What is a DNP?
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is designed to prepare experts in nursing practice. It is the pinnacle of practice-focused nursing degrees, building upon master's programs by providing an educational foundation in quality improvement, evidence-based practice, and systems leadership, among others. DNP-prepared nurses bring a blend of clinical, leadership, economic, and organizational skills that puts them in a unique position to incisively critique nursing practice and design patient care programs that are economically feasible, locally acceptable, and that significantly impact healthcare outcomes.
https://www.doctorofnursingpracticednp.org/what-is-a-dnp

Admissions			
What does the student need in order to apply for a DNP/PhD program?			
9th	**10th**	**11th**	**12th**
● Introduce a Doctorate degree 　○ Description 　　■ Research based 　○ Length	● Detailed information about Doctoral program and track program	● Describe the responsibilities of each job within each program	● Admission Requirements for programs

- **Ninth Grade**
  - **What is a DNP?**
    - The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is the highest level of education in the nursing field. The DNP can be completed in three to six years of study, depending on the program and personal schedule. To enter the program, schools will require applicants to hold a master's degree in nursing. However, some schools will allow students with a Bachelor's degree to take the program.
    - Doctor of Nursing Practice programs emphasize areas that support nursing leadership. The program delivers practice-based training on the clinical applications of higher-level nursing knowledge; other terminal degrees focus on research skills, scholarly inquiry or high-level specialty skills.
      - https://www.nursing.org/degrees/dnp/
  - **What is the length of each DNP program?**

- The DNP program is a 5-8 semester program depending on what specialization they choose.
    - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm
- The PhD program is an 8-12 semester program depending on the student's schedule.
    - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/phd/default.htm#panel3d
- The BSN-DNP Nurse Anesthesia program is a 9 semester program.
    - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/anesthesia/
- The BSN-DNP Nurse Practitioner program is a 9-12 semester program depending on the student's schedule.
    - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/bsndnp/

- **Tenth Grade**
    - **What is the difference between each Doctorate program?**
        - The DNP program is a post-master's program that admits nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), nurse directors, and nurses focused on informatics.
            - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm
        - The mission of the PhD Program in Nursing at Cizik School of Nursing is to prepare nurse leaders in the profession. Graduates of this program will lead the development and dissemination of knowledge through the conduct of nursing and interprofessional research. Through the integration of theory, research, and practice, our goal is to prepare nurse scientists who will improve health and health care.
            - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/phd/default.htm
        - The Nurse Anesthesia program prepares graduates to manage the anesthesia needs of patients of all ages. Students will develop expertise in the areas of pre-anesthetic assessment and evaluation, anesthesia planning, anesthesia administration and monitoring, and postanesthetic care. The program prepares graduates to administer all types of anesthesia, including general, regional and neuraxial anesthesia, along with sedation techniques.
            - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/anesthesia/
        - The BSN-DNP program is not an addition to master's studies, but rather an integration of the objectives and learning opportunities required for attainment of doctoral level core and

population-focused competencies, in this case DNP-prepared Family Nurse Practitioner focus, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner DNP, or Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner DNP.

- https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/bsndnp/

- **Eleventh Grade**
  - **What are the job responsibilities within each DNP program?**
    - The graduate from the DNP program will:
      - Managing other nurses and staff
      - Leadership roles in providing patient care
      - Development of policies and procedures
      - Conducting research
      - Educating patients and the public on health care issues
        - https://www.allnursingschools.com/dnp/career-paths/
    - The graduate from the Nurse Anethesist program will work in collaboration with surgeons, anesthesiologists, dentists, podiatrists, and other professionals to ensure the safe administration of anesthesia. Some of their responsibilities include providing pain management, assisting with stabilization services, and overseeing patient recovery. These services may be used through all phases of surgery and for diagnostic, obstetrical, and therapeutic procedures as well.
      - https://www.nursepractitionerschools.com/faq/what-is-a-nurse-anesthetist/
    - The majority of Ph.D. nurses pursue careers in either the research or teaching fields, so their day-to-day duties will vary depending on which career track they have chosen.
      - For a nurse researcher, typical duties may include:
        - Identify research questions, and design and conduct scientific research in partnership with other scientists from various fields
        - Collect and analyze scientific data and publish reports detailing findings
        - Write proposals and apply for grants to help fund their research

