

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF NURSING



2026-2027

INTRODUCTION

This information booklet is for those students entering Eastern Kentucky University's Master of Science in Nursing programs or Post-MSN certificate programs. The booklet is not intended to replace the Graduate Catalog and the University Handbook for Students, but is provided for informational purposes to assist students' entry into the completion of the MSN or Post-MSN programs in nursing. Students should always consult with their Online Academic Advisor to obtain the latest information, for answers to their particular questions, or clarification on their particular circumstances.

All statements in this handbook are announcements of present policy only and are subject to change without prior notice. Nothing contained in this publication is intended to create nor shall be construed as creating a contract, either expressed or implied, or guarantee for any term or for any specific procedures. The department reserves the right to make changes in its policies, procedures, handbook, academic curricula, informational and printed materials, and all other items whenever needed to fulfill and properly exercise its educational responsibilities and objectives in ensuring a quality educational program.

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	i
MISSION STATEMENT.....	2
PREAMBLE	2
ASSOCIATE NURSING EDUCATION.....	3
BACCALAUREATE NURSING EDUCATION.....	4
GRADUATE NURSING EDUCATION	5
ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE OUTCOMES	6
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR MSN PROGRAM.....	7
SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR ECU SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENTS.....	8
ADMISSION TO THE MSN PROGRAM	11
Graduate School Application Process.....	11
References	11
Deadlines for Application Submission.....	11
Selection of Applicants for Admission.....	12
Admission Requirements	12
Class Offerings	12
RELEVANT AFTER ADMISSION INFORMATION.....	15
Changing Concentrations after Admission	15
Delaying Enrollment.....	15
BookSmart Services.....	15
Library Research Assistance & Services.....	16
Information Technology Services	16
Contacting the Graduate School and the Department for Information.....	16
Advising and Registration	16
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS	17
REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS	19
CURRICULUM PLANS.....	24
Family Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan	24
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan	27
Required Documentation.....	31
Professional Liability Insurance	32
PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION.....	33
Time Limit on Completion.....	33
Meeting the Graduate School and Department Requirements	33

Grading	33
Attendance	33
Withdraw from the University	34
MSN PROGRESSION, READMISSION, AND REINSTATEMENT POLICY	35
MSN Course Progression	35
Process for MSN Readmission or Reinstatement.....	35
MSN Program Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee Assignment.....	36
STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRADE APPEALS	37
APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION	39
Advanced Health Assessment Mastery	39
Current Pharmacology	39
CERTIFICATION EXAM	39
POST-MSN CERTIFICATE INFORMATION	41
Application Process	41
Deadline for Application Submission	41
Application Requirements	41
Prerequisites.....	41
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum	43
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum	45
Family Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum	46
APPENDIX	48
EKU ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY.....	49
DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE POLICY	50
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES & BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGEN POLICY.....	51
LATEX SENSITIVITY/ALLERGY POLICY	52

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF NURSING

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the School of Nursing is to educate nurses at the Associate, Baccalaureate, Masters and Doctorate levels who work in interprofessional environments to promote health and well-being across the Commonwealth, country and world.

PREAMBLE

Eastern Kentucky University's Associate Degree Nursing Program was organized in 1965. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program was started in 1971. The programs became part of the newly established College of Allied Health and Nursing in 1975. In 1995, the Master's of Science in Nursing Program was approved and implemented. The department name was changed to Department of Baccalaureate & Graduate Nursing (DBGN). In 1999, the college name was changed to the College of Health Sciences. In 2011, the first class of post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice students was admitted. The RN to BSN and graduate level programs began transitions to online in 2012. The online format of the RN to BSN, Master's of Science in Nursing (MSN) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs creates an educational opportunity open not only to nurses in Kentucky, but in many states. In 2020, the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program joined the DBGN. The department name was changed to the School of Nursing (SON), reflecting the new organizational structure. The ASN program was renamed the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN) in 2021 to expand funding opportunities for students.

The beliefs of the faculty and students relevant to nursing and health care are set forth in the philosophy statement. The philosophy guides the educational programs and learning environments.

The School of Nursing within the College of Health Sciences functions as an autonomous educational unit deriving the broad outlines of aims and functions from the guiding values of Eastern Kentucky University. The College of Health Sciences affirms the University's guiding values of **Opportunity** (Community Engagement, Multiple Perspectives and Lived Experiences, Professional Growth, Hospitality, Celebration) and **Trust** (Consistency, Effective Communication, Accountability, Efficiency, Leadership). The foundations of professional nursing education are congruent with the purposes of the University and the College of Health Sciences.

Revised August 2025

ASSOCIATE NURSING EDUCATION

The Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN) degree provides the foundational education necessary to become a registered nurse. The AASN program incorporates knowledge in nursing and key biological and social science as well as the study of humanities. Graduates are eligible to sit for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing licensure examination (NCLEX-RN). Upon licensure, graduates are prepared to practice in a variety of care settings. Graduates of the AASN program exhibit competencies of human flourishing, nursing judgement, professional identity, and the spirit of inquiry.

Associate degree nursing education is a transformative journey for both students and faculty, grounded in mutual accountability and shared responsibility. Teaching is a collaborative and cooperative endeavor, where students and faculty work together to integrate experience, knowledge, and skills. Faculty serve as facilitators and role models, guiding students through the learning process. Graduates are equipped to engage in lifelong learning and to practice effectively across healthcare settings and delivery models.

Approved by Faculty Organization August 2025

BACCALAUREATE NURSING EDUCATION

Preparation for professional nursing requires liberal and professional baccalaureate education. Baccalaureate nursing education develops critical thinking, collaboration, and decision making. Baccalaureate graduates are prepared to function as providers of patient-centered care, designers/managers/coordinators of care, and members of a profession who are proactive in a changing health care system. Baccalaureate graduates must be professional, responsible, and accountable for evidence-based practice.

Baccalaureate nursing education is a transformative process for students and faculty and is a process of reciprocal accountability and responsibility. Teaching is a cooperative, collaborative venture. Students and faculty share responsibility for the integration of experience, knowledge and skills. Faculty serve as role models and facilitators. Graduates are prepared to pursue lifelong learning, function in a variety of health care settings, and delivery models, as well as specialize at the graduate level.

Revised August 2025

GRADUATE NURSING EDUCATION

Preparation for advanced nursing roles is obtained through graduate education in nursing. Graduate education in nursing further develops the intellectual skills of critical thinking, analytic inquiry, and problem solving which were initiated in undergraduate nursing education.

Building upon the foundations laid by baccalaureate education, the faculty recognizes the need for additional knowledge to prepare graduates for specialty practice and for advanced roles. The evaluation of theory and research in nursing and related fields is imperative for graduates to incorporate evidence-based practice into their advanced nursing roles. A higher level of synthesis, analysis, and application of advanced nursing knowledge is essential for performance of advanced nursing roles. The integration of the additional knowledge, theory, and skills is obtained through graduate education in nursing. The graduate develops professional concepts and behaviors in order to function in an advanced role.

Nurses prepared at the graduate level must collaborate with other health disciplines in providing innovative health care delivery. They do so as full partners, sharing the responsibility for delineating society's health goals, developing health care policy, and functioning as advocates for the health care consumer.

The faculty is committed to educating nurses at the graduate level who will contribute to the general health of the nation and globally. The educational process at the graduate level is collegial in nature and promotes independent, self-directed learning and self-evaluation. Students communicate the results of their discovery, analysis, and synthesis of knowledge both orally and in writing to prepare for increased autonomy and responsibility in advanced practice roles. Graduate education in nursing prepares nurses to serve as advanced practice nurses and leaders in the health care system.

ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE OUTCOMES

Graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing program will be able to:

1. Integrate advanced nursing knowledge, theories, and evidence from nursing and related disciplines to form clinical judgment, promote innovation, and improve patient and system level outcomes. (Domain 1)
2. Formulate and implement individualized, evidence-based care plans that are developmentally appropriate and integrate shared decision-making. (Domain 2)
3. Apply population-level data to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions that address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes for populations. (Domain 3)
4. Critically appraise, translate, and apply evidence into practice to improve care quality. (Domain 4)
5. Apply principles of safety science, quality improvement, and systems thinking to minimize harm and enhance patient and population outcomes. (Domain 5)
6. Collaborate within interprofessional teams to coordinate care and optimize health outcomes. (Domain 6)
7. Coordinate resources and apply evidence-based strategies to deliver safe, quality, cost-effective care to patients within a healthcare system. (Domain 7)
8. Integrate health informatics, data analytics, and emerging technologies to support clinical decision-making, manage care, and improve health outcomes. (Domain 8)
9. Demonstrate professionalism through ethical practice, accountability, and advocacy, reflecting the core values and responsibilities of the nursing profession. (Domain 9)
10. Demonstrate leadership behaviors that foster resilience, self-awareness, and lifelong learning. (Domain 10)

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR MSN PROGRAM

The Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing, published in 2021, by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, has been adopted as the professional standard to guide the MSN curriculum content as the components of master's education in nursing. ECU's MSN program has reviewed the curriculum carefully for consistency with these standards to better ensure a quality master's program. The AACN *Essentials* are organized into ten domains used to identify expected competencies for graduate. The essential curriculum elements are as follows:

The AACN Essentials (2021)

- **Domain 1:** Knowledge for Nursing Practice
- **Domain 2:** Person Centered Care
- **Domain 3:** Population Health
- **Domain 4:** Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline
- **Domain 5:** Quality and Safety
- **Domain 6:** Interprofessional Partnerships
- **Domain 7:** Systems-Based Practice
- **Domain 8:** Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
- **Domain 9:** Professionalism
- **Domain 10:** Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development

Students can access / review the full AACN Essentials (2021) at <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/Essentials-2021.pdf>

Specialty Curriculum Content

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Concentration: The specialty curriculum content for the FNP concentration uses as its standard *The Criteria for Evaluation of Nursing Practitioner Programs* 2022 from the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education. NONPF's Competencies for Nurse Practitioner Practice and Competencies for the Specialty concentration are used.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Concentration: The PMHNP concentration uses as its standard *The Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs* 2022 from the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education. NONPF's Competencies for Nurse Practitioner Practice and Competencies for the Specialty concentrations are used.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR ECU SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENTS

1. SON students must not transmit or place online individually identifiable patient or clinical agency information.
2. SON students must observe ethical and professional student-faculty and student-patient boundaries online. Online social media contact with faculty or patients blurs these boundaries, as defined by the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics (2015) and National Council of State Boards of Nursing Social Media Guidelines (2012).
3. SON students should understand that patients, colleagues, organizations and employers may view postings.
4. SON students must be aware that social networking venues are shared by patients, faculty, colleagues, and the public. Privacy settings should be utilized to separate personal and professional information online.
5. SON students should bring content that could harm a patient or student's privacy, rights, or welfare to the attention of appropriate authorities.

School Of Nursing Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy

AI tools may be used in this course unless an assignment states otherwise. Approved uses may include brainstorming, outlining, revising your own writing, or asking AI to explain course concepts. You must follow the instructor's required disclosure method each time you use AI and ensure all submitted work reflects your understanding and original thinking. Failure to disclose required AI use or using AI in prohibited ways may constitute cheating or plagiarism under ECU's Academic Integrity regulation (<https://www.ecu.edu/in/policies/academic-integrity/>).

If you use artificial intelligence tools for any assignment in this course, you must follow the instructor's required method for documenting your AI use. The instructor will specify the exact disclosure method for each assignment. If you do not disclose your AI use when disclosure is required, it will be considered a violation of ECU's Academic Integrity regulation. Students who want general information about ECU-approved AI platforms and safe data-handling practices may review the ECU AI Guidance webpage (<https://www.ecu.edu/in/guides/ai-guidance/>). For information on ECU's approved AI platforms (Microsoft Copilot and Google Gemini) and guidance on secure use with ECU credentials, see the ECU AI Guidance webpage.

AI Use Statement: Include the following standardized statement in your assignment to acknowledge your use of AI tools:

I used artificial intelligence tools in the preparation of this assignment. Specifically, I used [insert] AI tool name(s) in the following ways:

- *[Describe the specific tasks completed with AI, such as generating ideas, outlining, drafting, revising, translating, coding, etc.]*
- *[Describe how you refined the output, such as revising prompts or requesting clarifications.]*
- *[Describe how you checked the accuracy of AI-generated content, including factchecking or consulting reliable sources.]*

I affirm that I have taken all necessary steps to ensure the originality and accuracy of the material and data used in this assignment, and I certify that this work represents my own creativity and critical thinking, adhering Eastern Kentucky University's Academic Integrity regulation.

Place this statement at the beginning of every assignment where AI tools were used, as directed by your instructor.

Use of Personal Electronic Devices: Personal electronic devices, including laptops, tablets, and smartphones may be used only for course-related activities. These tools can support learning but may also become distractions. If a device disrupts your focus or the learning environment, the instructor may ask you to put it away. Students with documented accommodations that require device use should speak with the instructor at the start of the course to arrange

appropriate support. Students must also review the Use of Artificial Intelligence section for rules governing AI-enabled tools. **AI-enhanced wearables (including, but not limited to, devices such as Meta Ray-Bans and the Humane AI Pin) are prohibited during class sessions and at any time during examinations or quizzes.**

Intellectual Property

Materials developed for this course—including lectures, assignments, assessments, slides, and other instructional resources—are the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be shared, posted, or uploaded to any platform, including AI tools, without the instructor's permission.

Your own coursework is your intellectual property unless otherwise specified. You may not upload the work of others—including peers' discussion board posts, group-project materials, drafts shared in peer review, or any other student-created content—to any AI tool or external platform. Do not upload assignments, drafts, or materials containing personally identifiable information (such as your name, student ID, or details about others) into an AI tool unless the tool is University-contracted and approved for that use. Even when using University-contracted tools, it is best practice to remove or avoid including protected or sensitive information.

ADMISSION TO THE MSN PROGRAM

Graduate School Application Process

A student seeking admission to the graduate nursing program at Eastern Kentucky University must apply for admission to the Graduate School, https://application.eku.edu/portal/apply_eku indicating the desired concentration. The student is responsible for submitting completed materials to the Graduate School, including the Graduate School Application Form and transcripts of all previous college work (except course work taken at Eastern Kentucky University). Applications for admission to the Graduate School are available from the Graduate School website, <https://www.eku.edu/in/graduate-school/>.

MSN Professional Statement – The statement is considered a very important part of your application. Faculty use the statement to evaluate your written communication skills as well as to evaluate the relationship of your career goals to those of the program. In your professional statement, you must describe:

1. the unique role of the advanced practice MSN-prepared FNP or PMHNP.
2. how the specific nursing knowledge and skills you have gained through professional experience will contribute to your success in the FNP or PMHNP program.
3. your reasons or motivations for pursuing an advanced practice FNP or PMHNP degree.
4. your specific plans for life modification in order to successfully meet the class and clinical requirements in a 100% online graduate level nursing program.

If you have any questions about the process, contact your Online Academic Advisor.

References

Suggestions for references include supervisor/employers, professional contacts such as nurses, nurse practitioners, educators, medical colleagues, or administrators who are familiar with your professional work experience and whose role is related to your choice of concentration; and faculty members from your most recent academic degree. At least one reference should be from someone in a leadership or supervisory role. References from family members, friends, and social contacts are not considered professional in nature. As part of the application, the email addresses of three references will need to be provided. Upon submission of the application, electronic reference forms will be emailed to the email addresses provided. Please inform individuals submitting references that your application file cannot be completed until these forms are received by the ECU Graduate School.

Deadlines for Application Submission

Application deadlines are published on the following website:
<https://www.eku.edu/chs/nursing/>

Selection of Applicants for Admission

Attendance in the Graduate School is a privilege, not a right; therefore, an applicant is guaranteed neither admission to nor completion of the program. As a limited number of applicants are accepted for admission, selection will be based on a careful consideration of all admission information and the degree to which each candidate meets the requirements.

Admission Requirements

Minimum requirements for admission to the program include:

- Baccalaureate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited program
- Current and unencumbered Registered Nurse license for all states in which student is licensed
- Applicants must have a minimum of one year of RN experience by the time their application is submitted
- Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 (4.0 scale) cumulative
- Three-hour graduate or undergraduate course in statistics with a grade of “C” or higher

Admission is competitive and limited to available space. In addition to the above criteria, consideration is also given to the applicant’s professional work experience, the applicant’s goal statement, and three required professional references. Please refer to the School of Nursing website at <https://www.eku.edu/chs/nursing/> for specific information on the application process for admission and progression plans for study, contact your Online Academic Advisor.

