

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduce a Doctorate degree<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Description<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Research based○ Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Detailed information about Doctoral program and track programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Describe the responsibilities of each job within each program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 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 length of the DNP program at Texas Tech is a total of 6 semesters.
 - <https://www.ttuhsct.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/default.aspx>
 - The length of the BSN-DNP FNP program at Texas Tech is a total of 9 semesters.
 - <https://nursing.ttuhsct.edu/degreeplans/index.php?id=33>
 - The length of the BSN-DNP Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner is a total of 9 semesters.
 - <https://nursing.ttuhsct.edu/degreeplans/index.php?id=34>
- **Tenth Grade**
 - **What is the difference between each Doctorate program?**
 - The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a professional doctorate designed to prepare nurses for the highest level of practice in a complex healthcare environment. In this time of major healthcare reform and concerns about the quality and safety of care, the DNP prepared nurse will be leading the way to promote improved quality, safety and access to healthcare for people across our state and nation. The purpose of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is to provide a rigorous education to prepare clinical scholars who translate science to improve population health through expert leadership that powers innovation in health care for West Texas, the state, and the nation.
 - <https://www.ttuhsct.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/default.aspx>
 - Nurses with the BSN degree can apply to the BSN to DNP program and move directly from the BSN degree to the DNP degree for the Family Nurse Practitioner track. The BSN to DNP program is a combination of online and face-to-face courses and supervised clinical experiences and will meet all educational standards.
 - <https://www.ttuhsct.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-family-np/default.aspx>
 - Nurses with the BSN degree can apply to the BSN to DNP program and move directly from the BSN degree to the DNP degree for the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track. The BSN to DNP program is a combination of online and face-to-face courses and supervised clinical experiences and will meet all educational standards.

- <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-psych-mental-health-np/default.aspx>

- **Eleventh Grade**

- **What are the job responsibilities within each DNP program?**

- The graduate from the DNP program will be able to
 - Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences to foster a culture of healths and transform clinical practice and health care delivery systems.
 - Develop and operationalize effective, culturally relevant, and evidence-based clinical practice approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations.
 - Design and implement evidence-based strategies to analyze and improve outcomes of care at the practice, system, or population levels.
 - Apply, use, and evaluate health care information systems, information literacy and patient care technology to advance quality, patient safety, and organizational effectiveness.
 - Facilitate interprofessional team building and collaborative leadership skills to create positive change and improve outcomes in complex health care systems.
 - Exercise leadership skills to analyze, develop, influence, and implement health policies that advocate social justice, equity, and ethics within all health care arenas.
 - Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data to develop culturally relevant and scientifically based health promotion and disease prevention initiatives.
 - Employ advanced leadership skills, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver and evaluate evidence-based management practices to improve patient, population and health system outcomes (Executive Leadership track).
 - Employ advanced practice levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based care to improve patient and population outcomes

- <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/default.aspx>
- Graduates from the BSN-DNP Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program will be able to:
 - Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences to foster a culture of health and transform clinical practice and health care delivery systems.
 - Develop and operationalize effective, culturally relevant, and evidence-based clinical practice approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations.
 - Design and implement evidence-based strategies to analyze and improve outcomes of care at the practice, system, or population levels.
 - Apply, use, and evaluate health care information systems, information literacy and patient care technology to advance quality, patient safety, and organizational effectiveness.
 - Facilitate interprofessional team building and collaborative leadership skills to create positive change and improve outcomes in complex health care systems.
 - Exercise leadership skills to analyze, develop, influence, and implement health policies that advocate social justice, equity, and ethics within all health care arenas.
 - Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data to develop culturally relevant and scientifically based health promotion and disease prevention initiatives.
 - Employ advanced leadership skills, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver and evaluate evidence-based management practices to improve patient, population and health system outcomes (Executive Leadership track).
 - Employ advanced practice levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based care to improve patient and population outcomes
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-family-np/default.aspx>

