Application requirements

• Nursing degree
  – For Post-Baccalaureate: BSN, BAN, or entry-level MN degree
  – For Post-Master’s: MSN in a nursing specialty
• Valid RN license
• Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 from the most recently obtained degree
• Curriculum Vitae/resume
• Essays
• Three professional references
• English Language Proficiency Exam (if applicable)
• Professional nursing experience (varies by specialty)
• Official transcripts from all post-secondary schools

How to apply
Submit your application through NursingCAS. The online system will alert you if items are missing and will verify that your application is complete. Selected applicants, based on a holistic admissions review, will be invited to participate in an interview with faculty.

Dates and deadlines
Application opens: September 1
Priority deadline: October 15
Final deadline: February 1

The nurse anesthesia specialty has an earlier application cycle. Check the school’s website for details.

Post-Baccalaureate applicants must apply by the priority deadline to be considered for a $20,000 Bentson Scholarship. Applications accepted on space available basis following the priority deadline.

Learn more about the DNP program, ask a question or register for an online information session.
The post-baccalaureate DNP program can be completed in three years full time. Specific full- and part-time program plans for each specialty can be found online. The on-campus requirements vary by specialty.

The post-master's DNP program can be completed in one year full time, almost entirely online, with just one visit to campus each semester.

All DNP students convene together once a semester for a four-day experience that includes coursework, special programs and meetings with faculty mentors and advisers.

Curriculum
All DNP students take the same core courses that cover topics including:
- Advanced nursing practice
- Health system problem solving
- Evidence-based care improvement
- Leadership
- Health policy and advocacy

Your practicum placement experience
Providing high quality, diverse practicum experiences for all students is a top priority for the School of Nursing. The school maintains relationships with more than 250 sites in a broad range of settings. You will be carefully placed in settings that provide a rich array of experiences that match your specialty focus and interest areas. The school assumes all responsibility for securing your practicum placements within Minnesota and will work closely with students seeking practicums outside of Minnesota.

Cost and financial support
The estimated cost of attendance is approximately $11,300 per semester. This includes tuition, University and School of Nursing fees and student health insurance. This does not include travel, lodging or educational materials/books.

Post-master’s
Nurses who already hold a master’s degree in an advanced practice area pursue the post-master’s route. Advanced practice nurses seeking to pursue a new specialty through the DNP program should apply through the post-baccalaureate route.

Post-baccalaureate
Registered nurses with a bachelor’s degree or an entry-level master’s degree in nursing should pursue the post-baccalaureate route in one of 12 specialties.

Post-baccalaureate specialties
- Adult Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Adult Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Health Innovation and Leadership*
- Integrative Health and Healing
- Nurse Anesthesia
- Nurse Midwifery
- Nursing Informatics*
- Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Primary Care Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner
*
Requires only one on-campus visit per semester

Two pathways, one degree

Length and commitment
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About the School of Nursing
As part of a large research institution, with schools of pharmacy, dentistry, medicine, public health, veterinary medicine and allied health programs, nursing graduates students learn and practice in interprofessional teams and may participate in clinical research projects.

The School of Nursing’s field-shaping research faculty are continuously discovering new and more effective interventions to improve health, reduce costs and enhance the patient experience.

As a DNP student here, you benefit from:
- Excellent mentors: Learn from faculty mentors who are nationally and internationally recognized as leaders in practice, education and research.
- Vast practicum opportunities: Gain experience in a diverse array of practicum environments and learn from highly qualified experts, all working in partnership with the school’s faculty.
- Program flexibility: The hybrid curriculum gives you the flexibility you may need to balance school, family and work demands.
- Financial support: Scholarships from the school total $1.2 million for DNP students each year. This includes tuition, University and School of Nursing fees and student health insurance.

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