Class Offerings

Classes are fully online with some synchronous classes utilizing web video conferencing technology. Students are required to have high-speed internet access or be able to travel to a site that does. It is the student’s responsibility to have the following throughout the online program:

- Adequate computer capability and compatibility, including Microsoft Office 365, which includes the most recent version of MS Word and PowerPoint. [EKU Information Technology](#) provides access to both online and offline versions of Microsoft Office 365. Please check with IT for the most current way to access these tools.
- High-speed internet connection
- Web camera (if using a desktop must have mobile camera)
- Head set with microphone

Course Technology

Students are responsible for having access to the following throughout the online program:

Exemplify System Requirements:

1. You must take the assessment on a desktop computer or laptop (not a tablet or phone).
2. You must have a working (built-in or external) webcam and microphone (if using a desktop must have mobile camera).

- **Computer:** A compatible laptop or desktop with adequate computing capabilities and Microsoft Office 365, including current versions of Word and PowerPoint. ECU Information Technology provides access to both online and desktop versions of Microsoft Office 365. Contact IT for current access instructions.
- **Minimum System Requirements (Effective Oct.15th 2026)**
 - **Desktop** 3.10.0 and 3.12.0
 - **Supported Operating Systems**
 - macOS: Sequoia, Tahoe, Golden Gate
 - Windows: Windows 11 24H2, 25H2, and 26H2
- **Internet:** Reliable, high-speed internet connection. Your Internet speed must be at least 2.5 Mbps. Determine your internet speed by running a test at: <http://www.speedtest.net>
- **Camera:** A laptop or desktop computer with a functioning camera for exams and quizzes.

Testing Procedures and Policies

The School of Nursing uses Examplify for online quizzes and exams. Students are responsible for ensuring their computers meet the [Examplify Minimum System Requirements](#). Students must use a laptop or desktop computer to complete examinations. **iPads and other tablet devices are not permitted for testing.**

All students must comply with the following testing policies and procedures.

General Testing Requirements

1. **Testing Window:** Quizzes and exams must be completed during the scheduled testing window and in one sitting. Students are encouraged to update their computer's operating system and browser and clear the browser cache before downloading an exam. The exam password will be provided through a course announcement at the beginning of the testing window.
2. **Testing Environment:** The desk and surrounding testing area must be clear of all unauthorized materials, personal belongings, and personally identifiable information. Course materials, watches, cell phones, smart pens, styluses, AI-enabled glasses, lapel pins, and other electronic devices are prohibited during testing. Scarves, hats, caps, and hoods that cover the head are not permitted unless worn for religious purposes.
3. **Academic Integrity:** Students must comply with all testing and proctoring requirements. Failure to comply may constitute an academic integrity violation and result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program.
4. **No Backtracking:** Students must answer each question before proceeding to the next. Questions cannot be skipped, and students cannot return to previous questions or change responses after advancing.
5. **Test Review:** Individualized test review is available only immediately after exam submission. Students may review missed questions and associated rationales. Students must remain visible on camera throughout the review process. Students may also schedule a review of test content areas with course faculty within one week of grade posting.
6. **Exam Submission:** After completing the test review, students must confirm that the exam has successfully uploaded, as indicated by the green confirmation message. Students must then close the browser to end the testing session.
7. **Grade Posting:** Grades will be posted within one week of exam completion and are considered final once posted.

Online Proctored Exam Requirements

All online proctored exams are recorded. Students must test in a private location, not in a public or work-related setting. No other individuals may be present in the room during testing.

Before beginning the exam, students must acknowledge the Academic Integrity Rules and enter the exam password. Once the exam opens, a reminder will appear that backtracking is not permitted.

Before answering the first question, students must complete the following steps:

1. Verify Identity: Clearly display a valid, government-issued photo ID to the computer camera.
2. Complete a 360-Degree Room Scan: Use the computer webcam to show the entire testing environment, including the desk, workspace, surrounding area, and underneath the desk or table.
 - The scan must be completed live using the computer webcam. Prerecorded scans or recordings made with a cell phone are not permitted and will be flagged for review.
 - Laptop users: Use the built-in webcam. Pick up and rotate the laptop to complete the scan, then return it to the testing position.
 - Desktop users: Use an external USB webcam with a sufficiently long cable. Temporarily remove the webcam from its mount to complete the scan, then reattach it before beginning the exam.
 - When possible, position the camera so that you are not visible while completing the room scan.
3. Verify Camera Position: After completing the room scan, ensure your entire face is centered and clearly visible on camera. The Monitoring tab may be opened at any time to view the camera preview and adjust positioning as needed.
4. Verify Cell Phone Placement: Show the cell phone to the camera to demonstrate that it is out of reach and that its screen is not visible.

During the exam and test review, students must:

- Remain seated upright at a desk or table, with their entire face centered and clearly visible on camera throughout the session.
- Refrain from talking, whispering, reading questions aloud, or silently mouthing words.
- Keep their attention directed toward the computer screen. Repeatedly looking away may be flagged for review.
- Remain alone in the testing environment and avoid any unauthorized activities or materials.
- Remain visible on camera until the test review is complete and the green confirmation message indicates successful exam upload. Students must then close the browser to end the testing session.

Proctoring Review and Noncompliance

Proctoring flags will be reviewed by course faculty to determine whether a testing violation occurred. Students are responsible for following all testing and proctoring requirements.

Failure to clearly display a valid government-issued photo ID or complete the required 360-degree room scan, including the area underneath the desk or table, may result in the quiz or exam being invalidated and a grade of zero (0).

Additional violations of testing policies may result in disciplinary action in accordance with School of Nursing and University academic integrity policies.

If any suspicious behavior is identified during the exam, faculty will determine whether a potential academic integrity violation occurred. If an academic integrity violation

occurred, the exam will be graded only through the point at which the violation occurred. Questions appearing after that point will not be graded, and no points will be awarded for those questions.

In the event of technical issue you can find the contact number for ExamSoft by accessing the “Exam Controls” button in the top right corner of the screen and then click “Exam Attachments”. There is not a live proctor available that can hear you.

Professional Behavior

Even though you are completing an off-campus experience, the expectation for professional behavior remains the same as if you were sitting in a classroom. This includes activities such as email correspondence with faculty, facilitators, interactions with proctors, and during online interactive sessions. As graduate nursing students, you are preparing to enter advanced practice roles that require integrity, accountability, and adherence to professional standards in all settings, including virtual ones. Please approach each proctored exam with honesty, respect for testing guidelines, and appropriate conduct to ensure a fair and equitable testing for all students.

RELEVANT AFTER ADMISSION INFORMATION

Changing Concentrations after Admission

After admission, should a student desire to change to a different concentration, the student should be aware that admission to one concentration does NOT guarantee admission to the other concentration. The student will need to submit an Application to Change Concentration form. Forms are available from your Advisor. Applications to change concentrations will be reviewed on a competitive basis along with the new applications.

Delaying Enrollment

Applications for students who do not enroll in the semester for which admission is granted or who withdraw prior to the add/drop date in their first semester course will be held by the School of Nursing for one year. After that time students must reapply for admission and submit all new department application material.

BookSmart Services

Eastern Kentucky University has partnered with Barnes and Noble to offer discounted textbooks for all ECU students. Students are automatically enrolled in the ECU BookSmart Program each semester unless they choose to opt out. The cost is \$26 per credit hour per semester, based on the student's total number of credit hours for that semester. BookSmart provides access to required course materials. Students who prefer to purchase textbooks and required course materials from another vendor may opt out of BookSmart each semester and are responsible for obtaining all required materials independently. For additional information

about BookSmart, visit the ECU BookSmart/ website:

<https://www.eku.edu/in/guides/booksmart/>

The "Official" ECU Bookstore is in the Powell Building, Richmond, KY 40475-3102, Telephone: 859-622-2696, Fax: 859-622-2660, Email: ekubooks@eku.edu. Website:

<http://eku.bncollege.com>

Library Research Assistance & Services

General library services include: access to over 150 databases, group and individual research assistance, in-person and electronic reference assistant discipline-specific subject guides (LibGuides: <http://libguides.eku.edu/nursing>), and assignment-based instruction via classroom or Canvas.

