



Doctor of Nursing Practice DNP Nursing Hybrid

Program Coordinator: A. Roaché

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at King is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice. The DNP offers an alternative to the research-focused terminal degree in nursing and prepares professional nurses to assume advanced roles in practice, executive function, quality and safety, informatics and other positions of leadership in nursing and health care. The DNP student will pursue study based on theoretical frameworks, evidence, practice, research, and application and will develop sophisticated skills in the following highly desired areas:

- Leadership of teams and organizations
- Strategic planning and resource utilization
- Critical evaluation and application of current research and best practice
- Team building and inter-professional collaboration
- Measurement and analysis of health care outcomes
- Development and management of quality improvement initiatives
- Quantitative data management
- Information management and utilization in decision-making

Cohorts begin each fall and meet at the Knoxville Hardin Valley Campus one time each academic year for a two or three-day colloquium. The balance of the program is delivered in an online format. The 36-hour credit program is completed on a part-time basis, with degree completion typically in 2 calendar years (18 credits per year). The culminating learning experience in the DNP curriculum is the development, implementation and evaluation of a translational research project, with emphasis on dissemination of new knowledge for outcomes improvement.

Student Learning Outcomes

These outcomes address what students should know or be able to do upon completion of the academic program:

1. Students will be able to translate research findings to improve health care outcomes
2. Students will be able to lead inter-professional teams to change health care delivery to meet current and future health care needs
3. Students will be able to influence systems and communities through Christian principles, services, scholarship, and population-based care

The student learning outcomes of the DNP program support the mission of the university by equipping students with the academic underpinnings to translate research into practice, integrate knowledge to improve patient outcomes, advance health policy, and assume leadership roles to influence the ever-changing demands of healthcare. King University's DNP program prepares graduates to assume healthcare leadership roles and to integrate scholarship and service into a career focused on achieving meaningful lives with a pursuit of transforming culture in Christ.

DNP Application Packet Requirements

1. Submit a completed application.
2. Submit a \$125 non-refundable application fee.
3. Submit official transcripts of all academic work.
 - a. A baccalaureate and master's degree in nursing with a GPA of 3.25 or higher from a Master's degree program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Nursing Education (ACNE) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is required.
4. Submit a 300 word essay describing the reason for seeking a DNP completed in current APA format.
5. Submit a narrative description of past and current clinical practice.
6. Submit a 500-750 word proposal identifying an evidence-based practice problem—this may be a practice improvement issue, a clinical management problem, or an area of clinical research that the applicant will address while in the program. The essay must identify key resources necessary to complete the project and completed in current APA format.
7. Submit a current curriculum vitae demonstrating professional endeavors and accomplishments, education, career, experience, professional memberships, community service/volunteer/military experience and professional scholarly accomplishments.
8. Submit a copy of current unencumbered license as a Registered Nurse from the Tennessee Board of Nursing or a compact Multi-State license. Applicant should not be on probation and must report any past or current disciplinary action taken by a State Board.
9. Submit a current American Heart Association CPR or BLS certification (Adult, child and infant).
10. Submit a copy of advanced practice nursing license and specialty certification, if applicable.
11. Submit verification of Post-Baccalaureate Clinical and Practice Hours Document completed by the candidate's graduate nurse program.
12. Admission exam is not required, but GRE scores may be submitted
13. Provide the names and email addresses of three recommenders. At least one should be from a former dean or academic faculty and one from a current or former supervisor.
14. Participate in a face-to-face or electronic interview with nursing faculty, which will include an impromptu writing sample.
15. It is highly recommended, but not required, to provide evidence of the successful completion of a graduate level statistics course within 5 years prior to program matriculation.

All students should be computer literate, with the ability to send and download attachments, conduct database searches, and possess competence in word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software with voiceover and/or screencasting ability.