- Graduates from the BSN-DNP Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) will be able to:
 - Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences to foster a culture of healths and transform clinical practice and health care delivery systems.
 - Develop and operationalize effective, culturally relevant, and evidence-based clinical practice approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations.
 - Design and implement evidence-based strategies to analyze and improve outcomes of care at the practice, system, or population levels.
 - Apply, use, and evaluate health care information systems, information literacy and patient care technology to advance quality, patient safety, and organizational effectiveness.
 - Facilitate interprofessional team building and collaborative leadership skills to create positive change and improve outcomes in complex health care systems.
 - Exercise leadership skills to analyze, develop, influence, and implement health policies that advocate social justice, equity, and ethics within all health care arenas.
 - Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data to develop culturally relevant and scientifically based health promotion and disease prevention initiatives.
 - Employ advanced leadership skills, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver and evaluate evidence-based management practices to improve patient, population and health system outcomes (Executive Leadership track).
 - Employ advanced practice levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based care to improve patient and population outcomes
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-psy-ch-mental-health-np/default.aspx>

- **Twelfth Grade**

- **What are the admission requirements for each DNP program?**

- The admission requirements for the DNP program at Texas Tech are:

- Current unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse in the United States
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree or ADN to MSN degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)
- Official transcripts from each institution of higher education attended by applicant must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar
- GPA of 3.0 or higher for master's degree
- Three letters of reference attesting to the applicant's academic ability and potential, including one from a current professional colleague
- Personal Statement
- Interview with a DNP Admissions Committee faculty member
- Current CV or resume
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/default.asp>

- The admission requirements for the BSN-DNP FNP program are:

- Completed and submitted an online application as directed on the School of Nursing website.
- Valid unencumbered Texas or Compact RN License
- Baccalaureate nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or

accreditation from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)

- Successful completion of an undergraduate research and statistics course
 - Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in the BSN program
 - Basic Life Support (American Heart Association BLS) Certification
 - Computer literacy
 - Critical analysis essay
 - Letters of References (3)
 - Oath of Residency
 - Official transcripts from all institutions formerly attended.
NOTE: All transcripts must be from regionally accredited colleges or universities with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
 - Current Curriculum Vita (CV) or Resume' (in the template provided in the application process)
 - Interview with DNP faculty (Interviews are conducted on an invitation only basis after a review of submitted application materials).
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-family-np/default.aspx#admission-requirements>
- The admission requirements for the BSN-DNP PMHNP program are:
- Completed and submitted an online application as directed on the School of Nursing website.
 - Valid unencumbered Texas or Compact RN License
 - Baccalaureate nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)

- Successful completion of an undergraduate research and statistics course
- Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in the BSN program
- Basic Life Support (American Heart Association BLS) Certification
- Computer literacy
- Critical analysis essay
- Letters of References (3)
- Oath of Residency
- Official transcripts from all institutions formerly attended.
NOTE: All transcripts must be from regionally accredited colleges or universities with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Current Curriculum Vita (CV) or Resume (in the template provided in the application process)
- Interview with DNP faculty (Interviews are conducted on an invitation only basis after a review of submitted application materials).
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-psy-ch-mental-health-np/default.aspx>

Programs and Professions in Nursing			
What certificate/degree can the student get in the nursing field?			
9th	10th	11th	12th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing Introduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of schools to obtain certificate/degree at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tech. school (certificate) ○ Commun. College (certificate, associate's) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job statistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 DNP degree in Psychiatric Mental Health can work at or as:

- in-patient psychiatric facilities
- state psychiatric facilities
- correctional facilities
- mental health centers
- home health locations
- Schools.

- <https://nursinglicensemap.com/advanced-practice-nursing/nurse-practitioner/psychiatric-and-mental-health-nurse-practitioner-pmhnp/>

- **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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relevant Coursework (High School) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How certain courses align with nursing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● List examples of relevant coursework (University) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Program delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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](http://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/)

- **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
 - Foreign Language
 - Health courses

 - **What other coursework should be taken for the DNP programs?**
 - The curriculum for the DNP program is:
 - N6200 DNP Role Transition I
 - N6325 Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care
 - N6345 Population Health and Epidemiology
 - N6310 Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare
 - N6330 Evidence Based Inquiry I
 - N6340 Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care
 - N6244 Advanced Practice Development
 - N6320 Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety
 - N6201 DNP Role Transition II
 - N6350 Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader
 - N7310 Health Care Innovations in Chronic Illness