Upon request, articles, books, and other materials can be delivered to distance students via courier to the regional campuses or mailed to their home, if needed.

Information Technology Services

Every student registered with Eastern Kentucky University has access to a free ECU email address. Students are expected to check their email address on a daily basis as professors are required to use this resource as a primary contact for online classes. Use this website to activate e-mail account: my.eku.edu

Students complete online course registration using the link as well.

Assistance with account set up and other technology needs is available at the ECU IT Checklist for new students available here: [IT Services & Data Request Form](#).

ECU's ITDS **Helpdesk**/ serves as the first point of contact for all our computing needs. Call (859) 622-3000.

Contacting the Graduate School and the Department for Information

If questions or concerns arise, the Online Academic Advisor can answer or refer the student to the appropriate person. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm.

If a student needs to contact the Graduate School, the Graduate School staff is available during regular office hours. The telephone number for the Graduate School is (859) 622-1742.

Advising and Registration

Students register online through their myEKU account

(<https://experience.elluciancloud.com/eku/>). If registration is blocked for any reason, students must contact their Online Academic Advisor for assistance. A computerized DegreeWorks report is available for graduate students which lists their Online Academic Advisor. Students must always consult with their Online Academic Advisor before registering for classes. **In addition, it is very important that students consult with their Online Academic Advisor if they are planning on deviating from their curriculum progression plan under which they were admitted or if they are experiencing any academic difficulties.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NSC = Nursing

800 Advanced Practice Role. (2-4) **A.** Advanced practice clinical experience. Students will retake for the minimum number of credit hours required for their specialty concentration.

830 Advanced Pharmacology. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Application of pharmacotherapeutic principles to the treatment and management of conditions across the life span.

832 Advanced Health Assessment. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Emphasis is on the advanced skills necessary for Advanced Practice nursing in assessing the health status of clients from across the life span. Diagnostic reasoning and systems approach will be emphasized.

834 Advanced Pathophysiology. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Application of advanced principles of pathophysiology to the diagnosis and treatment of conditions across the life span.

840 Theoretical Appl. For Advanced Nursing. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Analyze the interrelationship of theory, research, and practice by exploring theoretical foundations and perspectives for evaluation and application in advanced nursing practice.

842 Advanced Nursing Practice Issues. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Analysis of professional issues and strategies which can facilitate the development of the nursing profession. Consideration of selected variable influencing the development and resolution of issues.

NSC 843 Informatics & Resources Management. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Evaluate health information technology to support decision-making and cost-effective resource management.

NSC 855 Population Health & Policy. (3) **A. Prerequisite:** Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Use data and stakeholder collaboration to advocate for evidence-based policies that enhance population health.

NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety. (3) **A.** Prerequisite: Admission to the MSN program or department approval. Prepares advanced practice nurses to lead systematic transformation in healthcare by synthesizing principles of safety, quality improvement, and organizational leadership.

NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP. (3) A. Prerequisites: NSC 840, with a minimum grade of B. Critical appraisal and synthesis of nursing and interprofessional research as a foundation for evidence-based advanced practice nursing.

870 FNP I. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, and NSC 840, each with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Course provides theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems.

872 FNP II. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 870, with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems. Builds on NSC 870.

874 FNP III (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 872, with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to confront problems relevant to the health care of individuals across the life span. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems. Builds on NSC 872.

876 FNP Internship. (5) A. Prerequisites: NSC 870, NSC 872, NSC 874, each with a minimum grade of B, and eight hours of NSC 800. Prerequisite/Co-requisite: NSC 842, with a minimum grade of B. Course allows you synthesis of theoretical and diagnostic knowledge in a concentrated primary care practicum. Emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention and management of common health problems in individuals and families across the life span.

880 PMHNP I. (3) A. Prerequisites: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, and NSC 840, each with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to diagnose and treat psychiatric disorders across the life span. Competencies in working with individuals are developed.

881 Applied Psychopharmacology. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 830, NSC 832, NSC 834, and NSC 880 each with a minimum grade of B. Applies theoretical and diagnostic knowledge related to prescribing psychopharmacological treatment of psychiatric disorders across the life span.

882 PMHNP II. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 880 and 881, each with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge used to treat psychiatric disorders across the life span. Competencies in working with families are developed.

884 PMHNP III. (3) A. Prerequisite: NSC 882, with a minimum grade of B. Co-requisite: NSC 800. Theoretical and diagnostic knowledge necessary to diagnose and treat psychiatric disorders across the life span. Group skills, community resources and the context of professional practice are examined.

886 PMHNP Internship. (5) A. Prerequisite: NSC 884, with a minimum grade of B, and eight hours of NSC 800. Prerequisite/Co-requisite: NSC 842, with a minimum grade of B. Synthesis of theoretical and diagnostic knowledge to promote mental health, maintain mental health, and prevent mental illness across the life span. Systematically examines opportunities for improving PMHNP practice.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

American Psychological Association. (current edition). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. American Psychological Association. (Used in multiple courses)

NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. For Advanced Nursing

- McEwen, M. & Wills, E. (current edition). *Theoretical Basis for Nursing*. Wolters Kluwer Publishing.

NSC 843 Informatics & Resources Management

- McBride, S., & Tietze, M. (current edition). *Nursing informatics for the advanced practice nurse: Patient safety, quality, outcomes, and interprofessionalism*. Springer Publishing

NSC 855 Population Health & Policy

- Knickman, J. R., & Elbel, B. (current edition). *Jonas and Kovner's Health Care Delivery in the United States*. Springer Publishing.

NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety

- Greenhill, R. (current edition). *Introduction to healthcare quality management*. Health Administration Press.
- Rath, T., & Conchie, B. (current edition). *Strengths-based leadership: Great leaders, teams, and why people follow*. Gallup Press.

NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP

- American Psychological Association. (current edition). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*.
- McEwen, M., & Wills, E.M. (current edition). *Theoretical basis for nursing*. Wolters Kluwer.
- Melnyk, B. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (current edition). *Evidence-based practice in nursing & health care. A guide to best practice*. Wolters Kluwer.

NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology

- Rogers, J. L. (current edition). McCance & Huether's pathophysiology: The biologic basis for disease in adults and children. Elsevier.

NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology

- Advanced Pharmacology Digital Clinical Experiences by Elsevier's Shadow Health
- Rosenthal, L. & Burchum, J. (current edition). *Lehne's Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants*. St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier.

NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment

- Advanced Health Assessment Digital Clinical Experiences by Elsevier's Shadow Health.
- Gawlik, K., Melnyk, B. & Teall, A. (current edition). Evidence-Based Physical Examination: Best Practices for Health and Well-Being Assessment. Princeton, NJ: Springer Publishing Company.

FNP Textbooks

NSC 870 & 872 FNP I & II

- Advanced Primary Care - Pediatrics Digital Clinical Experiences by Elsevier's Shadow Health.
- Buttaro, T. M., Trybulski, J., Polgar-Bailey, P., & Sandberg-Cook, J. (current edition). Primary care: Interprofessional collaborative practice.
- Domino, F.J., Baldor, R.A., Barry, K.A., Golding, J., Shih, G., & Stephens, M.B. (current edition). The 5-Minute Clinical Consult. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.
- Schuh, A.M., Kliegman, R.M., Ryan, K.S., Yale, S.C., & Mitchell, M.L. (current edition). Nelson Essentials of Pediatrics. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.

NSC 874 FNP III

- Advanced Primary Care – Women's Reproductive Health Clinical Experiences by Elsevier's Shadow
- Buttaro, T. M., Trybulski, J., Polgar-Bailey, P., & Sandberg-Cook, J. (current edition). Primary care: Interprofessional collaborative practice.
- Casanova, R., Goepfert, A.R., Hueppchen, N., Weiss, P.M., & Connolly, A. (current edition). Beckmann and Ling's Obstetrics and Gynecology. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer.
- Dinulos, J.G, Chapman, M.S. Werchniak, A.E., Barton, D.T., & WuChang, M. (current edition). Skin Disease Diagnosis & Treatment. New York: Elsevier/Saunders.
- Domino, F.J., Baldor, R.A., Barry, K.A., Golding, J., Shih, G., & Stephens, M.B. (current edition). The 5-Minute Clinical Consult. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.
- Schuh, A.M., Kliegman, R.M., Ryan, K.S., Yale, S.C., & Mitchell, M.L. (current edition). Nelson Essentials of Pediatrics. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.