International Students

King encourages application from students who are interested in pursuing a degree program. International students applying to King are required to submit a completed King International Student Application form along with a non-refundable \$50.00 application fee. This application is available from the King Office of Admissions and is also available at <http://admissions.king.edu>. Any international student demonstrating a TOEFL score of 600 (paper) or 100 (Internet) may be admitted directly into the DNP curriculum. International

students desiring F-1 student status are required by the United States Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) to provide to the institution:

- A completed and notarized Sponsor's Statement of Financial Support along with financial documents proving financial ability;
- Original official transcripts of all high school and college/university grades and courses;
- Official TOEFL test scores;
- Official English translations of education transcripts and other documents (e.g. bank statements) related to the admissions process; and
- Each applicant must provide an official descriptive explanation of the grading system used for education transcripts.

When all of the documents described have been received, the application will be processed. Accepted applicants must make an enrollment deposit equivalent to the cost of tuition, fees, and health insurance for one year. Upon receipt of the deposit, the students will be issued an I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status.

The Application Process

Applications for admission will be accepted starting January 1 and will continue through **June 1** prior to the desired fall semester start date. Early application is encouraged in order to qualify for financial aid.

The DNP Admissions Committee will review all complete applications, select the candidates who meet the set criteria and rank them based on their ability to successfully complete the program. After evaluation of the candidates' files, the DNP Admissions Committee will schedule interviews and administer timed writing samples with the candidates. Once interviews and writing samples are complete, the DNP admissions committee will assign one of the following four admission status:

1. **Admitted**
The student meets or exceeds all required admissions criteria and, therefore, is fully admitted to the DNP program without any conditions.
2. **Provisionally Admitted**
The Committee may grant provisional admittance to applicants who do not yet meet all of the admission requirements (anticipated completion of a final semester of a degree program or a single course) but have been able to demonstrate they have been academically successful in the past. The DNP Admissions Committee will work with such students to develop an action plan and timeline for achieving the admitted status.
3. **Conditionally Admitted**
The student does not meet the minimum grade point average admission requirement; however, the DNP Admissions Committee will permit the candidate to enter the program as long as the agreed upon conditions are satisfactory met by the student. A signed learning contract is required for this level of acceptance.
4. **Admission Denied** – the DNP Admissions Committee believes the applicant is not likely to succeed in the DNP program; therefore, the committee will deny acceptance.

The DNP Admissions Committee typically makes its decision within two weeks after the application submission deadline. The Admissions Office will notify applicants of the status of the DNP Admissions Committee review in writing or by e-mail.

The DNP program is an academically rigorous program developed to prepare nursing leaders who integrate Christian faith, scholarship, service, and career into their daily lives. King University seeks students who desire lifelong learning in a Christian environment. Admission to the DNP program is competitive but does not focus on a single factor to determine the best candidates. Decisions for admission will be based on demonstrated academic achievements, work history and performance, leadership ability, community involvement, writing ability, and the ability to successfully develop, implement and evaluate a translational research project.

DNP Transfer Credit

Upon acceptance to the DNP program, a student wishing to transfer courses from other institutions for credit may request that completed doctoral course work be considered for transfer. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours may be transferred in. To be considered for transfer credit, a course must have been taken for doctoral credit and must carry a grade of “B” or better. Courses considered for transfer credit must be from an accredited college or university program. Clinical coursework and courses graded as “pass/fail” cannot transfer.

The student must submit a completed course substitution form and a course syllabus which must show evidence that the completed course content and scope can be considered current and equivalent to a comparable King University course in the School of Nursing. The faculty currently teaching the King University course will evaluate the materials related to the course the student desires to transfer in to King and make a recommendation to the Dean of Nursing regarding the course equivalency. The Dean of the School of Nursing must approve all transfer credit to the DNP program and the decision of the Dean will be final.

Fees

There is a \$100 technology fee per course for courses delivered in an all online format.

Background Check

DNP students are responsible for following clinical agency protocol for background checks. Students may contact the King University Security Department (423-652-4333) with questions. Students are responsible for all costs associated with the criminal background check. Students are required to meet all clinical agency requirements for background checks, immunizations, safety, confidentiality, drug screening, and licensure/certification.

Religious Objections

A student has the right to refuse immunizations due to religious objections. If you select this option we do ask that you provide an official clergy statement and affirm your reason under the penalties of perjury.

