

MASTER of SCIENCE in Nursing ONLINE

Program Overview

The UMassD Master of Science in Nursing is a **fully online program** that offers asynchronous course work that enables students to learn on their own schedule. This MSN program is designed to prepare you to be leader in **nursing and healthcare education** or **global public health**.

Our two concentrations provide students with the foundational knowledge of healthcare systems, healthcare policy, nursing research methods and healthcare informatics. Advanced courses allow this knowledge to be applied in various practice settings. A final capstone project prepares you for a career using specialized, advanced nursing skills.

The nursing faculty create rich and meaningful student experiences that build on undergraduate education and clinical competencies and address the career aspirations of the student. Classroom, laboratory, and practice-based professional experiences are structured to expand the skills and grow the confidence of the student as nurse leaders. The support and collaboration of community partners - both nurses and healthcare agencies - are essential components of this program.

MSN concentrations

The **nursing and healthcare education concentration** prepares you to be a nurse educator in an academic, clinical, or staff development setting. The curriculum integrates core master's level concepts, advanced clinical foundations, and education-focused courses. It culminates in an intensive, individualized practicum, with a minimum of 112 practicum hours. Each student collaborates with an experienced educator to implement the role. The concentration is based on the nurse educator and professional development competencies develop by national organizations. Upon completion, you'll be prepared to design, implement, evaluate and revise academic and continuing education programs for nurses.

The **global public health concentration** prepares you to apply skills and knowledge using an ecological framework to improve health outcomes in domestic and global settings. The curriculum integrates core master's level concepts, advanced clinical foundations, and global public health-focused courses. It culminates in an intensive, individualized practicum with a minimum of 112 practicum hours. Each student collaborates with an experienced professional to implement the role. The graduate is prepared to work in with diverse individuals, families, and populations, to improve healthcare outcomes through illness prevention, health promotion, and health policy.

Degree Requirements

MS students complete 39 academic credits, including a mentored capstone project that involves the design, implementation and evaluation of an evidence-based innovation in nursing practice.

The MS in Nursing program prepares nurse leaders who:

- Synthesize specialized and diverse knowledge to apply in nursing practice.
- Apply principles of organization and system leadership to promote high-quality and safe patient care.
- Apply quality principles to improve an organization.
- Use evidence to guide nursing practice, address patient problems, and disseminate results.
- Interpret information from a variety of healthcare technologies to integrate and coordinate care.
- Influence health system and health policy to shape care delivery to individuals, families, groups, and populations.
- Engage in inter-professional collaboration to promote health, guide clients through the illness experience, and improve the health system.
- Apply the principles of culturally appropriate care to plan, deliver, manage, and evaluate healthcare to individuals, families, groups and populations.
- Influence healthcare outcomes through nursing practice by integrating advanced scientific, clinical, and systems knowledge.

Admission Requirements

This program begins in July and we recommend students apply as early as possible. Admissions is rolling, but seats are limited.

- Statement of purpose (Minimum 300 words)
- Resume
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (regardless if a credential is earned or not)
- Hold a current license to practice professional nursing where you live.
- Hold a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from a program accredited by the NLNAC or CCNE. Registered Nurses with a bachelor degree in a related field may seek admission through the GAP program. (see below)
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate study.
- Submit two references that document competence and leadership in professional integrity in nursing practice.

more on other side

GAP Admission

The Graduate Admissions Program (GAP) is open to registered nurses who hold a BS or BA degree in another field. GAP students take NUR 503 Transition to Advanced Practice Nursing in which they complete a portfolio that documents how they attained undergraduate nursing program outcome objectives. With an academic advisor, students review the portfolio and mutually agree to academic learning experiences that may be needed to round out their undergraduate preparation.

RN-MS Fast Track

An RN-BS student with GPA of 3.3 or better and the recommendation of the RN-BS degree track may take up to 9 graduate credits (from among the following courses NUR 500, 511, 520, or 547) that count as undergraduate electives. If the student applies and is admitted to graduate study immediately after receiving the BS degree, the courses will also count toward the MS degree.

Program Accreditation

The master's degree in nursing at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, 202.887.6791.

Contact information

Questions?

online@umassd.edu

508.999.9202

508.910.9060

umassd.edu/online

Please forward all credentials to:

Online & Continuing Education

UMass Dartmouth

285 Old Westport Road

Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300