NSC 800 I, II, III Advanced Practice Role

- Advanced Primary Care Adult Shadow Health & Women's Reproductive Health Primary Care by Elsevier's Shadow Health.
- Domino, F.J., Baldor, R.A., Barry, K.A., Golding, J., Shih, G., & Stephens, M.B. (current edition). The 5-Minute Clinical Consult. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.

NSC 876 FNP Internship

- Domino, F.J., Baldor, R.A., Barry, K.A., Golding, J., Shih, G., & Stephens, M.B. (current edition). The 5-Minute Clinical Consult. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.

PMHNP Textbooks

NSC 880 PMHNP I

- American Psychiatric Association. (current edition). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing
- American Psychological Association. (current edition). Publication of the American Psychological Association. (current edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Carlat, D. J. (current edition). The psychiatric interview (5th ed.). New York, NY: Lippincott, Williams & Williams.
- Dulcan, M.J. (current edition). Dulcan's Textbook of child and adolescent psychiatry. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association Publishing.
- Kilgus, M.D., Maxmen, J.S., Ward, N.G. (current edition). Essential psychopathology & its treatment. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
- Boland, R, Verduin, M.L. (current edition). Kaplan and Sadock's Synopsis of psychiatry: Behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
- Tusaie, K.R., Fitzpatrick, J.J. (current edition) Advanced practice psychiatric nursing: Integrating psychotherapy, pharmacology, and complementary and alternative approaches across the lifespan. New York, NY: Springer publishing Company, LLC.
- Wheeler, K. (current edition). Psychotherapy for the advanced practice psychiatric nurse. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company, LLC.
- Dulcan, M.K. (current edition). Dulcan's textbook of child and adolescent psychiatry. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association Publishing.
- Stahl, S. (current edition). Stahl's essential psychopharmacology: prescribers guide. New York, N.Y.: Cambridge University Press.

NSC 881 Applied Psychopharmacology

- Stahl, S. (current edition). Stahl's essential psychopharmacology. New York, N.Y.: Cambridge University Press.
- Stahl, S. (current edition). Stahl's essential psychopharmacology: prescribers guide. New York, N.Y.: Cambridge University Press.

NSC 882 PMHNP II

- American Nurses Association. (current edition). Scope and standards of psychiatric-mental health nursing practice. American Nurses Publishing, Washington, DC.

NSC 884 PMHNP III

- Hamric A.B., Hanson C.M., Tracy M.F., O'Grady E.T. (current edition). Advanced practice nursing: An integrative approach. St Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders.
- Wheeler, K. (current edition). Psychotherapy for the advanced practice psychiatric nurse. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company, LLC.

NSC 800 I, II, III Advanced Practice Role PMNP & NSC 886 PMHNP Internship

- **All previously required textbooks**

MSN Program Expenses

Desktop or Laptop Computer with headset and microphone (if using a desktop must have a mobile camera)

High-speed internet connection (must be at least 2.5Mbps)

Microsoft Office 365, which includes the most recent version of MS Word and PowerPoint
(provided to students via ECU OneLogin)

Otoscope/ophthalmoscope

Tuning fork

Reflex hammer

Stethoscope

Professional Liability Insurance (PLI)

Typhon Access

Course Fees

Accessibility Accommodation Statement

Students who are pregnant are encouraged to register with the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) by completing the following form:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?EasternKentuckyUniv&layout_id=44. Registering with the OEO provides students with an opportunity to discuss their individual needs and, when appropriate, request reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy.

CURRICULUM PLANS

Eastern Kentucky University

Family Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan

Fall Start Plan (Read Plan Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer A
NSC 843 Informatics & Resources Mgt. (3 credit hr)	NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hr)	NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. For Adv. Nursing (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hr) NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 870 FNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 (2 credit hours) full semester 	NSC 872 FNP II (3 credit hours) 	*NSC 800 (3 credit hours) over 12 weeks
NSC 874 FNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800 (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 876 FNP Internship (6 credit hours) full semester 		

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses.

Eastern Kentucky University
Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration
Spring Start Plan

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer A
		NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. For Adv. NSG (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hr) NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 870 FNP I (3 credit hours hours) NSC 800 (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 872 FNP II (3 credit hours) 	*NSC 800 (3 credit hours) over 12 weeks NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hr)
NSC 874 FNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800 (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 843 Informatics & Resource Mgt (3 credit hours) NSC 876 FNP Internship (6 credit hours) full semester		

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses.

Eastern Kentucky University
Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration
 Summer Start Plan

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer A
				NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 843 Informatics & resource Mgt (3 credit hr)	NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hr)	NSC 840 Theoretical Appl, for Adv. NSG (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hr)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 870 FNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 872 FNP II (3 credit hours) 	*NSC 800 (3 credit hours) over 12 weeks
NSC 874 FNP III (3 credit hours) full semester *NSC 800 (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 876 FNP Internship (6 credit hours) full semester		

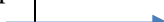
*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses.

Eastern Kentucky University

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan

Fall Start Plan (Read Plan Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer A
NSC 843 Informatics & Resource Mgt (3 credit hr)	NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hr)	NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. For Adv. NSG (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours) NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 880 PMHNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 881 Applied Psychopharm (3 credit hours) 	NSC 882 PMHNP II (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours)
NSC 884 PMHNP III (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (4 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 886 PMHNP Internship (5 credit hours) full semester		

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses.

Eastern Kentucky University
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan
 Spring Start Plan (Read Plan Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer
		NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. For Adv. NSG (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours) NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 	NSC 880 PMHNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 881 Applied Psychopharm (3 credit hours) 	NSC 882 PMHNP II (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours)
NSC 884 PMHNP III (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (4 credit hours) full semester **PLI	 NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hours) 	NSC 886 PMHNP Internship (5 credit hours) full semester NSC 843 Informatics & Resource Mgt (3 credit hours)		

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses.

Eastern Kentucky University
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Plan

Summer Start Plan (Read Plan Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer
				NSC 890 Synthesizing Evidence for ANP (3 credit hr)
NSC 843 Informatics & Resource Mgt (3 credit hr)	NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety (3 credit hr)	NSC 840 Theoretical Appl. for Adv. NSG (3 credit hr)	NSC 855 Population Health & Policy (3 credit hr)	NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours)
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester		NSC 880 PMHNP I (3 credit hours)	NSC 881 Applied Psychopharm (3 credit hours)	NSC 882 PMHNP II (3 credit hours)
NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours) full semester		NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours)
NSC 884 PMHNP III (3 credit hours)		NSC 886 PMHNP Internship (5 credit hours) full semester		
NSC 800 Advanced Practice (4 credit hours) full semester **PLI				

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

*****REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS*****

NSC 840 –Theoretical Appl. For Advanced Nursing	3 hours
NSC 843 Informatics & Resources Management	3 hours
NSC 855 – Population Health & Policy	3 hours
NSC 857 Leadership, Quality & Safety	3 hours
* NSC 890 – Synthesizing Evidence for ANP	3 hours
NSC 830 – Advanced Pharmacology	3 hours
NSC 832 – Advanced Health Assessment	3 hours
NSC 834 – Advanced Pathophysiology	<u>3 hours</u>
	24 hours

FAMILY NURSE PRACITIONER CONCENTRATION

Concentration Courses

NSC 870 –FNP I	3 hours
NSC 872 –FNP II	3 hours
NSC 874 –FNP III	3 hours
NSC 876 –FNP Internship	<u>6 hours</u>
	15 hours

In addition, must complete a minimum of 8 credit hours of NSC 800

Total Program Hours: 47 hours

OR

PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACITIONER CONCENTRATION

Concentration Courses

NSC 880 –PMHNP I	3 hours
NSC 881 – Applied Psychopharmacology	3 hours
NSC 882 –PMHNP II	3 hours
NSC 884 –PMHNP III	3 hours
NSC 886 –PMHNP Internship	<u>5 hours</u>
	17 hours

In addition, must complete a minimum of 8 hours of NSC 800

Total Program Hours: 49 hours

NOTE: *Three hours of graduate or undergraduate statistics is an admission requirement and is a prerequisite to NSC 890.

