



# MSN: Graduate Nursing PROGRAM AND COURSES

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The Master of Science in Nursing program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and offers majors in nursing administration, family nurse practitioner, and nursing education specialist. The curriculum is designed to accommodate the registered nurse graduate student who desires to remain employed. The faculty recognizes that each person is a unique individual who is an integral member of many systems. Each of these systems interfaces with other complex and changing systems that create the unique fabric of each individual environment.

Emphasis on the concepts of system, critical thinking, advanced practice and change is integrated throughout the MSN curriculum. As the MSN program prepares the professional nurse for advanced practice, the nurse will think critically and make the best possible decision for the betterment of the advanced practitioner, the client, the organization, and the overall environmental system. Central to the concepts of system, critical thinking, and the advanced practice is the continuous and dynamic process of change. The MSN graduate will possess the necessary skills to influence the change process and enhance the quality of healthcare for the betterment of mankind and the overall health care system.

The purpose of the masters program in nursing is to prepare registered nurses for professional leadership and advance practice roles and to contribute to the development of nursing and healthcare knowledge. Graduates from the MSN program are prepared to:

1. Assume leadership positions in health care, educational, and other settings
2. Contribute to the development of nursing knowledge
3. Ensure the delivery of quality and cost effective patient care
4. Assume responsibility for the therapeutic management of patient care services
5. Function as a member of the interdisciplinary team

## Admission Requirements

1. Graduation from an accredited nursing program with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN)
2. 3.0 undergraduate cumulative GPA
3. Successful completion of undergraduate courses in statistics and research, basic knowledge of computers, computer spreadsheets and at least one software program
4. Three (3) letters of recommendation
5. Graduate Nursing Admissions Essay (instructions enclosed)

## Transfer Credit

Up to six graduate credits (two courses) in nursing may be eligible for transfer credit. Such credit is only available for graduate level nursing courses and only when the quality and comparability of the other work meets the approval of the Graduate Admissions Committee. Transfer credit will not be awarded for the courses with grades below a "B."



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## Course Load

Three courses (nine credits) constitute a full-time course load for the graduate student.

## Core Courses for all Majors

MSN 500 Nursing Theories  
MSN 501 Nursing Research I  
MSN 503 Health Care Policy and Politics

MSN 525 Health Care Delivery Systems & Economics  
MSN 533 Health Promotion

## Family Nurse Practitioner Track

The curriculum is divided into three components. The first component is the nursing core and contains those courses basic to any master of science in nursing program. The second component contains the family nurse practitioner clinical core. The third component consists of primary care courses specific to the Family Nurse Practitioner role. The program requires completion of 51 credit hours of graduate study.

### Clinical Core Courses

MSN 530 Advanced Pathophysiology  
MSN 531 Advanced Health Assessment  
(56 clinical hours required)  
MSN 532 Advanced Pharmacology  
MSN 569 Advanced Practice Role Seminar

### Family Nurse Practitioner Courses

(168 clinical hours required for each course)  
MSN 565 Advanced Practice Nursing in Primary Care of  
Infant, Child and Adolescent  
MSN 566 Advanced Practice Nursing in Primary Care of  
Reproductive Health  
MSN 567 Advanced Practice Nursing in Primary Care  
of Adult  
MSN 568 Advanced Practice Nursing in Primary Care of  
Aging Adult

## Nursing Administration Track

The curriculum is divided into three components. The first component is the nursing core and contains those courses basic to any master of science in nursing program. The second component contains nursing administration courses specific to this program. The third component consists of support courses in business. Each course is three credits unless otherwise specified. The program requires completion of 42 credit hours of graduate study.

### Nursing Administration Courses

MSN 520 Nursing Administration I  
MSN 521 Nursing Administration II  
MSN 524 Nursing Administration: Financial Management  
MSN 527 Organizational Behavior  
MSN 528 Communications and Interpersonal Relations  
MSN 529 Advanced Comprehensive Assessment  
MSN 540 Capstone Seminar  
MSN 541 Practicum I  
MSN XXX Elective Course



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## Nursing Education Specialist Track

The curriculum is divided into three components. The first component is the nursing core and contains those courses basic to any master of science in nursing program. The second component contains nursing education courses specific to this program. The third component consists of the clinical core. The program requires at least 39 credit hours of graduate study.

### Nursing Education Courses

MSN 514 Curriculum and Instruction  
MSN 515 Evaluation  
MSN 516 Educational Technology  
MSN 540 Capstone Seminar  
MSN 541 Practicum

### Clinical Core Courses

MSN 529 Advanced Comprehensive Assessment  
MSN 530 Advanced Pathophysiology  
MSN 532 Advanced Pharmacology

## Nursing Graduate Post-Master's Certificates

Post-Master's certificates provide nurses with MSN degrees the opportunity to acquire specialized skills that may not have been offered in their master's degree programs. The school of Nursing at Wheeling Jesuit University addresses this need by offering three Post-Master's certificates: Family Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Education, and Nursing Administration. For more information, please contact:

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