



Expand your Nursing Horizons

If you're a nurse with a passion for patient and family care and have a commitment to lifelong learning, a career as a family nurse practitioner could be for you.

Western Carolina University's Master's of Science in Nursing degree in the Family Nurse Practitioner track prepares students with the necessary competencies to become a family nurse practitioner in acute care and clinic settings.

Western Carolina University School of Nursing also offers Masters Programs in Nurse Administration, Nurse Anesthesia and Nurse Educator.



GRADUATE SCHOOL & RESEARCH

Enka Campus
1459 Sand Hill Rd.
Candler, NC 28715

SCHOOL OF NURSING
828.670.8810, ext. 222 | 866.WCU.GRAD
jshirley@wcu.edu | nursing.wcu.edu

GRADUATE SCHOOL & RESEARCH
828.227.7398 | 800.369.9854
westerngrad.com

DISTANCE EDUCATION
edoutreach.wcu.edu

FINANCIAL AID
finaid.wcu.edu



GRADUATE PROGRAM
Family Nurse Practitioner





GRADUATE PROGRAM

Family Nurse Practitioner

The Master's of Science in Family Nurse Practitioner is a three-year program consisting of 49-53 semester hours. Courses are taught online or at the Enka campus on Tuesdays and clinical placements are arranged with a preceptor in a location and setting determined by your interest.

Core Advanced Nursing Courses You will focus on core issues in advance practice nursing.

- NSG 501 Roles and Issues
- NSG 510 Theory for Advanced Practice Nursing
- NSG 511 Research for Advanced Practice Nursing
- NSG 516 Economics of Healthcare in Organizations
- NSG 517 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses These courses will prepare you for specific competencies required of family nurse practitioners.

- NSG 622 Pharmacology
- NSG 623 Physical Assessment
- NSG 624 Rural Health
- NSG 627 Diagnostics
- NSG 671 Behavior
- NSG 673 Reproduction/OB-GYN
- NSG 674 Pediatrics
- NSG 675 Primary Care of Adults and Elderly Adults

Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical Courses These clinical courses provide the hands-on experience needed to prepare students for the practice setting.

- NSG 625 Physical Assessment
- NSG 683 Reproduction
- NSG 684 Pediatrics
- NSG 685 Adult
- NSG 686 Primary Care

Advanced Nursing Project or Thesis Your scholarly project will examine a significant problem in family nurse practice. You may choose to do either an Advanced Nursing Project or a traditional Master's Thesis.

NSG 679 or NSG 699

Culminating Experiences Your success will be measured by a comprehensive exam at the end of your coursework. An oral presentation of your project is required. An oral presentation and oral defense of your thesis is required. You will be required to submit your project or thesis for publication.

Application Process

1. Apply online at westerngrad.com. You will be asked to submit your transcripts, your GRE scores, 3 letters of recommendation, a professional statement, your resume and a \$40 application fee. Specific instructions on recommendations, professional statement and resume are available at the application website.
2. Applicants under consideration will be contacted for an interview by the School of Nursing's Graduate Admissions Committee.

Admission Requirements

1. **Registered Nurse:** All applicants must hold an unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse.
2. **Educational Background:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing awarded by a school of nursing accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN) or by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework.

3. **One year work experience as a Registered Nurse within the past five years.**

4. **Completion of Prerequisite Coursework:** Introductory-level statistics course and a Nursing Research Course with an earned grade of C or better.

5. **Satisfactory Performance on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE):** Applicants should score at least 850 on the combined verbal and quantitative reasoning tests within the last five years. GRE is waived if student holds a graduate degree.

6. **Recommendations** which document potential for academic success, including recommendations from a current, immediate supervisor.

Admission and program requirements are subject to change at any time. Visit nursing.wcu.edu for the most current requirements.

Post Graduate Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program

This certificate is available for those students who have earned a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree or those with a master's degree in a related discipline. The postgraduate certificate program requires 38 semester hours of study and courses are taught online or at the Enka campus on Tuesdays. Courses required for the certificate program are:

- NSG 517 Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nursing
- NSG 622 Pharmacology
- NSG 671 Behavior
- NSG 627 Diagnostics
- NSG 623 Physical Assessment
- NSG 624 Rural Health
- NSG 625 Physical Assessment Clinical
- NSG 674 Pediatrics
- NSG 684 Pediatrics Clinical
- NSG 673 Reproduction/OB-GYN
- NSG 683 Reproduction Clinical
- NSG 675 Adult
- NSG 685 Adult Clinical
- NSG 686 Primary Care Clinical