Concentration Courses

The didactic courses for the Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration are NSC 870, NSC 872, and NSC 874 and have a total of eight credit hours of NSC 800. The clinical practicum FNP Internship course, NSC 876, provides the remainder of the clinical hours in a clinical internship experience.

The didactic courses for the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Concentration are NSC 880, NSC 881, NSC 882, and NSC 884 and have a total of eight credit hours of NSC 800. The clinical practicum PMHNP Internship course, NSC 886, provides the remainder of the clinical hours in an intensive clinical internship experience.

Students should be aware that extensive clinical practice hours are required for completion of the program and preparation for the certification examination. Students should carefully consider the number of clinical practice hours as well as the credit hours when requesting concentrations. Students should also consider these issues when making decisions or employment status. Students should note that the required documentation (please refer to that section for details) must be presented each semester of enrollment before students can participate in clinical practice experiences.

Required Documentation

Students are required to provide consent and their information for enrollment in Nursys® e-Notify monitoring system upon admission to the program. Students must keep current the documentation listed below when enrolling in the following courses: Family Nurse Practitioner students: NSC 800, NSC 876; Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students: NSC 800, NSC 886.

1. A current and unencumbered Registered Nurse license for all states in which student is licensed.
2. Professional Liability Insurance purchased through Eastern Kentucky University.
3. Other documentation and/or requirements as specific to the clinical site.
4. Clinical contract and preceptor information form.
5. Telehealth Checklist for Family Practitioner students enrolled in NSC 800 and NSC 876.

If, at any point, the license is subject to reprimand, revocation, probation, suspension, restriction, limitation, disciplinary action, discretionary review/hearing or encumbrance or has any type of complaint filed against their license, students are required to immediately notify their Online Academic Advisor and Program Coordinator.

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional Liability insurance for all concentrations must be purchased through Eastern Kentucky University. The time period for coverage is August 15-August 14; no pro-rating for partial year coverage is possible. The liability insurance purchased through the University is paid for with the tuition and fees. The student must register for the liability insurance, using the appropriate CRN number, only one time for the August 15-August 14 period; the student will then be covered for the entire period. The insurance covers only clinical experiences which are part of scheduled classes, and the insurance will no longer be in effect if the student withdraws from school or graduates.

NOTE: ADDRESS ALL QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO SUBMIT REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO YOUR ONLINE ACADEMIC ADVISOR.

PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION

Time Limit on Completion

The Graduate School has policies regarding the total length of time a student may take from the first to the last class. See the *Graduate Catalog* for specific details. The department may place other restrictions on the time limit for program completion to promote currency and competency of graduate nursing students who are sitting for national certification examinations. Please refer to the MSN Program Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy section for more complete information.

Meeting the Graduate School and Department Requirements

Advisors in the department will work closely with students to facilitate meeting of requirements by both the department and the Graduate School. However, it is the student's responsibility to be knowledgeable of policies and deadlines and to ensure that they are in compliance.

Students should note carefully the required dates for submitting and filing materials, or their progression and graduation from the program may be delayed. The required dates and materials are published in the *Graduate Catalog*. Students should become familiar with the requirements and discuss them with their advisors.

Grading

The grading scale is given in each MSN required course syllabus. A minimum of a B is required in all of these courses. Please refer to course syllabi and the *Graduate Catalog* for information on grading. The School of Nursing's policy prohibits grades from being rounded up.

Attendance

Evidence supports students who regularly participate in class are more likely to succeed. Regular class, clinical, and lab attendance is expected of all students in order to meet the objectives of the program and legal requirements for licensure. The Attendance Policy of the School of Nursing is consistent with Eastern Kentucky University Regulation 4.1.6R. Please refer to this Regulation for examples of excusable reasons for absence and for more complete information on compliance with this regulation.

Consistent with this regulation, students should be prepared to provide appropriate verification of any absence. Students who are unable to resolve an absence issue with the instructor may appeal to the Department Chair. The Department Chair's decision is final.

Online students must proactively demonstrate connection, communication, and/or some other tangible participation during the first week of classes— per the course syllabus. If a student does not perform the required participation during the 1st week of class - that student will be dropped from the class.

Synchronous Video Conferencing Course Session attendance is expected of all students. The student should also refer to the course syllabus for more specific requirements.

Regular attendance for scheduled clinical practicum experiences is required of all students. If it is necessary to be absent for adequate reasons (see definition above), the clinical instructor (preceptor) and clinical faculty must be notified no later than one hour before the clinical experience is scheduled. Failure to do so could result in failure of the clinical component of the course. Students missing more than two clinical experiences will be subject to failure at the discretion of the individual clinical instructor. Tardiness to the clinical area is also unacceptable. A pattern of tardiness could result in failure in the clinical component.

Withdraw from the University

A withdrawal is granted only through midpoint of a course. See the [Colonel's Compass](#) for the exact date. Students who withdraw before the designated time will receive a "W" on their transcript. A student who leaves the University without officially withdrawing is subject to receive a grade of F. A graduate student who must withdraw after the above stated time period and is the victim of EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES may petition for administrative withdrawal from the University. See the Graduate Catalog for specific deadlines and directions for this procedure. Students who withdraw from the program are not guaranteed a place in the program at a later time. Please refer to the *MSN Progression, Readmission, and Reinstatement Policy* for more information.

MSN PROGRESSION, READMISSION, AND REINSTATEMENT POLICY

MSN Course Progression

To progress in the program, MSN students must achieve a grade of B or higher in all MSN required courses and a satisfactory grade in all clinical or internship courses.

A student who achieves less than a B or an Unsatisfactory will be immediately dismissed from all MSN required courses and the MSN program.

Process for MSN Readmission or Reinstatement

- A. Students who fail to achieve the required grade in a MSN required course must apply in writing to the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee by filing the *MSN Application for Readmission/Reinstatement* before taking any more MSN-required courses. It is the student's responsibility to file a readmission application at the end of the course in which an unsatisfactory grade is achieved. The application should be filed 60 days prior to the start of the term/semester in which the student is seeking readmission. Readmission is not guaranteed; the decision regarding readmission and progression in the program is based on the recommendation of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee. Based on the individual's curriculum plan there may be up to a year delay before they may re-enroll in a class. The department may place other restrictions on course progression for program completion to promote current knowledge and competency of graduate nursing students who are sitting for national certification examinations. The semester to which a student is readmitted must be within two years of the student's last enrollment. **Upon readmission the student may not use work from previous semesters.**
- B. Withdrawal from the MSN Program
Students who withdraw from a MSN course are considered to be withdrawn from the MSN program and must reapply for admission by filing the *MSN Application for Readmission/Reinstatement*. Students must apply 60 days prior to the semester starting in which they want to attend. The decision to readmit or reinstate the student will be based on factors such as the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal from the program, the student's standing at the time of withdrawal, the time period from the withdrawal until return to the program is requested, and spaces available in the program at the time the student would re-enter the program.
- C. Time limit on readmission to the MSN program
The Graduate School requires that master's degrees must be completed within 10 years. Students who are not actively enrolled in the master's program for 2 years are considered inactive by the Graduate School and will need to reapply to both the Graduate School and the School of Nursing.
- D. Reinstatement after Removal for Unsafe Practice or Unprofessional Conduct:
Unsafe practice is defined as any circumstance or set of circumstances which could potentially cause harm to the client served. Students deemed unsafe or unprofessional in the clinical setting and removed from the clinical areas will receive an unsatisfactory

grade in the clinical course and will be immediately dismissed from all MSN required courses and the MSN program.

Students seeking reinstatement into the program must apply in writing to the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee by filing the *MSN Application for Readmission/Reinstatement*. Students must apply 60 days prior to the semester starting in which they want to attend. The decision regarding reinstatement after receiving an unsafe or unprofessional practice evaluation is based on the recommendation of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee.

MSN Program Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee Assignment

A. Purpose

The purpose of the MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee is to promote quality of the program, to ensure safety of clients, and to assist the student with entry into and progression within the MSN program.

B. Committee Composition

The committee will be appointed by the Department Chair and will be composed of members of the department's Graduate Committee representing all program concentrations.

C. Meeting of Committee

When an application for readmission or progression is received within the dates specified in the policy, the committee will meet before the start of classes for the next term.