- N7311 Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments
- 7332 Evidence Based Inquiry II
- N7331 Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level
- N7321 Health Care Economics and Finance
- N7334 Integrating Community Mental Health into Health Care Systems
- N7352 DNP Project Seminar and Practice Immersion
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/curriculum.aspx>
- The curriculum for the BSN-DNP program is:
 - NURS 6305 - Scientific Foundation for the Practice Scholar
 - NURS 5345 - Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology
 - NURS 6325 - Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care
 - NURS 5343 - Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice
 - NURS 6310 - Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare
 - NURS 6330 - Evidence Based Inquiry
 - NURS 6243 - Advanced Pharmacologic Management for Primary Care
 - NURS 5312 - Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role
 - NURS 5309 - Foundations of the Well Child
 - NURS 6318 - Mental Health Assessment
 - NURS 6345 - Population Health & Epidemiology
 - NURS 5320 - Diagnostic Methods
 - NURS 6320 - Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality & Safety
 - NURS 5342 - Advanced Health Assessment
 - NURS 64XX - Primary Care I
 - NURS 6350 - Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader
 - NURS 6110 - DNP Project Identification
 - NURS 65XX - Primary Care II
 - NURS 6111 - Project Development
 - NURS 76XX - FNP Practicum
 - NURS 7110 - DNP Project Implementation

- NURS 6340 - Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care
- NURS 7310 - Health Innovations
- NURS 7111 - DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination
- NURS 72XX - DNP Role in Complex Care
- NURS 73XX - Special Populations
 - <https://nursing.ttuhsct.edu/degreeplans/index.php?id=33>
- The curriculum for the BSN- DNP PMHNP is:
 - NURS 6305 - Scientific Foundation for the Practice Scholar
 - NURS 5345 - Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology
 - NURS 6325 - Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care
 - NURS 5343 - Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice
 - NURS 6310 - Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare
 - NURS 5342 - Advanced Health Assessment
 - NURS 6330 - Evidence Based Inquiry
 - NURS 5202 - Psychotherapeutic Modalities
 - NURS 5312 - Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role
 - NURS 5203 - Neuroscience and Genomics: A lifespan Approach
 - NURS 5204 - Psychopharmacology
 - NURS 5307 - Diagnostics & Management I: Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan CL
 - NURS 6345 - Population Health & Epidemiology
 - NURS 5603 - Diagnostics & Management II: Evidence-based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders
 - NURS 6320 - Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality & Safety
 - NURS 5604 - Diagnostics & Management III: Evidence-based Management of Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders
 - NURS 6350 - Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader
 - NURS 6110 - DNP Project Identification
 - NURS 6500 - Diagnostics & Management IV: Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of the Complex Psychiatric Patient Across the Lifespan

- NURS 6111 - Project Development
 - NURS 5201 - Telehealth and Rural Practice Development
 - NURS 72XX - Specialty I
 - NURS 7110 - DNP Project Implementation
 - NURS 6340 - Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care
 - NURS 72XX - Specialty II
 - NURS 7111 - DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination
 - NURS 72XX - DNP role in Complex Care
 - <https://nursing.ttuhschool.edu/degreeplans/index.php?id=34>
- **Eleventh Grade**
 - **How are the classes delivered in the DNP programs?**
 - The classes in the programs are delivered in a hybrid format. That means it is a mix of both class and online instruction.
 - <https://nursing.ttuhschool.edu/degreeplans/index.php?id=34>
- **Twelfth Grade**
 - **What is the final GPA needed to be accepted into the DNP programs?**
 - The GPA needed to get accepted into the DNP program a GPA of 3.0 or higher from their master's degree.
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/dnp/default.aspx>
 - The GPA needed to get accepted into the BSN-DNP FNP program a minimum of 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in the BSN program.
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-family-np/default.aspx>
 - The GPA needed to get accepted into the DNP PMHNP program a minimum of 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in the BSN program.
 - <https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/doctor/bsn-to-dnp-psych-mental-health-np/default.aspx>

Want more information? Visit Texas Tech's website:

<https://www.ttuhschool.edu/nursing/default.aspx>