

NURSE PRACTITIONER ADULT-GERONTOLOGY PRIMARY CARE

Distance Accessible

What is an Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner?

The Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (AGNP) works interdependently with other health professionals to provide primary health care to adults. The AGNP will also have the opportunity to provide care to the frail elderly. 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-Gerontology Nurse Practitioners?

Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioners (AGNP) are employed in primary care clinics. They may work in clinics that provide care to an adult/gero 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 AGNPs.

Can I specialize as an Adult-Gerontology 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
- Possess an unencumbered nursing license to practice nursing in the state where you plan to conduct your clinical practicum
- 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: https://www.uab.edu/nursing/home/images/stories/info_sa/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.

*****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:

- Prospective international students are asked to first contact International Recruitment and Student Services at iss@uab.edu, (205), 934-3328, FAX 934-8664 to determine eligibility in order to submit an application into any academic program.
- 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).
- Possess an unencumbered 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 60 days after the application submission deadline.

What are the classroom and clinical requirements?

Total Credit Hours: 45; Didactic Hours: 32; Clinical Hours: 13; Total Hours of direct Patient Care: 600 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. You must come to the Birmingham campus for an orientation and three additional visits for multiday intensives and you must pass a comprehensive examination in order to graduate. Should academic problems arise, an additional visit to campus may be required.

How many semesters of study are required?

Students who start course work in the summer semester will take seven semesters to complete the program and students starting in the fall semester will take six semesters. The programs of study are listed below.

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.

Distance Accessibility

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 student is Alabama and in states with an established agreement.

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

Once you successfully complete the program, you will be awarded a Master of Science in Nursing degree and be 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-Gerontology Primary Care 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 AGNP in my state of residence?

AGNPs 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

		Summer	Fall
NUR 604	Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice Roles..... 3	<u>Summer Year I</u>	<u>Fall Year I</u>
NUR 606	Translating Evidence into Practice 3	NUR 604	NUR 604
NUR 610	Health Care Systems for Adv. Nursing Practice 3	NUR 612	NUR 612
NUR 612	Advanced Pathophysiology 3	<u>Fall Year I</u>	<u>Spring Year I</u>
NUR 613	Pharmacology and Therapeutics 3	NUR 606	NUR 606
NUR 614	Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	NUR 613	NUR 613
	for Advanced Nursing Practice 3	<u>Spring Year I</u>	<u>Summer Year I</u>
NAH 618L	Focus on Adv. Nursing Practice Specialization 3	NUR 614	NUR 610
NAH 621	Advanced Adult Nursing I 5	NAH 618	NUR 614
NAH 685L	Practicum I: Adult Nurse Practitioner..... 3	<u>Summer Year II</u>	NAH 618
NAH 622	Advanced Adult Nursing II 4	NUR 610	<u>Fall Year II</u>
NAH 686L	Practicum II: Adult Nurse Practitioner..... 3	<u>Fall Year II</u>	NAH 621
NAH 623	Advanced Adult Nursing III 5	NAH 621	NAH 685
NAH 692L	Residency: Adult Nurse Practitioner 4	NAH 685	<u>Spring Year II</u>
	Total 45 credits	<u>Spring Year II</u>	NAH 622
		NAH 622	NAH 686
		NAH 686	<u>Summer Year II</u>
		<u>Summer Year III</u>	NAH 623
		NAH 623	NAH 692
		NAH 692	

Where can I get more information?

Internet website: <https://www.uab.edu/nursing/home/>

General information about the application process

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Information about Adult-Gerontology Primary Nurse Practitioner

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