D. When students will be notified

Students applying for readmission or reinstatement will be notified within ten (10) business days following the meeting. Notification will be sent to the student's ECU student email address

E. Appeal of Decision

If a student elects to appeal the decision regarding progression, readmission, or reinstatement, the appeal must be made **in writing** in the following sequence:

1. Chair, MSN Admission/Progression/Readmission/Reinstatement Committee
2. Chair, School of Nursing
3. Dean, College of Health Sciences

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRADE APPEALS

Students who believe they have not been treated appropriately by any university official may file a complaint or grievance following the procedures listed in the *EKU Student Handbook*.

Please note that grade appeals and readmission appeals follow a separate policy and process.

If the complaint involves an academic affairs area, it is noted in the *EKU Student Handbook* as follows:

Academic Affairs Area

Complaints involving a particular class or instructor should be communicated to the instructor or faculty member directly involved. If a resolution is not reached, a complaint or grievance should be filed, in writing, with the Department Chair of the class where you are having a problem. If you are not satisfied with the Department Chair's explanation, the final appeal of the complaint or grievance procedure should be made in writing to the Provost or Vice President for Academic Affairs, Coates Room 108.

Complaints involving other areas than Academic Affairs should follow the procedures in the *EKU Student Handbook*. Any concerns involving discrimination or harassment should be directed to the Equal Employment Opportunity and Title IX Office, Jones Building, Room 416. Complete information is given in the *EKU Student Handbook*.

If the concern is related to a **grade appeal**, those policies should be followed specifically. The policy for appeal of a grade is given in the EKU Policy 4.1.15P ([Office of University Counsel](#)) and in the *EKU Student Handbook* as follows, with additional information specific to the School of Nursing.

Grade Appeal

If a student wishes to appeal a course grade, the procedure below should be followed:

- The student should consult with the instructor, seeking a satisfactory explanation. ***In the School of Nursing, if the instructor is not the coordinator of the course, the student should also consult with the course coordinator.**
- If, after consulting with the instructor, the student believes that a grievance exists, the student may present a complaint in writing outlining the basis of the grievance to the School of Nursing Chair within 30 days after the beginning of the next semester, exclusive of summer session.
- The School of Nursing Chair shall consider the matter in consultation with the instructor and the student and exercise influence towards mediation.
- If the grievance remains unsettled, the School of Nursing Chair shall, as soon as practicable, refer the matter to the departmental committee on academic practices composed of the School of Nursing Chair, two members of the School of Nursing elected by the faculty thereof (with one alternate member to serve in the event that one of the regular members is the person against whom the complaint has been lodged), and one student member chosen by the School of Nursing Chair. All members of the committee shall have voting privileges.

- Meetings of the School of Nursing Academic Practices Committee shall be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time, when all relevant parties can reasonably be expected to participate. A student who has agreed to a time for a meeting of the School of Nursing Academic Practices Committee and who does not appear at that meeting may forfeit the right to present evidence beyond that furnished in the original letter of appeal. Only the Committee members and the student may be present during the appeal meeting.
- After considering the evidence and any rebuttals submitted by the student and/or the instructor, the committee shall make a decision which shall be binding. All parties shall be informed of this decision within ten working days.
- Appeals from the committee's decision may be made on procedural grounds only and must be made within 20 days following notification of the School of Nursing committee decision. Such an appeal should be made to the dean of the college in which the course is offered and, if necessary, then to the Provost and the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

As noted above, appeals to the committee's decision can be made on procedural grounds only. Procedural violations would be a deviation from the above listed procedures. An example would be if the meeting was not scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time when all relevant parties could reasonably be expected to participate.

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

The Graduate School will send directions regarding applying for graduation. Applications are available online. Once the student applies for graduation the application is active for one year. A student planning to graduate in May should apply at the beginning of the preceding fall semester and pay applicable fees.

To be considered a candidate for graduation, students must have an overall and a program GPA of 3.0 or higher at the beginning of the semester in which they are to graduate.

Advanced Health Assessment Mastery

Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner MSN students, regardless of academic status, must achieve mastery of advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning **in the semester immediately prior to enrolling or re-enrolling in the first clinical course of the curriculum** (NSC 800). For Post-MSN Certificate students, the need for demonstration of mastery of health assessment and diagnostic reasoning competency will be evaluated on individual basis.

It is the responsibility of readmitted students and identified post-MSN certificate students to meet this requirement in the Fall semester before the first clinical course. If a readmitted MSN or post-MSN certificate student is required to but does not successfully demonstrate mastery of advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning, remediation will be required. Following remediation, a second attempt will be offered. If a student is unable to demonstrate mastery after remediation, the student may not enter or re-enter the first clinical course and if applicable, will be immediately dismissed from all MSN required courses and the MSN program.

Current Pharmacology

For Post-MSN Certification students who have current NP certification in another population focus or have taken another pharmacology course, the decision to repeat the pharmacology course will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

CERTIFICATION EXAM

Graduates who successfully complete the requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing degree or Post-MSN Certificate may apply to sit for the national certification examination for their Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practitioner (APRN) specialty area of preparation. A graduate who is successful on an approved certification examination and who meets their Board of Nursing requirements may also apply for registration as an APRN. Specific requirements for the certification examinations are listed in the information and application booklets provided by the agencies and on the agencies' websites. Students should visit the Board of Nursing's web site for their state or call the Board of Nursing for specific information on licensure and registration.

The SON seeks to collaborate with the Board of Nursing and other agencies involved in the examination and/or certification of nursing professionals to the fullest extent possible in the best interest of all students, the SON, and the University. There may be times, though, that, in order to provide examination and/or certification agencies (e.g., Board of Nursing) with all information and records sought, a student will be asked to complete a voluntary consent permitting SON to disclose relevant FERPA-protected information to such agencies. Students providing this consent often benefit as it can enhance the speed of remediation of any questions or concerns.

POST-MSN CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

The University offers a Post-Master's Certificate in a second nursing specialty or role for nurses who have completed a master of science in nursing degree. Students applying to or enrolled in the Post-MSN Certificate will plan to comply with all the policies of the Master's program with the following modifications:

Application Process

Individuals desiring a Post-MSN Certificate complete the same application process as listed above for MSN students, with the following exceptions: on the Graduate School application, http://application.eku.edu/portal/apply_eku, the prospective student should check certification rather than indicating intention to enroll in a degree program.

Deadline for Application Submission

Dates are published on the following website, EKU's online website, www.eku.edu/chs/nursing/.

Application Requirements

Minimum requirements for application to the Post-MSN Certificate program include but are not limited to: 1) a master of science in nursing degree from a nationally accredited program, 2) RN license from an approved state that is current and unencumbered, meaning that it has not been subject to reprimand, revocation, probation, suspension, restriction, limitation, disciplinary action, discretionary review/hearing or encumbrance nor had any type of complaint filed against it. 3) Applicants must have a minimum of one year of RN experience by the time their application is submitted. 4) If applicable, APRN license from an approved state that is free and encumbered, meaning that it has not been subject to reprimand, revocation, probation, suspension, restriction, limitation, disciplinary action, discretionary review/hearing or encumbrance nor had any type of complaint filed against it. Post-MSN Certificate applicants must also submit the above listed application materials listed for MSN Application.

Prerequisites

Prior to beginning the nurse practitioner clinical and core courses, students must complete the following courses with a minimum grade of a B: NSC 830 (Advanced Pharmacology), NSC 832 (Advanced Health Assessment), and NSC 834 (Advanced Pathophysiology) or equivalent courses.

Contact the Graduate Program Coordinators about equivalency of courses taken elsewhere or about enrollment in the courses at Eastern Kentucky. Additionally, all nurse practitioner students are required to demonstrate mastery of advanced physical assessment and diagnostic reasoning in the semester immediately prior to enrolling in the nurse practitioner course and clinical sequence (NSC 870, NSC 880, and NSC 800).