- ○ Establish and maintain quality assurance programs to ensure the validity of their data findings
  - ○ Train and supervise laboratory staff and other nurses or scientists
- ● For a Ph.D. nurse educator who has chosen to pursue a faculty position, typical duties may include:
  - ○ Plan, prepare and revise curriculum and study materials for nursing courses
  - ○ Deliver lectures to undergraduate and graduate level nursing students
  - ○ Supervise students' laboratory and clinical work
  - ○ Grade students' classwork, laboratory and clinical performance
  - ○ Mentor and advise students' regarding their future work in the nursing industry
- ● For faculty members who pursue department chair or administration roles, additional duties may include:
- ● Hire, supervise and conduct performance reviews of faculty members
- ● Assist with the scheduling of classes and professors
- ● Oversee department curriculum and provide quality control as to the content and materials of given nursing courses
  - ○ https://www.registerednursing.org/phd/

- ● **Twelfth Grade**
  - ○ **What are the admission requirements for each DNP program?**
    - ■ The admission requirements for the DNP program are:
      - ● Baccalaureate degree in nursing earned from a nationally accredited program.
      - ● Master's degree or post-master's certificate earned from a nationally accredited program with a 3.0 GPA or above as an
      - ● advanced practice registered nurse (clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner or nurse anesthetist),
      - ● nurse leader, or
      - ● MBA/MPH or equivalent prepared registered nurse with leadership experience (nurse executive option).

- Graduate level nursing or equivalent research course with a grade of B or higher.*
- For advanced practice nurse:
  - eligibility or approval to practice as an advanced practice nurse by the Texas Board of Nursing.
  - proof of current certification by a nationally recognized credentialing organization.
- Minimum of one (1) year work experience in the advanced practice role.
  - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/admit-dnp.htm

- The admission requirements for the PhD program are:
  - A Baccalaureate degree in nursing earned from an accredited program.
  - A Master's degree preferably in nursing from an accredited school.
  - Eligibility for licensure to practice as a registered nurse in Texas. Evidence of national certification in a nursing specialty is desired, but not required for admission.
  - GRE scores *(if applicable)*
  - TOEFL scores *(if applicable)*
    - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/admit-phd.htm

- The admission requirements for the Nurse Anesthesia program are:
  - Official scores for the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) taken within five years preceding application.
  - A baccalaureate degree in nursing earned from an accredited program. Applicants must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
  - A completed basic statistics course.
  - A completed Organic Chemistry I or Biochemistry course with a grade of 'B' or higher taken within the last 5 years.
  - Evidence of current Texas nursing licensure.
  - Minimum one year work experience in critical care as a registered nurse, two years preferred.
  - BLS, ACLS, and PALS certification.
  - One official copy of TOEFL score if international applicant. TOEFL scores can be no more than two (2) years old and a minimum score of 550 is required on the paper exam, a

minimum score of 213 on the computer-based exam, or a minimum score of 86 on the internet-based exam.

- https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/admit-ane.htm

Programs and Professions in Nursing			
What certificate/degree can the student get in the nursing field?			
9th	10th	11th	12th
● Nursing Introduction	● Types of schools to obtain certificate/ degree at ○ Tech. school (certificate) ○ Commun. College (certificate, associate's)	● Job Opportunities	● Job statistics ○ Pay ○ Job growth

- **Ninth Grade**
  - **Nursing Introduction**
    - There are many different levels of professions available in the nursing field. The lowest level would be the Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), then the Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN), followed by a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN), Master's of Science in Nursing (MSN), and Doctorate in Nursing (DNP). Each one of these levels takes different amounts of time to obtain, and have very different job opportunities and responsibilities. https://nursejournal.org/articles/types-of-nursing-degrees/

- **Tenth Grade**
  - **What are the types of schools can the student earn these at?**
    - Technical schools
      - Technical schools, also known as "vocational schools" offer targeted, shorter instruction at a lower tuition, or cost, leading to a certificate or an associate's degree. Many

technical schools in Texas offer dual enrollment opportunities for high school students.
https://scitexas.edu/technical-school/
- ■ Community College
  - ● A community college is an institution that offers short term certificates or two year associate's degrees. Associate's degrees transfer and often lead to four year degrees at partnering universities. Many community colleges in Texas offer dual enrollment opportunities for high school students. They typically offer less expensive education than four year universities. Most community colleges have open enrollment, meaning there are very few requirements for admission.
    https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2012/03/what-is-community-college
- ■ College
  - ● A college is a four year institution that offers degrees in specific areas of study (i.e. medicine or law). These degrees can lead to graduate or professional school. Colleges may have open enrollment or may have strict admission requirements.
    https://www.trade-schools.net/articles/college-vs-university.asp#university
- ■ University
  - ● A University is a four year institution that offers many different degrees through multiple "colleges" located on the same campus. Typically a university may have a "College of Education" or a "College of Health Sciences". Universities also usually offer graduate (Master's, Doctorates) and professional degrees. Typically, universities have strict admission requirements that include grades, placements tests, and admissions tests like the SAT/ACT.
    https://www.trade-schools.net/articles/college-vs-university.asp#university