Professional Liability Insurance

King University has a professional liability insurance policy that covers all nursing students while enrolled in a King University nursing program. The cost to the DNP student is \$65, charged upon enrollment into the program. The insurance covers the student only for activities directly related to King University. It does not cover an accidental injury to the student that may occur before, during, or after classroom activities. The policy also does not cover the registered nurse or the nursing student while working at their employment setting. Students may carry additional liability insurance at their own expense, but this will not replace the coverage purchased through the University.

The fees are included in the DNP student fees. No additional cost at this time to the students.

Technology Requirements

Baseline computer requirements for the DNP program include: laptop computer with minimum of Microsoft Office 2010 or later, wireless capability, and a webcam.

Grade Requirements

The school of nursing calculates grades as A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D, or F. Doctoral nursing majors must earn a “B” or higher in all NURS courses to maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale. In the DNP program a grade of “B-” or below is failing. If more than two grades of “B-” or lower are earned the student will be dismissed from the DNP program. A failed course must be repeated; a student is only allowed to repeat one course during the DNP program.

Clinical Experiential Learning Hours

All DNP students are required to complete clinical experiential learning hours (residency hours) in order to meet the requirements for the DNP degree. A minimum of 1000 hours of post-baccalaureate clinical practicum hours is required for completion of the DNP program and graduation. Specific hour requirements may vary for each student based on the number of practicum hours completed in his or her master’s program. The King DNP curriculum includes a total of 640 clinical experiential learning hours and offers students the opportunity to take additional semester hours of study to fulfill the required 1000 post-baccalaureate clinical experiential learning hours.

Comprehensive Competency Assessment (NURS 7990)

All candidates for a degree from King University are required to demonstrate competency in their major field of study. DNP students will demonstrate satisfactory completion of the competencies outlined in the AACN’s *The Essentials of Doctoral Nursing Education for Advanced Nursing Practice*, in addition to the DNP student outcomes. These competencies are demonstrated by successful completion of the translational research project, and are validated and documented during the final full translational research committee meeting in the last semester of study prior to graduation.

Graduation Requirements

- **Time to Completion/Graduation Standard**

Students in the DNP program must complete all degree requirements within six (6) years from time of entry or first enrollment semester as a degree student. No additional time is given to students electing a Leave of Absence.

- **Degree Completion Requirements**

1. Completion of all required courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale
2. Completion of all required clinical experiential learning hours for a minimum total of 1000 post-baccalaureate hours
3. Completion of a culminating translational research project
4. Demonstration of competency in major field (successful completion of competencies in NURS 7990: Comprehensive Competency Assessment)

DNP Student Handbook

DNP students are required to follow policies set forth in the DNP Student Handbook, posted on the Blackboard Resource site after the start of each fall semester. All DNP students are required to read and follow university policies relative to appeals and grievances listed in the

Student Handbook. All students must abide by relevant academic policies in the King University Catalog.

Doctorate of Nursing Practice Requirements

NURS 7000	
Theoretical and Philosophical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3 s.h.
NURS 7001	
Nursing Informatics	3 s.h.
NURS 7005	
Applied Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice.....	3 s.h.
NURS 7006	
Evidence-Based Practice and Translational Research	3 s.h.
NURS 7011	
Population Health Epidemiology and Data Analysis	3 s.h.
NURS 7012	
Translational Research Project Development.....	3 s.h.
NURS 7016	
Leadership of Complex Healthcare Systems and Organizations.....	3 s.h.
NURS 7017	
Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3 s.h.
NURS 7022	
Ethical Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice	3 s.h.
NURS 7023	
Translational Research Project Implementation.....	3 s.h.
NURS 7032	
Translational Research Project Evaluation	3 s.h.
<i>Choose one of the following courses.....</i>	<i>3 s.h.</i>
NURS 7027	
Theoretical Foundations of Knowledge Development (3 s.h.)	
NURS 7028	
Transforming Healthcare Performance through Information Technology (3 s.h.)	

The two courses below are for students who need to fulfill additional experiential learning hours:

NURS 7007*	
Clinical Experiential Learning I	
NURS 7018*	
Clinical Experiential Learning II	

*As needed to fulfill post-baccalaureate clinical hours

NURS 7990	
Comprehensive Assessment	<u> 0 </u> s.h.
Total	36 s.h.