For Post-MSN Certificate students who have current NP certification in another population focus, mastery of health assessment and diagnostic reasoning competency and pharmacology will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Eastern Kentucky University

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum

If **have not had** Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Physical Assessment

Curriculum Prerequisites	Credit hours
NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology	3
PLUS	
NSC 880 PMHNP I	3
NSC 881 Psychopharmacology	3
NSC 882 PMHNP II	3
NSC 884 PMHNP III	3
NSC 886 PMHNP Internship	5
NSC 800 Concurrent enrollment	8
NSC 880, 882, 884 for total of	
Total	34

(Read from left to right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer
				NSC 834-Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours)
NSC 830-Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832-Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 880-PMHNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 881-Applied Psychopharmacology (3 credit hours)	NSC 882- PMHNP II (3 credit hours) NSC 800-Advanced Practice (2 credit hours)
NSC 884- PMHNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800-Advanced		NSC 886-PMHNP Internship (5 credit hours) full semester		

Practice (4 credit hours) full semester **PLI				
--	--	--	--	--

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum

If **have had** Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Physical Assessment

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer
		NSC 880-PMHNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 Advanced Practice (2 credit hours) full semester **PLI	NSC 881-Applied Psychopharmacology (3 credit hours)	NSC 882- PMHNP II (3 credit hours) NSC 800-Advanced Practice (2 credit hours)
NSC 884- PMHNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800- Advanced Practice (4 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 886- PMHNP Internship (5 credit hours) full semester		

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses

Eastern Kentucky University

Family Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum

If **have not had** Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Physical Assessment

Summer Start
(Read Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer	
				NSC 834 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours)	
NSC 830 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 832 Advanced Health Assessment (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 870 Health FNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 (2 credit hours) full semester	NSC 872 Health FNP II (3 credit hours)	NSC 800 (3 credit hours) over 12 weeks	
NSC 874 Health FNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800 (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 876 Health FNP Internship (6 credit hours) full semester			

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses

Eastern Kentucky University

Family Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate Curriculum

If **have had** recent Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Physical Assessment

Spring Start

(Read Left to Right)

Fall A	Fall B	Spring A	Spring B	Summer	
		NSC 870 FNP I (3 credit hours) NSC 800 (2 credit hours) full semester **PLI	NSC 872 FNP II (3 credit hours)	NSC 800 (3 credit hours) over 12 weeks	
NSC 874 FNP III (3 credit hours) full semester NSC 800 (3 credit hours) full semester **PLI		NSC 876 FNP Internship (6 credit hours) full semester			

*Need total of 8 hours of NSC 800

**Professional Liability Insurance is required for clinical courses

APPENDIX

EKU ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Eastern Kentucky University is a community of shared academic values, foremost of which is a strong commitment to intellectual honesty, honorable conduct and respect for others. In order to meet these values, students at ECU are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. These standards are embodied in this policy and the Student Code of Conduct. By honoring and enforcing this Academic Integrity Policy, the University community affirms that it does not tolerate academic dishonesty. This policy defines the various forms of academic dishonesty, and it outlines the consequences for each. Additionally, this policy gives the method for appealing a complainant's allegation that some form of academic dishonesty has in fact occurred.

Academic dishonesty can occur in different forms, some of which include cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication. The University treats all instances of academic dishonesty seriously.

Anyone who knowingly assists in any form of academic dishonesty shall be considered as responsible as the student who accepts such assistance and shall be subject to the same sanctions.

The Academic Integrity policy is located at: [Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards](#)

The AI Pledge, below, is administered through the Terms of Usage for ECU Direct.

The Pledge:

I hereby affirm that I understand, accept, and will uphold the responsibilities and stipulations of the Eastern Kentucky University Academic Integrity policy.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE POLICY

In order to protect patient safety and to comply with clinical agency requirements and applicable Board of Nursing recommendations, the following policy will apply to all students who are accepted into the MSN Program. All students are required to have a negative drug screen prior to entering their first clinical experience and may be subject to further drug/alcohol screenings at the discretion of SON Faculty and/or the clinical facility.

Any SON Faculty member or the student's clinical instructor, preceptor, or similar supervisor, in consultation with SON Faculty, has the authority to direct a student to immediately undergo a drug and/or alcohol screening when there is a "reasonable suspicion" of drug or alcohol use as indicated by the student's behavior, speech, body odor, or appearance. Specific behavior which could create a "reasonable suspicion" of drug or alcohol use includes any conduct that prevents the student from performing any essential function of the program or poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others as well as, for example, the following: odor of alcohol or drugs; unsteady or staggering gait; rapid or slurred speech; pinpoint or dilated pupils; unresponsiveness; bloodshot eyes; fine motor tremors; difficulty participating in activities or assignments; nausea; vomiting; sweating; erratic behavior; incoherent speech; verbal or physical outbursts; self-report of drug use or alcohol abuse; unsafe behavior; unsatisfactory care for others; and threats, to harm self or others.

Any student directed to immediately undergo a drug and/or alcohol screening will do so at the student's own expense and will be suspended from all educational and clinical activities until the issue is resolved to the satisfaction of the Department Chair. No University employee will be responsible for providing transportation to students who demonstrate signs of impairment, and any costs related to transportation to/from the screening site or elsewhere will be at the student's own expense.

If a student receives a positive drug and/or alcohol screening, violates this policy in any other manner, or admits to drug and/or alcohol use, the student will be deemed to have engaged in an unsafe practice and/or unprofessional conduct and will face disciplinary action, up to and including removal from the MSN Program. Breathalyzer tests done by law enforcement for suspected criminal impairment will also count as a positive alcohol screening. Any student who is directed to but refuses to immediately undergo a drug and/or alcohol screening will be treated as if the result were a positive drug and/or alcohol test. Depending on the circumstances, a student with a positive drug and/or alcohol screening may also be referred to law enforcement for possible criminal sanctions as well as to the University's Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, which could issue additional disciplinary measures up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University and/or eviction from University housing.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES & BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGEN POLICY

Although rewarding, the nursing profession is full of occupational risks, including potential exposure to diseases and bodily fluids. The School of Nursing recognizes the importance of minimizing the exposure of students and/or patients in a clinical setting to communicable diseases and blood-borne pathogens, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The SON emphasizes this through education regarding Universal Precautions, proper hand hygiene and disinfection/decontamination procedures, and collection of student immunization and health screening records. Students must adhere to the University Exposure Control plan as well as the Exposure Control Plan of the assigned clinical agency.

However, while steps can and must be taken to mitigate these risks, but such risks cannot be entirely avoided. Exposures to blood or body fluids that occur as a result of needle sticks, cuts, splashes, or sprays that occur during clinical experiences could result in transmission of blood borne disease (such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, or HIV). Care should be taken to ensure student and patient safety. In the event of an exposure, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. Wash site immediately and thoroughly with soap and water to remove and potentially infectious fluid and tissue. Flush mucous membranes with water.
2. Immediately report exposure to SON Faculty and, if applicable, to the appropriate authorities at the clinical site. Following care as outlined below, appropriate EKU Nursing Program and clinical agency forms also should be completed as directed.
3. Post-exposure care: Students should access care by proceeding to the nearest health care provider or emergency facility or, if applicable, by following the Exposure Control Plan of the clinical site, which may offer on-site medical care.
4. Follow-up of post-exposure care: Students should follow-up within a week at the facility where care was received to confirm that all blood tests have been reviewed and that appropriate treatment is in place. Additional follow-up may be required, and students must follow the advice of the health care provider.

A student's decision to participate in the MSN Program and otherwise pursue a career in the nursing profession demonstrates an understanding and acceptance of these inherent risks. Students bear responsibility for taking necessary precautions to minimize these risks to the fullest extent possible and, in the event of an exposure, are solely responsible for all financial costs associated with any necessary post-exposure care. Students are encouraged to promptly consult their insurance providers for any inquiries regarding coverage for post-exposure care as well as the associated processes and procedures.

LATEX SENSITIVITY/ALLERGY POLICY

Those persons with known sensitivity to latex shall be treated as if they have a known allergy. Students may be requested to provide documentation from their health care provider.

Purpose

To provide general information about latex products and potential types of allergic reactions. Procedure for those persons with sensitivity/allergy to latex.

Scope

Pertains to all students and faculty.

Responsibility

- Students are responsible for providing accurate allergy history.
- College will provide persons with non-latex gloves upon request in the laboratory setting.
- Students are responsible for preventing and/or limiting their exposure to latex in laboratory/clinical situations.
- If a latex sensitivity/allergy exists, the student understands that 100% prevention of exposure to latex in any laboratory/clinical situation may not be possible and that they may experience a life-threatening allergic reaction.
- Thus, if a latex sensitivity/allergy exists at any time during the program of study, the student must consult with their health care provider to determine whether pursuing a career in nursing is medically appropriate and feasible.