- **Eleventh Grade**
  - ○ **Where can the graduate work with the DNP degree?**
    - ■ Graduates with a DNP degree can work at or as:

- Nurse practitioners (NPs)
- Certified nurse-midwives (CNMs)
- Certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs)
- Clinical nurse specialists
- Chief executive officer
- Chief operating officer
- Chief information officer
- Chief nursing executive officer
- Chief clinical officer
- Vice president, patient services
- Chief patient experience executive
  - https://www.doctorofnursingpracticednp.org/careers/
- Graduates with a PhD can work at or as:
  - Hospital
  - medical laboratory
  - research facility or university as a research scientist
  - nursing school
  - college or university as a faculty member or department chair
  - a Ph.D. nurse may also work as a public health nurse in a government setting, helping to develop research-based solutions to public health issues.
    - https://www.registerednursing.org/phd/
- Graduates from the Nurse Anesthesia program can work at or as:
  - traditional hospital surgical suites
  - obstetrical delivery rooms
  - critical access hospitals
  - ambulatory surgical centers
  - the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons and pain management specialists
  - Military, Veterans Affairs' and Public Health Service health care facilities.
    - https://explorehealthcareers.org/career/nursing/nurse-anesthetist/

- **Twelfth Grade**

- ○ **How much does each profession earn? What is the projected job growth of each profession?**
  - ■ DNP
    - ● The median pay for a DNP is about $54.78 per hour - $113,930 per year.
    - ● The projected job growth is 26%. The government expects to have 62,000 jobs available by 2028.
      - ○ https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm

Academic Pathway			
What coursework should be taken to enter the program?			
9th	**10th**	**11th**	**12th**
● Relevant Coursework (High School) ○ How certain courses align with nursing	● List examples of relevant coursework (University)	● Program delivery	● Final GPA to be considered for the DNP Programs

- ● **Ninth Grade**
  - ○ **Is high school coursework relevant to the nursing field?**
    - ■ The student might not realize it, but preparing for a future career starts in high school *(or even earlier)*. For example, did you know that nurses use algebra when calculating medication dosages? What the student learns in high school builds the foundation for their college education and career. If a student is considering nursing, they should take classes *now* that will prepare them for college *later*. https://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/
  - ○ **Does high school GPA matter?**

- ■ Most BSN programs often set the minimum GPA at 3.0. ADN programs are more likely to set the minimum somewhere in the 2.0 to 2.75 range. Grades in prerequisite courses may be considered separately. *These are minimum requirements and **to be competitive, the student should aim much higher**. When interest exceeds available spots, grades are often an important factor. Getting-into-a-nursing-program.html

- **Tenth Grade**
  - **What are examples of courses to take in high school to best prepare for nursing school applications?**
    https://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/
    - ■ Biology
    - ■ Chemistry
    - ■ Anatomy & Physiology
    - ■ Physics
    - ■ Algebra
    - ■ Geometry
    - ■ Psychology
    - ■ Speech
    - ■ Foriegn Language
    - ■ Health courses

  - **What other coursework should be taken for the DNP programs?**
    - ■ The curriculum for the DNP program varies on the track the student is interested in. The tracks are:
      - Nurse Practitioner curriculum
        - N6801 - Scholarly Foundations for Advanced Practice
        - N6847 - Organizations and Systems Leadership
        - N6807 - Evidence Based Practice Principles
        - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
        - N6820 - Data Analysis and Evaluation
        - N6808 - Translational Science
        - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
        - N6858 W (online) - Information Systems/Technology for the Improvement of Health Care
        - N6802 - Health Policy, Politics, and Ethics
        - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
        - N6851 - The Business of Healthcare

- - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6841 B (clinical) - DNP Preceptorship II for Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists
  - N6845 - Practice Management
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6860 - DNP Seminar I
  - N6860 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship I
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6870 - DNP Seminar II
  - N6870 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship II
    https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm
- Nurse Executive curriculum
  - N6801 - Scholarly Foundations for Advanced Practice
  - N6847 - Organizations and Systems Leadership
  - N6807 - Evidence Based Practice Principles
  - N6820 - Data Analysis and Evaluation
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6808 - Translational Science
  - N6858 W (online) - Information Systems/Technology for the Improvement of Health Care
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6851 - The Business of Healthcare
  - N6802 - Health Policy, Politics, and Ethics
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6850 - Executive Leadership, Human Resources, Delivery Systems, and Teams
  - N6840 - DNP Preceptorship I for Nurse Executives
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6852 - Organizational Performance Standards, Quality, and Safety
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6841 - DNP Preceptorship II for Nurse Executives
  - N6860 - DNP Seminar I
  - N6860 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship I for Nurse Executives
  - N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - N6870 - DNP Seminar II
  - N6870 B(clinical) - DNP Fellowship II for Nurse Executives

- ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm#panel2d
- Nurse Informatics curriculum
  - ○ N6801 - Scholarly Foundations for Advanced Practice
  - ○ N6847 - Organizations and Systems Leadership
  - ○ N6807 - Evidence Based Practice Principles
  - ○ N6820 - Data Analysis and Evaluation
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6808 - Translational Science
  - ○ N6858W (online) - Information Systems/Technology for the Improvement of Health Care
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6802 - Health Policy, Politics, and Ethics
  - ○ N6851 - The Business of Healthcare
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6840 I - DNP Preceptorship I - Informatics
  - ○ BMI6328 W (online) - Health Care Delivery in an EHR-Enabled Environment
  - ○ BMI6370 W (online) - Advanced Standards and Terminologies in Nursing and HI
  - ○ N6841 I - DNP Preceptorship II Informatics
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6860 - DNP Seminar I
  - ○ N6860 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship I
  - ○ BMI6301 W (online) - Health Data Display
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6870 - DNP Seminar II
  - ○ N6870 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship II
  - ○ BMI6340 W (online) - Health Information Visualization
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
    https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm#panel3d
- Nurse Anesthetist
  - ○ N6801 W (online) - Scholarly Foundations for Advanced Practice
  - ○ N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
  - ○ N6847 - Organizations and Systems Leadership

- N6807 - Evidence Based Practice Principles
- N6820 - Data Analysis and Evaluation
- N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
- N6808 - Translational Science
- N6858 W (online) - Information Systems/Technology for the Improvement of Health Care
- N6802 - Health Policy, Politics, and Ethics
- N6851 - The Business of Healthcare
- N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
- N6860B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship I
- N6830 - Clinical Scholarship Portfolio Advisement
- N6860 - DNP Seminar I
- N6870 B (clinical) - DNP Fellowship II
- N6870 - DNP Seminar II
  https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm#panel4d
- Nursing PhD curriculum
  - N7501 - Conceptual Basis of Scientific Inquiry
  - N7530 - Analysis of the Context of Healthcare
  - N7543 - Empirical Basis of Scientific Inquiry
  - N7550 - Research Proposal Development
  - N7550B (clinical) - Research Proposal Development Practicum
  - N7552 - Research Planning and Implementation
  - N7552B (clinical) - Research Planning and Implementation B
  - N7540 - Advanced Research Designs and Methods I
  - N7541 - Application of Measurement Theory to Biomedical and Health Science Research
  - N7542 - Advanced Research Designs and Methods II
  - N7505 - Advanced Statistics for Clinical Research I
  - N7506 - Advanced Statistics for Clinical Research II
  - N7590 - Candidacy Examination
  - N7600 - Dissertation
    https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/phd/default.htm#panel1d

- **Eleventh Grade**
  - **How are the programs delivered?**

- All the DNP programs are in a hybrid format with both online and classroom learning.
  - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/dnp/default.htm

- **Twelfth Grade**
  - **What are the final GPAs needed to be considered for the DNP programs?**
    - A Master's degree or post-master's certificate earned from a nationally accredited program with a 3.0 GPA or above
      - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/admit-dnp.htm
    - A master's with a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA is needed for the Nursing PhD game.
      - https://nursing.uth.edu/prospstudent/admit-phd.htm

Want more information? Visit the CSN website:
https://nursing.uth.edu/home/default.htm