculty shortage.

Click here for a fact sheet with more information about the UAB Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

DISTANCE ACCESSIBILITY & YOUR STATE

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 students in Alabama and in states with an established agreement.

To check on the status of your state, please click here.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Synthesize scientific evidence for the development of clinical interventions for practice.
- Evaluate policy, healthcare delivery, and organizational systems for current and future healthcare needs.
- Translate scientific, theoretical, and ethical principles into healthcare for individuals, families, and populations.
- Incorporate knowledge of current and emerging health technologies to improve healthcare delivery and organizational systems.
- Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies in healthcare.
- Demonstrate intra and inter-professional collaboration to address health disparities and to improve the quality of healthcare across diverse populations and cultures.
• Assume complex leadership roles to advance clinical practice and healthcare delivery at the
organizational and systems level and to improve health outcomes of individuals and
populations.

DNP PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

• A master’s degree in an area of advanced nursing practice (nurse practitioner, clinical nurse
specialist, nursing administration, or nurse anesthetist) from a regionally accredited
institution, equivalent to that in the UAB School of Nursing. Students must hold an advanced
practice certification or be eligible to sit for advanced certification and pass their specific
certification exam prior to completing 12 credit hours of coursework. Until advanced
certification is achieved, students will be considered as a conditional admit.

• A graduate grade point average of at least a 3.0 overall (based on a 4.0 scale) or in the last 60
hours of earned credit.

• Three (3) favorable letters of professional reference from persons who have knowledge of
the applicant’s potential for success for graduate nursing studies and advanced-practice
nursing submitted to NursingCAS.

• Current professional certification as an advanced nurse where applicable uploaded to
NursingCAS in the “Documents” tab above.

• Submit a current CV/Resume to NursingCAS in the “Documents” tab above.

• Evidence of a license as a (1) registered nurse, and (2) advanced practice nurse or eligibility
in the state in which they plan to practice plus (3) CPR certification; all documents must be
notarized if applicant is not a licensed nurse in Alabama. All documents uploaded to
NursingCAS in the “Documents” tab above.

• Documentation of clinical hours using the “clinical hours worksheet”

• Personal goal statement that is congruent with the program goals (500 words or less).
Specific instructions for essay content and formatting can be found under the “Documents”
tab above before upload.

• DNP Scholarly Project Focus statement (300 words or less). Specific instructions for essay
content and formatting can be found under the “Documents” tab above before upload.

• A personal interview by phone or in person with a School of Nursing faculty member or
designee.

DNP Admission Application Instructions

Applying for Admission

The UAB School of Nursing has partnered with NursingCAS, The Centralized Application Service for
Nursing Schools, to collect and manage applications to our DNP program. It is extremely important
that you carefully read all directions below to ensure successful submission of your application.
Successful application submission relies on applicants careful completed of all questions and
compliance with the directions.
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To check on the status of your state, please click here.

Please follow the instructions carefully.

***We recommend ordering all official collegiate transcripts as the first step in the process and have them sent directly to NursingCAS and then complete the required NursingCAS fields for submission of your application.***

Some sections of the NursingCAS application will be REQUIRED by UAB although they are marked “optional”. Please review these instructions/checklist carefully for required DNP Program admission information and note that your application will not be considered until ALL sections listed are completed, submitted, and verified by NursingCAS and all required items are completed for the processing of your UAB DNP Program application. Missing information will delay or disqualify your application.

☐ NursingCAS Application
  • Submit an application to NursingCAS here.
  • Information on how to apply, please use the NursingCAS instruction checklist here
  • Choose one of the following term designations
    ▪ DNP Summer 2016
      Application Deadline: March 1, 2016
    ▪ DNP Fall 2016 (not available for applications yet)

Complete the NursingCAS Application and all of the following items

☐ Items to be mailed to NursingCAS
  • Submit official transcripts- All official transcripts must be mailed from the issuing institution’s registrar’s office directly to NursingCAS. In order to expedite the processing be sure to include the transcript request form. Please send transcripts as early as possible and no less than 4 weeks before the application deadline due to the time needed by NursingCAS to verify your application.

    Mailing Address:
    NursingCAS
    Transcript Department
    P.O. Box 9201
    Watertown, MA 02471

If your transcript is sent to UAB you will be required to reorder your transcript to be sent directly to NursingCAS. UAB cannot forward your transcript as it will not be considered “official”.

Applicant Information Section (REQUIRED)

- Biographic Information
- Contact Information
- Citizenship Information
- Race and Ethnicity
- Other Information
- Social Security

The UAB School of Nursing collects the social security number (SSN) for a variety of legally mandated activities, including income tax reporting and administration of federally supported financial aid programs. The SSN is not used as the student’s primary identification; however, students who do not provide this information at the point of application may experience a delay in financial aid processing, and we will not be able to process your NursingCAS application without this information. The UAB School of Nursing has adopted privacy policies and practices designed to protect student’s personal information. Only information required to efficiently conduct our business and meet state and federal reporting requirements is collected.

Academic History Section

- High Schools Attended
- Colleges Attended
- College Transcripts (ALL COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS REQUIRED)
- Transcript Entry (ALL COURSE WORK ENTRY IS REQUIRED)

Tip: When starting your “Coursework Entry” be sure to have a copy of your transcript(s) in hand in order to complete this section. All college level course work (including in-progress course work) must be entered into the application in this section.

Supporting Materials Section

- References (REQUIRED)
  Three (3) letters of professional reference and reference forms attesting to the from persons who have knowledge of the applicant’s potential for success for graduate nursing studies and advanced-practice nursing. Suggestions inclue: healthcare supervisor or manager, faculty (recommended within the last 3 years), and healthcare professionals (not peers or family)

- Experience (REQUIRED)
  - Employment, Healthcare Work Experience and Community Enrichment
  - Include the Organization, Supervisor, Dates and Details, this section is a very important part of your application that is required for consideration.
    Please describe your setting, highlighting your acute care experiences, and patient population

- Achievements (Highly Suggested)
  List any Awards and Honors you have received

- Licensure and Certifications
  List all Licensure and Certifications
  - Nursing License
  - Certifications (APRN, CPR)

***Please upload copies of your nursing license and certifications as instructed below.
Program Materials Section (REQUIRED)

• Documents Tab

  TIP: Click here to see submission instructions for the “Documents” section.

  - Two Personal Statements: Upload personal statements to NursingCAS via the “Documents” tab in your chosen advanced specialty concentration portal. Specific instructions will be given under the “Documents” tab for required essay content and formatting (please answer all parts of the question).

  - Curriculum Vitae (CV)/Resume: Submit a current CV/Resume under the “Documents” tab.

  - OTHER Document: Licensure(s) and Documentation
  Please upload evidence of license as a (1) registered nurse, and (2) advanced practice nurse or eligibility in the state in which you plan to practice plus (3) CPR certification, all documents must be notarized if you are not a licensed nurse in the state of Alabama. These documents are REQUIRED and must be uploaded in NursingCAS.

  - OTHER Document: Verification of Post-Baccalaureate Clinical and Practice Hours.
  Please forward this form to the program director of the advanced practice program that you completed and request that this form be duplicated on school letterhead. Ask the program director to complete the form and include his or her signature and return back to you. This document is needed prior to an offer of admission to the DNP program. This completed form will need to be uploaded in the portal under Documents (Other). Please title this document Verification of Post-Baccalaureate Clinical and Practice Hours.

• Questions Tab

  All supplemental questions in this section are mandatory. Failure to answer all “required” questions may significantly delay the processing of your NursingCAS application.

  ***In this section you will be asked if you currently live in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA) and Rural Area. Please use the following links to answer those questions.


  Rural: http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/ruralAdvisor/ruralhealthadvisor.aspx?ruralByAddr=1

International Applicants:

Along with the requirements listed above, international students will also have to:

  - Prospective international students are asked to first contact the UAB International Recruitment and Student Services at iss@uab.edu, (205) 934-3328, FAX (205) 934-8664 to determine eligibility in order to submit an application into any UAB School of Nursing academic program. Please note that we cannot ensure program eligibility unless you contact this office. NursingCAS will not issue a refund of the application fee(s) for ineligible students.
• All foreign transcripts evaluated by the Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (www.ece.org) OR the World Education Services (www.wes.org), must be sent directly to NursingCAS. Click here for to see submission instructions.
• 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 score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or combined score of 297 on the New 2011 GRE.
• Possess a nursing license to practice nursing in the state where you plan to conduct your clinical practicum

** IT IS THE APPLICANTS RESPONSIBILITY TO MONITOR THE STATUS OF THEIR APPLICATION ON A REGULAR BASIS. Please use the “Manage My Programs” section of the application to monitor the status of your application**

*An important note from NursingCAS**: Some email providers use filters to prevent users from receiving "Spam" (unsolicited, junk email). Email filters may interpret an email from NursingCAS or a nursing program as "Spam" and automatically delete a message to you. To avoid missing important NursingCAS emails, turn the "Spam" or "junk" email filters off during the application cycle. If your email provider does not allow you to turn the filter off, you may have access to a "junk mail file" that archives all messages identified as sent to multiple addresses. Periodically check your spam/junk email file for NursingCAS or nursing program-related messages.

Who can I contact for help?

For questions regarding the NursingCAS application:
Contact NursingCAS support via phone at 617-612-2880 Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM Eastern Time and Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Eastern Time and via email at nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org. Or post questions to NursingCAS by following their Twitter and/or Facebook accounts.

For questions regarding UAB DNP Program:
For additional information on the Nursing program, please contact:

Dr. Linda Roussel – for questions about the curriculum
DNP Program Director
lroussel@uab.edu
(205) 975-0249

Ms. Jacqueline Lavier – for questions about the admission process
DNP Program Manager
jlavier@uab.edu
(205) 975-7529