

Welcome future NNPs! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN)! You have made an excellent choice to attend VUSN as you begin your NNP journey. I congratulate your decision to pursue advanced practice nursing education in the neonatal specialty. Please familiarize yourself with the NNP curriculum plan. Orientation is scheduled for **August 23**. A draft of the VUSN Orientation schedule will be posted on the VUSN Admitted Students Webpage in early August. Classes begin on **August 21**, and for the first day of each class, attendance is required.

In preparation for the start of the NNP program, please review the following files:

1. **The NNP Program video.** This video includes a brief orientation to the program and information that you need to be aware of prior to your arrival at Vanderbilt in August.
2. **The NNP Academic Calendar (or Block Schedule).** The calendar includes a range of dates designated as block week. The program format is provided in a hybrid format, and the COVID-19 pandemic allowed our team the opportunity to innovate. We built upon our successes to restructure our blocks. Some of our classes meet on campus, some classes meet virtually, and the remainder of the content is found in our online learning environment (Brightspace). A more detailed schedule will be released on a semester-by-semester basis. The detailed schedule will include dates with class times and locations. Travel arrangements can be made after the detailed schedule has been published.
3. **The Textbook list.** This list includes required and recommended textbooks for the academic year. Part time students should only purchase books for courses taken during this academic year. Books are available for purchase from the Vanderbilt bookstore (<http://www.bkstr.com/vanderbiltstore.com>) or you may purchase from another source. Some of our textbooks are available electronically from the Vanderbilt Eskind Digital Library at no additional cost. You will find the texts posted along with the detailed block schedule, which will be available this summer. New editions are often released in the summer, and you will need the most current editions.
4. **The Clinical Placement Video.** This information is vital to the successful placement of clinical sites for students.

6604 and 6605 Advanced Health Assessment Preparation:

To best prepare for the fall semester, if you are enrolled in 6604 or 6605, we highly recommend that you review *Physical Assessment of the Newborn (6th Edition)* by Tappero & Honeyfield. We will discuss physical examination of the newborn in our August block, and you will begin your health assessment clinical rotation after you receive clearance from the clinical placement team.

On behalf of the NNP faculty, welcome to VUSN! The faculty are eager to support you as you expand and develop your expertise. I expect that you will find a rich learning environment with your classmates. We look forward to working with you and meeting you at orientation in August.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleen R. Moss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Colleen Moss, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC

Assistant Professor of Nursing

Director, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt