VANDERBILT School of Nursing

OPEN HOUSE

MSN, POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE, AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019 | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing ranked #8 MSN and #5 DNP by U.S. News & World Report (2020)
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MORNING SCHEDULE

October 5, 2019

MORNING (9:00 am - 12:50 pm):
The morning program is planned by entry option. Please go to the room that reflects your entry option. A more detailed schedule will be given to you upon entry into the correct room. You will eat lunch in your assigned room.

ROOM 155 NURSING ANNEX:
You belong in this room if you (1) have a bachelor’s or higher degree in a field other than nursing, (2) are currently enrolled in a non-nursing program, (3) are in a formalized partnership program, or (4) are a high school student or (5) a parent or guest of one of these applicants.

ROOM 161 NURSING ANNEX:
You belong in this room if you (1) have a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree or, (2) are currently enrolled in a BSN program, (3) have an MSN and are interested in Post-Master’s certificate or (4) are a parent or guest of one of these applicants.

ROOM 167 NURSING ANNEX:
You belong in this room if you (1) are a RN with an associate degree or diploma in nursing, (2) are a student in an associate degree or diploma in nursing program or (3) you are a parent or guest of one of these applicants.

ROOM 140 FRIST HALL - Doctoral Programs (DNP and PhD in Nursing Science)
You belong in this room if you (1) have a master’s degree in nursing, (2) are enrolled in a master’s degree in nursing program, (3) are interested in BSN-DNP in either the AGACNP or FNP/ENP track or (4) you are a guest of one of these applicants.

AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

AFTERNOON (MSN and Post-Master’s Certificate):

1:00 pm - 3:15 pm  Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty Sessions
1:45 pm            Tour of Simulation Lab (optional)
2:00 pm            Depart for Tour of Vanderbilt University Medical Center (optional)
2:30 pm            Tour of Simulation Lab (optional)
2:45 pm            Depart for Tour of Vanderbilt University Medical Center (optional)
3:30 pm            Depart for Tour of Vanderbilt University Medical Center (optional)
LETTER FROM THE DEAN

October 5, 2019

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for taking the time to visit us. Today is designed to help you learn how Vanderbilt University School of Nursing can prepare you for a rewarding career in the field of nursing at the MSN, DNP or PhD level. Our Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is unlike others in many respects. We offer innovative educational approaches, multiple entry options attractive to nurses and those who have degrees in other fields, and many MSN specialties - some with flexible scheduling which provides the ability to have time for immersion between class sessions as well as opportunities for clinical placements outside the Middle Tennessee area. All of these opportunities prepare nursing professionals for practice at a time when advanced practice nurses will play an important role in implementing health care reform.

Today will provide a glimpse into the many other ways in which our school is unique. For example, we offer one of the most extensive faculty practice networks anywhere. Our practice network includes several freestanding primary care clinics, nurse-midwifery women’s health clinics that provide a complete range of women’s health services, a freestanding birth center, employer health clinics and many other practice settings. Opportunities in these settings give Vanderbilt School of Nursing students the real-world experience they need to deliver, evaluate and improve quality, compassionate patient care to a variety of patient populations.

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is also deeply committed to evidence-based practice, which is the foundation for much of your coursework. Our programs for advanced study beyond the master’s degree include the PhD in Nursing Science, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and postdoctoral education. Our Center for Research Development and Scholarship is helping promote new knowledge and improve health care delivery to communities across the United States and abroad.

While you are here today, don’t forget that you are sitting in one of the nation’s fastest-growing health care hubs and most popular places to live. You’ll have opportunities to learn from leading practitioners in nursing and health care - all in an educational environment that is naturally beautiful, technologically sophisticated, and a great place to make lifelong friends.

We are proud to showcase a much-needed building expansion that was completed in January 2019. It added a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory, interactive classrooms and conference rooms to our educational programs. It’s an exciting time to be here.

Welcome to our Open House. Let us know how we can make your experience more informative and enjoyable. Please contact us to answer questions that you may have after you return home. We are eager to help you as you plan your future. To get a flavor of the school after today’s visit, join our VUSN Facebook page or follow us on Twitter at @VanderbiltNurse.

Kindest regards,

Linda Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN
Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing
Dean, School of Nursing
NEW SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

Newly opened in 2019, the 29,947-sq.-ft. School of Nursing Building houses technologically advanced classrooms, conference and seminar rooms, student services offices, faculty offices and a state-of-the-art simulation teaching center. Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Affairs, Registrar, Clinical Placement and Alumni Affairs are on the first and second floors. The building’s five floors also contain faculty offices and state-of-the-art conference rooms used for classes, seminars and meetings. The building’s fifth floor includes the Sandra Coats Chase Terrace, an outdoor green space.

**Simulation and Skills Lab.** The entire third floor is dedicated to the 3,665-sq.-ft. Simulation and Skills Lab where students interact with high-fidelity nursing mannequins in realistic simulation exercises. The lab contains 13 bays equipped with the latest technology in simulation capture, advanced mannequin simulators and a variety of skill task trainers. Each bay has a hospital bed, functioning headwall, vitals’ monitor, simulated gas outlets and computer. Scenarios are brought to life by faculty working behind the scenes in control rooms equipped with video and audio capabilities. A briefing room and the Agnes K. Godchaux Conference Room are used for prebriefing, debriefing and observation. An experienced simulation team of nurses, researcher, technician and lab director support students in learning that ranges from the acquisition of tactical skills to the application of progressing clinical reasoning.

**Wachtmeister Interactive Classroom and Virtual Classroom.** The Wachtmeister Interactive Classroom supports flipped classroom teaching and is equipped with five interactive 4K displays, a panoramic camera and touch panels. The room can be arranged into a variety of groups or configurations. Next door is the Virtual Classroom, used for distance learning and video production. The sound- and light-proofed room includes a green screen, lighting grid that allows for flexibility in curriculum development, three video cameras and cutting-edge recording equipment.

**Colleen Conway-Welch Atrium.** Godchaux Hall, the Annex, Patricia Champion Frist Hall and the School of Nursing Building are connected by the Colleen Conway-Welch Atrium, named in honor of VUSN’s former dean. The glass-fronted atrium serves as the main entrance to the school and was designed for collaboration and engagement by students, faculty and staff. It features areas for study, eating, socialization, physical activity and events.
SCHOOL OF NURSING QUICK FACTS

Fall 2019 Student Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program</th>
<th>PhD in Nursing Science Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-year BA/BS entry</td>
<td>Full- and Part-time Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-year RN ADN/ASN/</td>
<td>Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma Entry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second-year students</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry with a BSN</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry with an MSN (post-master’s)</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Students (non-degree seeking)</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New students</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing students</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doctor of Nursing Practice Program</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New students</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing students</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fall 2019 Applicant Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Type/Degree</th>
<th>Applied</th>
<th>Admitted</th>
<th>Enrolled</th>
<th>Average GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA/BS non-nursing</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>3.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADN/ASN</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.55/4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>3.65/4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-master’s</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>3.88/4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNP</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>3.81/4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.75/4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Financial Aid

- **175 PreSpecialty (RN and non-RN) year students received approximately $1,495,743 in scholarships and tuition assistance** from sources funded or controlled by the School of Nursing. Sources include endowed scholarships, foundations and the School’s operating funds.
- **303 Specialty year students received approximately $2,547,079 in scholarships and tuition assistance** from sources funded or controlled by the School.
- **144 DNP students received approximately $434,473 in scholarships and tuition assistance** from sources funded or controlled by the School.
- **23 PhD students received approximately $732,460 in tuition assistance and/or fellowships** from sources funded by the School. 10 PhD students were also awarded a total of $110,000 in service-free scholarships and 4 were awarded $60,000 in VUSN Centennial Fellowships.
MASTERS (MSN) PROGRAM and POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATE (PMC)
PREPARING NURSES FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE

In today’s often complex health care industry, advanced practice nurses are bringing new solutions. They are offering new ways of delivering cost-effective care and increasing access to qualified practitioners for many patients and their families – often providing health care to underserved populations. Advanced practice nurses must be grounded in theory and research as guides to their clinical practice. While they work in collegial capacities with physicians, they must be prepared to diagnose and treat patients with acute and chronic illnesses – or to process and analyze critical data. These responsibilities require nursing professionals who are as smart and savvy as they are caring and compassionate.

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is preparing skilled, experienced advanced practice nurses. Not only are we creating more flexible ways to study and earn the MSN degree, we are also employing innovative approaches and offering widespread opportunities for experience in clinical practice. Hallmarks of our MSN program include:

• Multiple entry options – for nurses and for students with no background in nursing
• MSN advanced practice specialties to suit varied professionals
• An extensive nurse-faculty practice network
• State-of-the-art nursing informatics
• State-of-the-art skills lab for hands-on learning
• Modern facilities throughout the School of Nursing complex
• Flexible scheduling and distance learning for many MSN advanced practice specialties
• Joint program with Vanderbilt Divinity School

The Post-Master’s Certificate (PMC)

The purpose of the Post-Master’s Certificate (PMC) program is to provide, for nurses who already hold a master’s degree in nursing, an educational route to specialization in an area other than that obtained in their master’s program. The program is designed to strengthen or broaden the clinical capabilities of master’s-prepared nurses who are planning a role expansion or role change. Applicants are encouraged to combine the certificate with the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

Leading Our Discipline Forward

Nursing education, patient care, clinical research. In everything we do at Vanderbilt School of Nursing, we seek to deliver a unique combination of high touch and high tech. Following nursing’s long-standing tradition for care and compassion – as well as our School’s history of excellence that dates back to 1908 – we put the patient first in all we do, from advanced practice nursing to the latest in nursing informatics and research that is advancing our discipline. Today, new tools and techniques are available for us to leverage in all areas, in teaching the best nursing students anywhere and reaching out into our communities to deliver care to patients who might otherwise not have access to it. At Vanderbilt, our nursing school graduates are practice-ready, leading our discipline forward, and touching lives wherever they go.
Our Advantage: Our Campus, Our City, Our Connections

Ask our students what makes our School of Nursing special, and you're likely to get a variety of answers. Some say it’s exposure to a vast diversity of thought and experience, among both our faculty and our students. Others say it’s our incredible network of alumni who are making a difference in the world. Or, they point to our commitment to embracing change and using technology to deliver superior teaching and patient care. Some enjoy the beauty of the Vanderbilt campus, while many thrive on the health care hub that surrounds us and all that Nashville has to offer. One distinction most will agree is our unique ability to bridge tradition and innovation in new ways – always pushing the envelope of care but never forgetting the patient at the center.

Gallup Poll: Nursing most trusted profession

Nurses topped the 2018 Gallup Poll ranking of how Americans view 20 major professions, with 84% of the public, four in five Americans, rating their honesty and ethical standards as “high” or “very high.” Nurses have ranked first for 17 consecutive years and every year except for one in the 20 years that Gallup has surveyed public opinion on the honesty and ethical standards of various occupations.

news.gallup.com/poll/245597/nurses-again-outpace-professions-honesty-ethics.aspx

Vanderbilt’s Hometown

Nashville is a vibrant, engaging city known proudly as “Music City, U.S.A.” Vanderbilt’s campus is located a little more than a mile from downtown and the university’s students, faculty, staff and visitors frequently cite Nashville as one of the perks of Vanderbilt.

From serving as home to the nation’s largest Kurdish population to being named America’s friendliest city for three years in a row, Nashville is a metropolitan place that proudly exudes all of the charm and hospitality one expects from a Southern capital.

Major industries include tourism, printing and publishing, technology manufacturing, music production, higher education, finance, insurance, automobile production and health care management. Nashville has been named one of the 15 best U.S. cities for work and family by Fortune magazine, was ranked as the number one most popular U.S. city for corporate relocations by Expansion Management magazine, and was named by Forbes magazine as one of the 25 cities most likely to have the country’s highest job growth over the coming five years.
Admission requirements vary somewhat depending upon your educational background and whether you are already a registered nurse.

1. All applicants must submit an online application which includes a **Statement of Purpose** and a $50 application fee. The Statement of Purpose should reflect your understanding of the role of the advanced practice nurse and your interest in a particular patient population. Before writing your statement of purpose, please carefully review information about the specialty on our website so that you clearly indicate to the faculty that your career goals are a fit with the specialty.

   Students are offered admission to their selected specialty; it is not possible to enter the program undecided about your specialty area. While the online application system will allow you to submit more than one application, the School of Nursing can only consider one application per student per term.

2. It is recommended that applicants earn a **grade point average** of at least a “B” or a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

3. **Complete academic history** is required. Applicants must list all post-secondary institutions attended whether or not a degree was earned.

4. While the online application accepts unofficial transcripts, the School of Nursing requires **official transcripts** from all colleges or universities attended. Official transcripts should be mailed to the Center for Data Management| Vanderbilt University| PMB 407833| 2301 Vanderbilt Place |Nashville, TN 37240-7833. If your school uses an electronic transcript service such as Parchment, Naviance, Docufide or Scrip Safe, have your University Registrar send the transcript to cdm@vanderbilt.edu. Applicants who have completed academic degrees or taken courses outside of the United States should refer to additional transcript information in the international student section.

5. All applicants must provide three **letters of academic or professional reference**. References should be from faculty members, professional colleagues, or work supervisors who can evaluate your potential for success in a graduate program. It is required that at least one of your recommenders hold a master’s or higher degree. Recommendations from family, friends, other students or co-workers are NOT appropriate. While only three references are required, the online application system will allow you to provide names of up to 5 recommenders. Applicants to the NNP specialty must submit references from a neonatalogist and a neonatal nurse practitioner who can evaluate your clinical practice.

6. All applicants must respond to the **application questions**. Both the writing style (i.e. grammar, punctuation, spelling, word use) and content of your responses will be used in the overall evaluation of your application to the program.

7. All applicants are required to have certain **prerequisite courses** from an accredited college or university with a grade of C or better. Prerequisite courses do not have to be completed at the time of application but must be completed by the time our classes start in August.

   A. If you have earned a BSN, you must have had a 3-semester hour or 4-quarter hour Statistics course.
   
   B. If you have earned an ASN or a Diploma in nursing, you must have earned at least 78 accredited semester or 110 accredited quarter hours including the following areas: 11 hours of natural science which must include courses in Microbiology, Human Anatomy, and Human Physiology; 9 hours of Social Science; 6 hours of Humanities; 6 hours of English; 3 hours of Statistics; Nutrition and Developmental Psychology.
   
   C. If you have earned a BA or BS in a discipline other than Nursing, you must have successfully completed 11 hours of natural science including courses in Microbiology, Human Anatomy, and Human Physiology; Statistics; Nutrition and Developmental Psychology. The human anatomy, human physiology and microbiology courses must have been taken within 5 years of application.
8. RN applicants must have graduated (or will graduate prior to enrolling) from an ACEN or CCNE accredited school and hold an **unencumbered RN license**. Students admitted contingent upon NCLEX-RN examination results who do not pass the exam will have the admission offer rescinded. The student is eligible to reapply for admission in a subsequent term after RN licensure is obtained.

9. All applicants must **meet the competencies** necessary for the professional practice of nursing. RN applicants must be eligible to practice in the state where they will be completing their clinical practica and/or preceptorship. Non-RN applicants must meet the eligibility requirements for nursing licensure in Tennessee. For more information on licensure, visit the Tennessee Department of Health website at: [www.tn.gov/health](http://www.tn.gov/health).

10. Applicants applying to complete clinical training outside of the middle Tennessee area (OMTA), should review the clinical placement section of this book and the information regarding professional licensure and out of state requirements found at [nursing.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/regulations.php](http://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/regulations.php).

All information submitted in the application process must be the applicant’s own work, factually true, complete, and honestly presented. Applicants providing false or incomplete information may be subject to a range of possible disciplinary actions, including admission revocation, expulsion or revocation of course credit, grades and degree.

If you have questions about the admissions requirements, the Admissions Office is available to assist you. Please contact us at [vusn-admissions@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vusn-admissions@vanderbilt.edu) or 1.888.333.9192.
### MSN and PMC: PROGRAMS OFFERED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner+</td>
<td>offered in modified learning (block) format for RNs who live at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner*</td>
<td>offered in modified learning (block) format for RNs who live at a distance. Students entering as non-RNs must complete entire program in Nashville.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Nurse Practitioner (PMC for FNPs only)#</td>
<td>offered in modified learning (block) format for RNs who live at a distance. Non-RNs must spend first 3 semesters (one calendar year) in Nashville for PreSpecialty year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)*</td>
<td>offered in modified learning (block) format for students who live at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Nurse Practitioner/Emergency Nurse Practitioner Dual Focus (RNs only)#</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN/MDiv or MSN/MTS Dual Degree (MDiv/MTS portion on campus only)</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (RNs only)#</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Midwifery^</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Midwifery/FNP Dual Focus^</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing and Health Care Leadership (RNs only)#</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Informatics (RNs only)#</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (RNs only)#</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner*</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric &amp; Mental Health Nurse Practitioner*</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)*</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Health/Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Dual Focus*</td>
<td>offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENTRY OPTIONS AND LEARNING FORMATS

Multiple Entry Options and Estimated Length

If you have:

- A BS or BA or higher degree in a non-nursing field – two calendar years (6 semesters) of full-time study. Dual specialties require additional semesters.
- A Bachelor’s degree in Nursing - One full calendar year (3 semesters) full-time study; dual specialties require additional semester(s). Part-time study available.
- An Associate degree or Diploma in Nursing - Two years (5 semesters) full-time study; dual specialties require additional semester(s). Part-time study available.
- A Master’s degree in Nursing and seek a Post-Master’s Certificate (program length varies.)

Educational Formats

Distance (Modified Learning) Format

Many of our programs do not require all course content to be delivered in a face-to-face traditional classroom environment. Instead, content is delivered in a modified learning (block) format including:

- Courses offered in concentrated blocks of time on campus (approximately 4-5 days up to four times per semester)
- Online web conferencing
- Digital video and distributed learning methods that allow for continued faculty contact between sessions
- Clinical placement arranged outside the middle Tennessee area (OMTA), provided a suitable agency and preceptor are available
- Due to certain state boards of nursing and/or state higher education commission rules, the School of Nursing may not be able to provide clinical placements in your desired location. See nursing.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/regulations.html.

Programs Offered in Distance (Modified Learning) Format

- RN-to-MSN PreSpecialty Year (For ASN or Diploma RNs)
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner* intensivist focus on campus only
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Emergency Nurse Practitioner (PMC for certified FNPs only)
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner/Emergency Nurse Practitioner (RNs only)
- Nursing and Health Care Leadership (RNs only)
- Nursing Informatics (RNs only)
- Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Lifespan)*
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (experienced neonatal RNs only)
- Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (experienced RNs only)
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
ENTRY OPTIONS AND LEARNING FORMATS (CONTINUED)

• Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner
• Women’s Health NP/Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP Dual Focus
*Applicants with non-nursing degrees complete entire program in Middle Tennessee

Programs combining on campus and online classes with local and distance clinical placements (Hybrid Format)
• Nurse-Midwifery
• Nurse-Midwifery/Family Nurse Practitioner
• MSN/MDiv or MSN/MTS (MDiv/MTS portion on campus only)

FALL EARLY ACTION APPLICATION COMPLETION DATE - NOVEMBER 1

Contact Admissions office:
VUSN-Admissions@vanderbilt.edu or 1-888-333-9192
Apply: applyvanderbilt.edu/apply/
The Clinical Placement Office works collaboratively with faculty, program directors, and students to ensure all students have a productive clinical experience. Clinical sites and preceptors are chosen for their ability to provide students with clinical experiences consistent with course and certification requirements and the mission of the school. Due to regulatory requirements or a lack of available and appropriate preceptors, VUSN may not be able to accommodate clinical placements in all areas of the country. Please discuss your preferences with your specialty faculty to be sure you understand all possible options.

**PreSpecialty (BA/BS in non-nursing field) Year Rotations**

Students during their PreSpecialty year will be placed in group clinical experiences. These group experiences may be in a hospital or community setting in the Greater Middle Tennessee area (MTA).

**Placements within the Greater Middle Tennessee Area (MTA) – ASN entry and Specialty Year**

For students admitted as MTA (Greater Middle Tennessee Area) students, the Clinical Placement Office works with the specialty faculty to secure clinical sites. Clinical sites located within a 150-mile radius from the School of Nursing are considered to be within this area. As a result, students may have rotations in Kentucky, Alabama, and east or west Tennessee, depending on the appropriateness of the site. Faculty take into consideration a number of factors in assigning students to sites, including home address, specialty needs, and clinical interests.

Given the large number of health profession students in the area and the competition for sites, agencies and providers have asked that all Greater Middle Tennessee area VUSN placements be coordinated by a school representative. Students are not to reach out to local sites to arrange their own placements. If you identify a possible local placement, please contact your specialty director or course coordinator first; they will work with the Clinical Placement office staff to see if a placement is possible.

**Placements outside the Greater Middle Tennessee Area (OMTA) – ASN entry and Specialty Year**

For students admitted as OMTA (outside the Greater Middle Tennessee Area), students, faculty, and the Clinical Placement staff work collaboratively to locate OMTA sites. Students are encouraged to develop a list of possible sites, as they often have a better knowledge of the area and can use personal networks and connections to identify a potential rotation.

The Clinical Placement office will research the area and share information on agencies and practices where VUSN either has an existing relationship or where a previous student has precepted. The Clinical Placement office also coordinates with the Alumni Relations office to share information on alumni in the area who might be able to assist. Once the student has secured agreement from a preceptor for a rotation, the student must submit information through the Clinical Placement system. This enables the faculty to vet the preceptor and ensure the experience is appropriate and will meet both the specialty requirements and the student’s educational needs.

Once the faculty has vetted the preceptor, the Clinical Placement office is responsible for ensuring all appropriate agreements are in place and all agency requirements met before a student may begin their rotation. Vanderbilt requires an agreement with all sites where a student will obtain experience. This includes the practice site as well as any ancillary sites, such as hospitals, surgery centers, and nursing homes. A student may not go with the preceptor to a site where the school does not have an active affiliation.
agreement. Even when Vanderbilt has an agreement with the site, the Clinical Placement office is required to confirm it is still valid.

Students are strongly encouraged to plan ahead. Given the competition for clinical placements in some parts of the country, securing a preceptor, negotiating and finalizing the necessary agreements can take several months, and in some cases up to a year. In rare cases, Vanderbilt is unable to come to an agreement with an agency, or a particular area may not have an appropriate site or preceptor available; the Clinical Placement staff communicates on a regular basis with the faculty to allow sufficient time for a student to secure another placement, if necessary.

Faculty must approve any additional sites for the student's clinical experience to ensure that the sites are necessary or appropriate to the student's clinical objectives. The number of sites and contracts will be limited per student. Due to the large number of placements each term, requests for rotations for a minimal number of hours (typically less than 80) must be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the faculty before an agreement is initiated.

**Clinical Requirements – MTA and OMTA**

For clinicals at the specialty level, an active and unencumbered RN license, valid for the state in which the student is doing the rotation, is required. Depending on the clinical placement location, students may be required to obtain additional state licenses. Due to regulatory requirements or a lack of available preceptors, VUSN cannot accommodate clinical placements in all areas of the country.

All requirements for enrollment must be completed and on file at the time of enrollment and must be kept current throughout the student's clinical practica. Clinical preceptors and/or agencies may require a drug screening, fingerprinting, additional criminal background checks, or other requirements specific to that site. Costs associated with these processes are the responsibility of the student. The Clinical Placement office will notify students of any additional requirements associated with their rotation.

Students may not begin their clinical rotations until they have met all the site requirements and have received confirmation from their faculty and the Clinical Placement office that they are cleared to start.

**Transportation and Lodging**

Students are responsible for their lodging and transportation to and from all clinical facilities and field trips. Practice sites are chosen for their ability to provide experiences consistent with the program requirements, the mission of the school, and individual student objectives. MSN and PMC students admitted for MTA clinical placement should be prepared to travel 150 miles from the school of nursing.
### MSN Credit Hours by Semester

#### Credit Hours by Semester for 2019-2020 (MSN) - Based on Full-time Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
<th>Spring 2020</th>
<th>Summer 2020</th>
<th>Fall 2020</th>
<th>Total hours to complete program</th>
<th>Total tuition plus fees (Fall 2019 - Summer 2020*)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-RN PreSpecialty (1st year)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>$74,941</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RN PreSpecialty or ASN or Diploma (1st year)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>not enrolled</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$46,942</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty Year (2nd Year and Direct Entry students)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology - ACNP Hospitalalist</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$71,657</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology - ACNP Intensivist</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$73,299</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family NP</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal NP</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse-Midwifery</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Yr 1=46, Yr 2=7 $79,867</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric NP (Acute)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric NP (Primary)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric-Mental Health NP - Family</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$71,657</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Health</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>$70,015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Dual Focus or Dual Degree Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fall #1</th>
<th>Spring #1</th>
<th>Summer #1</th>
<th>Fall #2</th>
<th>Spring #2</th>
<th>Total hours to complete program</th>
<th>Total tuition plus fees (Year 1)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family/Emergency Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>not enrolled</td>
<td>Yr 1 = 45, Yr 2 = 6, Total = 51</td>
<td>$78,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM/FNP</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Yr 1 = 46, Yr 2 = 19, Total = 65</td>
<td>$79,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHNP/AGNP</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>not enrolled</td>
<td>Yr 1 = 47, Yr 2 = 9, Total = 56</td>
<td>$81,509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These tuition rates are based on $1,642 per credit hour.

*This is the tuition total plus fees including $3,650 for health insurance (for school year August 2019-August 2020).


#### New Programs - part time only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fall 1</th>
<th>Spring 1</th>
<th>Summer 1</th>
<th>Fall 2</th>
<th>Spring 2</th>
<th>Summer 2</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
<th>Year 1 Tuition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nursing &amp; Health Care Leadership</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>$31,170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Informatics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>$31,170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The credit hours listed are subject to change. The tuition and fees listed are for 2019-2020. The tuition and fees for 2020-2021 will be finalized in May 2020.

### MSN Tuition and Fees (2019-2020)

The tuition and fees listed are subject to change. The tuition and fees for 2020-2021 will be finalized in May 2020.

#### Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020 (MSN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$1,642</td>
<td>Per credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12 hours = $19,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13 hours = $21,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14 hours = $22,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15 hours = $24,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16 hours = $26,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees are required for part-time and full-time students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance*</td>
<td>$3,650</td>
<td>Fall = $1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Service Fee</td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>Fall = $250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcript Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Fall = $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Per Academic Year (this is an estimated amount because book prices vary – a charge for books will not appear on your bill)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Health insurance can be waived online as long as you provide documentation that you have another source of health insurance. Once you are on that website, type in your school as Vanderbilt University and follow the instructions. You must complete the waiver before August 1st of each year.

#### Example of how to add your charges and determine your refund (used for living expenses) for one semester

A PreSpecialty student enrolled in 16 hours for the fall semester and using the Vanderbilt health insurance, will have a fall semester bill of $28,447. This student’s aid for the year is: scholarship of $6,900, and Unsubsidized loan of $20,500 and a Grad PLUS Loan or $79,266. The fall semester financial aid is listed on the right. The loan amounts listed are the amounts that will disburse to the student account after loan origination fees are subtracted from each disbursement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Charges</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$26,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>$1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Service Fee</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcript Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total charges</td>
<td>$28,447</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aid/Refund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Scholarship</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsubsidized loan</td>
<td>$6,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAD Plus Loan</td>
<td>$25,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total aid</td>
<td>$34,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total charges</td>
<td>-$28,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFUND (for living expenses)</td>
<td>$5,911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This refund would need to last until your spring refund which won’t be available until approximately 1/17/20.
POST-MASTER’S CREDIT HOURS, TUITION, AND FEES

The credit hours listed are subject to change. The tuition and fees listed are for 2019-2020. The tuition and fees for 2020-2021 will be finalized in May 2020.

Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020 (PMC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$1,642</th>
<th>Per credit hour</th>
<th>6 hours = $9,852</th>
<th>7 hours = $11,494</th>
<th>12 hours = $19,704</th>
<th>13 hours = $21,346</th>
<th>14 hours = $22,988</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$1,642</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance*</td>
<td>$3,650</td>
<td>Fall = $1,825</td>
<td>Spring = $1,825</td>
<td>Summer = $0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Service Fee</td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>Fall = $250</td>
<td>Spring = $250</td>
<td>Summer = $85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcript Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Fall = $100</td>
<td>One-time fee for all entering new students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Per Academic Year (this is an estimated amount because book prices vary – a charge for books will not appear on your bill)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Health insurance can be waived online as long as you provide documentation that you have another source of health insurance. Once you are on that website, type in your school as Vanderbilt University and follow the instructions. **You must complete the waiver before August 1st of each year.**

• If you are a Vanderbilt employee and plan to apply for the HR tuition benefit or the VUMC tuition benefit, you will need to apply for the benefits online with EdAssist. You can read about this at this link: [hr.mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php](http://hr.mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php)

• If you have questions, please call Kristie Smith, Director of Student Financial Services at VUSN, at 615-322-8986 or email kristie.L.smith@vanderbilt.edu.
SNAPSHOT OF 2018 MSN GRADUATES

375 Graduates (August 2017, December 2017, and May 2018 Graduates)

Salary Information*

- Above $120,000 (4%)
- Above $110,000 (9%)
- $100-109,999 (24%)
- $90-99,999 (26%)
- $80-89,999 (19%)
- $70-79,999 (7%)
- $60-69,999 (6%)
- $50-59,999 (1%)
- Below $50,000 (4%)

*102 Graduates reporting

Employment Setting**

- Critical Access Hospital (4%)
- Community Health Center (13%)
- Federally Qualified Health Ctr (9%)
- Faculty - School of Nursing (1%)
- Home Health Agency (1%)
- Mental Health Center (5%)
- Military Service (1%)
- Not-for-Profit Hospital (18%)
- Nursing Home/Skilled Nursing (4%)
- Private Clinic (20%)
- Public Hospital (13%)
- Rural Health Clinic (6%)
- Public Health/Human Services (1%)
- Other (4%)

**96 Graduates reporting a total of 136 responses. Students were allowed to choose up to 3 employment settings that described their practice.

Length of time it took to find employment following graduation***

- Found position before graduation (39%)
- Within 3 months (27%)
- Within 6 months (13%)
- Over 6 months (6%)
- Still have not found employment (13%)
- Not looking at the present time (2%)

***124 Graduates reporting
NP FACTS

There are more than 270,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S.¹

- More than 28,700 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2017–2018.²
- 99.1% of NPs have graduate degrees.²
- 87.1% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care, and 72.6% of all NPs deliver primary care.³
- 82.9% of full-time NPs are accepting Medicare patients and 80.2% are accepting Medicaid patients.³
- 41.7% of full-time NPs hold hospital privileges; 11.7% have long-term care privileges.³
- 95.7% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 20 prescriptions per day.³
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances, in all 50 states and D.C.
- In 2018, the mean, full-time base salary for NPs was $105,903.³
- The majority of NPs (57.4%) see three or more patients per hour.²
- Malpractice rates remain low; only 1.1% have been named as primary defendant in a malpractice case.³
- NPs have been in practice an average of 10 years.³
- The average age of NPs is 49 years.³

### DISTRIBUTION, TOP PRACTICE SETTING AND CLINICAL FOCUS AREA BY AREA OF NP CERTIFICATION³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification*</th>
<th>Percent of NPs</th>
<th>Top Practice Setting</th>
<th>Top Clinical Foci</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family^</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>Hospital Outpatient Clinic (13.5%)</td>
<td>Primary Care (37.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult^</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>Hospital Outpatient Clinic (17.9%)</td>
<td>Primary Care (17.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult–Gerontology Primary Care^</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>Hospital Outpatient Clinic (14.4%)</td>
<td>Primary Care (25.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute Care</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>Hospital Inpatient Unit (50.8%)</td>
<td>Cardiology (16.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics–Primary Care^</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Hospital Outpatient Clinic (31.1%)</td>
<td>Primary Care (51.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult–Gerontology Acute Care</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Hospital Inpatient Unit (53.6%)</td>
<td>Critical Care (16.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Health^</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Private Group Practice (23.6%)</td>
<td>OB/GYN (66.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric/Mental Health–Family</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Psych/Mental Health Facility (24.2%)</td>
<td>Psychiatric (67.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric/Mental Health</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Psych/Mental Health Facility (28.7%)</td>
<td>Psychiatric (66.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerontology^</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Long-Term Care Facility (20.5%)</td>
<td>Primary Care (31.4%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* NPs may be certified in more than one area
^ Primary Care Focus

Updated August 2019

¹AANP National Nurse Practitioner Database, 2019.
³2018 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Sample Survey.
NURSE PRACTITIONERS

NPs are the providers of choice for millions of Americans. NPs evaluate patients, diagnose, write prescriptions and bring a comprehensive perspective to health care.

### PRIMARY CARE FOCUS

NPs are choosing primary care more than physicians and physician assistants. In 2007, more than 87% of NPs were prepared in primary care programs, while only 14.5% of physicians entered a primary care residency.

### AREA OF PRIMARY CARE PREPARATION

- 60.6% Family
- 21.3% Adult and Geriatrics
- 3.4% Women’s Health
- 4.6% Pediatrics

### REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICE

- Bachelor's Degree in Nursing
- Registered Nurse License
- Graduate Nursing Education
- National Board Certification
- State NP Licensure/Registration

### PRESERVATION FOR THE FUTURE

- 85% accept Medicare
- 83% accept Medicaid
- 84% accept Private Insurance
- 82% accept Uninsured

### NPs AT A GLANCE

- Over 5 decades of improving patient access and quality care
- Over 1.02 billion annual patient visits estimated
- Prescribe medications in all 50 states and D.C.

### DELIVER PRIMARY CARE

- 3 out of 4
- 60% of NPs see 3 or more patients per hour

### INCREASING IN NUMBER

The number of nurse practitioners continues to grow rapidly.

### NP: Your Partner In Health

With a track record of quality health care delivery for nearly half a century...

### Nurse practitioners are a clear solution for patient-centered, accessible health care.

An increase in the overall population, aging baby boomers, and the newly insured under the Affordable Care Act will bring millions more into the health care system.

### NPs BY THE NUMBERS

- 2018: 248,000
- 2017: 234,000
- 2016: 221,000
- 2015: 171,000
- 2014: 140,000
- 2013: 120,000
- 2012: 106,000
- 2011: 97,000
- 2010: 82,000
- 2009: 68,300

### FOR THE FUTURE

- 2 out of 3 patients support legislation for greater access to NP services

March 2018
While the Vanderbilt PhD and DNP degree programs share a rich foundation of excellence in teaching, practice and research, it is important for nurses who seek doctoral study to recognize and understand the differences in the PhD and DNP degrees to make informed decisions about advancing their education at Vanderbilt School of Nursing. While different, the DNP and the PhD in nursing are not competitive degrees but rather complementary to one another.

The **Doctor of Nursing Practice program** at Vanderbilt integrates course work with practice immersion experiences to prepare scholars to lead the application of evidence-based knowledge, to improve health care outcomes, and strengthen health care systems.

The Vanderbilt **PhD program** prepares nurses for careers as research scientists in academic, governmental or private entities. Our graduates conduct independent research, participate as interdisciplinary researchers and develop and disseminate knowledge to improve health and the delivery of health care.

The next page provides a comparison of the DNP and PhD degree programs. These comparisons are built upon guidelines set forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (www.aacn.nche.edu).
## PhD OR DNP: WHICH IS RIGHT FOR ME?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DNP</th>
<th>PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program of Study</strong></td>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong> Prepare nurse leaders at the highest level of nursing practice to improve patient outcomes and translate research into practice</td>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong> Prepare nurses at the highest level of nursing science to conduct research to advance the science of nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Competencies:</strong> See AACN’s Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006)</td>
<td><strong>Competencies:</strong> See The Research-Focused Doctoral Program in Nursing: Pathways to Excellence (2010)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Students**         | • Commitment to practice career  
                      | • Oriented toward improving outcomes of patient care and population health | • Commitment to research career  
                      | • Oriented toward developing new nursing knowledge and scientific inquiry |
| **Program Faculty**  | • Practice or research doctorate in nursing, and expertise in area teaching  
                      | • Leadership experience in area of role and population practice  
                      | • High level of expertise in practice congruent with focus of academic program | • Research doctorate in nursing or related field  
                      | • Leadership experience in areas of sustained research funding  
                      | • High level of expertise in research congruent with focus of academic program |
| **Resources**        | • Mentors and/or preceptors in leadership positions across practice settings  
                      | • Access to diverse practice settings with appropriate resources for areas of practice  
                      | • Access to financial aid | • Mentors and/or preceptors in research settings  
                      | • Access to research settings with appropriate resources  
                      | • Access to dissertation support dollars and financial aid |
| **Why choose Vanderbilt School of Nursing?** | We offer an innovative, technology-rich curriculum in a collegial and supportive environment; our faculty is committed to preparing nurse scholars who can lead the nation in extending the body of knowledge and improve health care outcomes. Our research and practice faculty, experts, mentors and resources in Nashville – a major health care hub – are among the best. Students will have the opportunity to work with scholars from across the campus and the nation. |
DOCTORAL PROGRAMS (DNP OR PhD)

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Entry Options

- Entry with a MSN in advanced practice (CNM, CNS, CRNA or NP), nursing informatics or health care leadership.
  - MSN entry requires national certification as CNM, CNS, CRNA or NP (except for nursing administration or informatics).
  - MSN entry has option to pursue a Post-Master’s Certificate in a new advanced practice specialty area if desired (additional credit and clinical hours required).
- Entry with Master’s in Nursing Education or Clinical Nurse Leader must earn a Post-Master’s Certificate in an advanced practice specialty and become an APRN before beginning DNP program of study (additional credit and clinical hours required).
- Entry with BSN and MBA, MPH, MHA or other health care related master’s degree for DNP track in advanced systems practice or executive leadership. See further details in DNP Executive Leadership section.
- Entry with a BSN – apply to the Vanderbilt MSN program and seamlessly progress into the DNP program (upon successful completion of MSN requirements).

BSN-DNP program

- In the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner specialty. Requires 65 credits and is completed in eight semesters of full-time study without earning a master’s level nursing degree. Optional focus area in hospitalist or intensivist. Please note that acceptance into the intensivist focus requires residence in the Middle Tennessee/Nashville area prior to the start of the AGACNP clinical sequence. The hospitalist focus accepts both distance and local applicants.
- In the Family Nurse Practitioner/Emergency Nurse Practitioner specialty. Requires a minimum of 65 credit hours and is completed in in eight semesters without obtaining a master’s-level nursing degree.

DNP program overview

- MSN to DNP requires 36 credits and 500 practica hours (5 or 6 semesters).
- DNP program is accredited by the CCNE and meets recommendations of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.
- Fall early action deadline: December 1. DNP applications received after December 1 will be considered on a rolling basis until all spaces are full. Note: Post-Master’s plus DNP spaces fill very quickly so application should be submitted by November 1st.
- Practice integration tailored to each student’s scholarly interests, with practice partners in health care agencies/organizations who support and facilitate the application of knowledge and skills from coursework to their practice settings.
- A combination of on-campus study and online/distance learning methodologies for both real-time and virtual scholarly interaction and faculty mentoring – so that doctoral students do not have to relocate or give up employment.
- DNP fellowship opportunities for students who reside in the Middle Tennessee area include: AGACNP Intensivist, Genetics for FNP and VA National Quality Scholars.
DOCTORAL PROGRAMS (DNP OR PhD)

PhD in Nursing Science

- Two tracks: Clinical Research or Health Services Research.
- Program prepares nurse scholars for research and academic careers in public or private sectors of health care.
- Collegial and supportive environment with close faculty interaction
- A combination of on-campus study and online/distance learning methodologies for both real-time and virtual scholarly interaction and faculty mentoring – so that doctoral students do not have to relocate or give up employment.
- Designed for applicants with a bachelor’s degree in nursing (or BSN equivalent) and a master’s degree in nursing (or a related field) or a doctoral degree in nursing (or a related field).
- Requires 72 credit hours of study. Most students are able to transfer 15 credit hours from their master’s degree, pending approval by the graduate faculty.
- Completed applications received by January 1 will be considered for all university and School of Nursing financial awards.
- Outstanding research support and opportunity to work with interdisciplinary teams.

DNP and PhD Distance Learning

- Intensive experience on campus in Nashville, TN, for four to five days at beginning of each semester (August, January, and May).
- State-of-the-art online and distance technologies and techniques used to enrich student learning experience.
- Faculty mentors guide educational program from admission to degree completion.
- DNP practica are completed within the student’s professional practice setting or in clinical sites created through collaborative partnerships.
- PhD students participate in intensive research experiences connected with faculty research projects.

Required On-Campus Intensive Session for 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Fall Intensive   | August 26-29, 2019 (DNP)  
                   | August 19-23, 2019 (PhD)  |
| Spring Intensive | January 13-16, 2020    |
| Summer Intensive | May 11-14, 2020        |
DNP ENTRY OPTIONS

We begin reviewing applications for the fall semester on December 1 and continue to review applications on a rolling basis until all spaces are full. The link to the DNP (nursing practice) application can be found at apply.vanderbilt.edu/apply/.

DNP Advanced Clinical Practice Track

Applicants with one of the following credentials are eligible for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in a clinical track:

• MSN from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with current APRN certification as either a nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist or nurse anesthetist. Applicants from unaccredited nursing programs will be considered on an individual basis.

• MSN or MN in majors such as nursing education or clinical nurse leader from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program. These applicants must complete a Post-Master’s Certificate as part of their DNP program which lengthens the program of studies. After completing the Post-Masters Certificate portion, the student is eligible to take the national certification exam in the selected specialty and continue in DNP courses.

• VUSN students enrolled in either the MSN or Post-Master’s Certificate program can seamlessly progress into the DNP program after completing either the MSN or certificate.

DNP Advanced Systems Practice Track

• MSN in nursing administration or informatics from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program. National certification is preferred but not required. Applicants from unaccredited nursing programs will be considered on an individual basis.

• MSN or MN in nursing education from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program. This entry is a new offering proposed to begin in fall 2020. The applicant may be required to take up to nine credits in prerequisite courses in finance, quality improvement and leadership prior to beginning DNP courses.

• MSN in other advanced nursing practice specialties and advanced systems experience.

• BSN with a master’s degree in a non-nursing business – or health-related field (e.g., master of business administration, master of public health, master of hospital administration, master of management in health care, or master of health informatics).

DNP Executive Leadership Track

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program with an emphasis on executive leadership prepares the expert leader to bring evidence-based knowledge into the practice arena, improve health care outcomes and strengthen the executive nurse leadership role in guiding complex care delivery.

Applicants with one of the following credentials are eligible for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in the Executive Leadership track:

• MSN in health care leadership or nursing administration or informatics and executive leadership experience.

• MSN in other advanced nursing practice specialties and executive leadership experience.

• MSN or MN in nursing education from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program and executive leadership experience. This entry is a new offering proposed to begin in fall 2020. The applicant may be required to take up to nine credits in prerequisite courses in finance, quality improvement and leadership prior to beginning DNP courses.
DNP ENTRY OPTIONS (CONTINUED)

- BSN with a master’s degree in a non-nursing business – or health-related field (e.g., master of business administration, master of public health, master of hospital administration, master of management in health care, or master of health informatics) and executive leadership experience.

Executive Leadership applicants must be certified or eligible for certification in all of the following:

- American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL) certified in Executive Leadership Practice (CENP) 
  [www.aonl.org/initiatives/CENP](http://www.aonl.org/initiatives/CENP)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Nurse Executive (NE-BC) [www.nursecredentialing.org/NurseExec-Eligibility.aspx](http://www.nursecredentialing.org/NurseExec-Eligibility.aspx)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Nurse Executive, Advanced (NEA-BC) 
- American College of Healthcare Executives Fellow (FACHE) [www.ache/fache](http://www.ache/fache)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Informatics Nursing Certification (R.N.-BC) and have three years of informatics experience, with two of those years in a health care setting. 

BSN-DNP Program

BSN to DNP: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track

The integrated BSN to DNP AGACNP program focuses on preparing students to provide an advanced level of evidence-based care in acute and critical care settings. In addition, the program will emphasize DNP skills such as the implementation and evaluation of evidence, systems-level thinking, and care quality and patient safety.

1. The program advances students’ preparation to serve as leaders of multidisciplinary teams in acute and critical care settings. Students have the option of focusing their studies as hospitalists or intensivists.

2. The program gives registered nurses with bachelor of nursing science degrees the ability to earn doctor of nursing practice degrees in eight semesters and without first obtaining a master’s-level nursing degree. The BSN to DNP program requires a minimum of 65 credit hours.

The program is structured so that students will complete AGACNP and core DNP coursework first, and then transition into DNP-specific practice courses. Students will be eligible to take AGACNP certification exam upon completion of specialty-specific course work and will be doctorally prepared nurse practitioners upon graduation.

All students take the same core content, but two optional focus areas in hospitalist or intensivist are offered. Acceptance into the intensivist focus requires residence in the greater Middle Tennessee area (MTA) prior to the start of the AGACNP clinical sequence. The hospitalist focus accepts both distance or OMTA (outside of middle Tennessee) and local (middle Tennessee) applicants. In order to be eligible for the distance format, applicants will need to have two years of RN work experience.
BSN to DNP: Family Nurse Practitioner/Emergency Nurse Practitioner Track

The integrated BSN to DNP FNP/ENP track focuses on preparing students to provide an advanced level of evidence-based care in emergency care settings. In addition, the program will emphasize DNP skills such as the implementation and evaluation of evidence, systems-level thinking, and care quality and patient safety. The program advances students’ preparation to serve as leaders of multidisciplinary teams in acute and critical care settings.

The program gives registered nurses with bachelor of nursing science degrees the ability to earn doctor of nursing practice degrees in eight semesters and without first obtaining a master’s-level nursing degree. The BSN to DNP program requires a minimum of 65 credit hours.

The program is structured so that students will complete FNP, ENP and core DNP coursework first, and then transition into DNP-specific practice courses. Students will be eligible to take FNP and ENP certification exams upon completion of specialty-specific course work and will be doctorally prepared nurse practitioners upon graduation.

All applicants will need to have two years of RN work experience, at least one of which was in an emergency care setting. The program only starts in the fall semester.

**Admission criteria for BSN-DNP program:**

1. Graduation from an ACEN- or CCNE-accredited baccalaureate program with an upper division major in nursing (BSN). Applicants from unaccredited BSN programs will be considered on an individual basis.
2. Grade Point Average. A GPA of 3.5/4.0 scale is recommended.
3. Statement of Purpose. A goal statement that describes your career goals and how earning the DNP will influence your future practice.

Additional requirements are items 3, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 10 listed in the next section.

**Admission Criteria for Post-Master's DNP Program**

The DNP program only starts in the fall semester. Admission is based on the following factors:

1. Grade Point Average. Applicants must have completed a master’s degree from a nationally accredited institution. Applicants with a GPA lower than 3.5 may be considered on an individual basis.
2. Statement of Purpose. A goal statement that includes written essays responding to select professional questions and identification of a potential practice inquiry within selected population(s) to frame the applicant’s program of study is required. Applicants pursuing a Post-Master’s Certificate in a new advanced practice specialty must also address their career goals in the new specialty.
3. Curriculum Vitae or Resume. A curriculum vitae or resume is required.
4. Letters of Recommendation. The applicant must provide three strong professional references from doctorally prepared individuals addressing academic skills, including oral and written communication, as well as clinical competence. One reference should be from a doctorally prepared nurse. Applicants to the DNP plus Post-Master’s Certificate program in the neonatal nurse practitioner specialty must provide recommendations from a NNP and a neonatologist who have worked with the applicant in a clinical setting.
5. Complete Academic History and Official Transcripts. Applicants must submit one transcript from each United States post-secondary institution attended to Vanderbilt’s Center for Data Management.
Official transcripts are required from each school attended whether or not an academic degree was earned. International student applicants should refer to additional transcript information in the International Student Section.

6. National Certification. CNM, CNS, CRNA and NP applicants must have current national board certification in their areas of specialty. National certification for nursing administration, health care leadership or nursing informatics applicants is desirable but not required. Applicants to the DNP Executive Leadership track with a degree other than a master of science in nursing (MSN) must be certified or eligible to be certified by one of the organizations listed in the DNP Executive Leadership section. VUSN graduates who are seamlessly progressing to DNP courses must obtain national certification before enrolling in Integrative Application of Evidence-Based Practice Nurs 8105: DNP.

7. Nursing Licensure. An unencumbered registered nurse license must be presented.

8. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) designation. Applicants who are an NP, CNM, or CRNA must have APRN designation in state of residence and state or states of clinical practice. APRN designation is optional for CNSs.

9. Interview. After a preliminary review of the application, the DNP program office may contact the applicant to schedule a phone interview.

10. All information submitted in the application process must be the applicant’s own work, complete, factually true, and honestly presented. Applicants providing false or incomplete information may be subject to a range of possible disciplinary actions, including admission revocation, expulsion or revocation of course credit, grades and degree.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Vanderbilt School of Nursing Admissions team via email vusn-admissions@vanderbilt.edu or by phone (toll free 1-888-333-9192. To apply, go to apply.vanderbilt.edu/apply

DNP ENTRY OPTIONS (CONTINUED)
DNP TUITION AND FEES

The credit hours listed are subject to change. The tuition and fees listed are for 2019-2020. The tuition and fees for 2020-2021 will be finalized in May 2020.

Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020 (DNP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$1,642</th>
<th>Per credit hour</th>
<th>4 hours= $6,568</th>
<th>6 hours= $9,852</th>
<th>7 hours= $11,494</th>
<th>9 hours= $14,778</th>
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<tr>
<td>Health Insurance*</td>
<td>$3,650</td>
<td>Fall = $1,825</td>
<td>Spring = $1,825</td>
<td>Summer = $0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Service Fees</td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>Fall = $250</td>
<td>Spring = $250</td>
<td>Summer = $85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transcript Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Fall = $100</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Books</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Health insurance can be waived online as long as you provide documentation that you have another source of health insurance. Once you are on that website, type in your school as Vanderbilt University and follow the instructions. The waiver should be available by July 1. You must complete the waiver before August 1st of each year.

- If you are a Vanderbilt employee and plan to apply for the HR tuition benefit or the VUMC tuition benefit, you will need to apply for the benefits online with EdAssist. You can read about this at this link: hr-mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php
- If you are planning to use VA Benefits, you must submit an application for VA benefits each semester. Forms may be found at registrar.vanderbilt.edu/va-benefits/. Questions may be directed to (615) 322-7701.
- Information about the Nurse Faculty loan will be available in late July/early August. Kristie Smith will contact all DNP students once we have information about that loan program. If you have questions about financial aid, please call Kristie Smith, Director of Student Financial Services at VUSN, at (615) 322-8986 or email kristie.L.smith@vanderbilt.edu.
PhD ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Our program is designed to prepare scholars for research and academic careers in public or private sectors of health care and meets The Indicators of Quality in Research-Focused Doctoral Programs in Nursing published by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Admission is competitive. Students are selected on the basis of their scholastic preparation and intellectual capability. Admission to our program requires research and career goals that are consistent with the school's research foci and faculty expertise. We will only accept you if we have the faculty who are actively engaged in your area of research.

Admission Requirements

• Completion of a course of study equivalent to that required for the bachelor’s degree in nursing at an accredited institution, with a minimum of a B average in undergraduate work
• Completion of a course of study equivalent to that required for the master’s degree in nursing (or a related field), with a minimum of a B average in graduate work
• Having maintained a B average in the field of expected graduate concentration

Deadlines

The application deadline is January 1st. All application materials must be received by this date.

Preparing your PhD Application

The admissions decision is heavily influenced by a careful review of each of the components of your application. Because of the importance of a scholarly fit between our students and faculty, we strongly recommend you explore the research focus of our faculty. You are welcome to make personal contact with our faculty in order to help determine common scholarly interests. The PhD program research faculty are located at nursing.vanderbilt.edu/addressbook/phdfac.html.

1. Statement of Purpose
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. (3) Letters of Recommendation
4. "Official" Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score
5. Unofficial transcripts
6. Writing Samples (recommended)
7. TOEFL or IELTS and official documentation by evaluating agency for all international transcripts (international applicants)
8. Faculty Interviews

All information submitted in the application process must be the applicant’s own work, factually true, and honestly presented. Applicants providing false information may be subject to a range of possible disciplinary actions, including admission revocation, expulsion, or revocation of course credit, grades, and degree.
PhD TUITION AND FEES

The credit hours listed are subject to change. The tuition and fees listed are for 2019-2020. The tuition and fees for 2020-2021 will be finalized in May 2020.

Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020 (PhD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition</strong></td>
<td>$2,026</td>
<td>Per credit hour</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 hours = $12,156</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 hours = $14,182</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 hours = $18,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11 hours = $22,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Insurance</strong></td>
<td>$3,650</td>
<td>Fall = $1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Service Fees</strong></td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>Fall = $250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transcript Fee</strong></td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Fall = $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Books</strong></td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Per Academic Year (this is an estimated amount because book prices vary - a charge for books will not appear on your bill)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Health insurance can be waived online at [www.gallagherkoster.com](http://www.gallagherkoster.com) as long as you provide documentation that you have another source of health insurance. Once you are on that website, type in your school as Vanderbilt University and follow the instructions. You must complete the waiver before August 1st of each year.

- If you are a Vanderbilt employee and plan to apply for the HR tuition benefit or the VUMC tuition benefit, you will need to apply for the benefits online with EdAssist. You can read about this at this link: [hr.mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php](http://hr.mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php)

- If you are planning to use VA Benefits, you must submit an application for VA benefits each semester. Forms may be found at: [registrar.vanderbilt.edu/va-benefits/](http://registrar.vanderbilt.edu/va-benefits/). Questions may be directed to (615) 322-7701.

- If you have questions about federal student loans, please call Kristie Smith, Director of Student Financial Services at VUSN, at (615) 322-8986 or email kristie.L.smith@vanderbilt.edu. If you have questions about scholarships, you should speak with Judy Vesterfelt (judy.vesterfelt@vanderbilt.edu) in the PhD nursing graduate office. She can be reached at (615) 322-7410.

For More Information Visit:
[nursing.vanderbilt.edu/phd/welcome.html](http://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/phd/welcome.html)

Contact Information:

**Judy Vesterfelt**
PhD Program Manager
615.322.7410
Toll-free: 1.855.868.7410
[judy.vesterfelt@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:judy.vesterfelt@vanderbilt.edu)
GENERAL INFORMATION
1. **International Applicants who need an I-20 or DS-2019 Issued to Study in the United States** are not eligible to enroll due to federal guidelines. The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Post-Master’s Certificate (PMC) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs do not satisfy the requirements for F-1 or J-1 study. The federal regulations restrict the amount of courses that can be delivered via an online format within a program of study for F-1 and J-1 students. As these programs have a significant online component, the educational format is not compatible with the structure required by the federal government for F-1 and J-1 students.

2. **English Language Proficiency.** Proficiency in written and oral English is required for enrollment in the nursing program. Applicants whose native language is not English must present the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with the application, unless they have demonstrated competence while obtaining a degree from an accredited American institution. International students transferring from unfinished degree programs at other universities in the United States must present TOEFL or IELTS scores. Scores must be less than 2 years old. The minimum acceptable score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language is 100 on the Internet-based test or 250 on the computer-based test. For more information about the TOEFL, go to [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org). The minimum acceptable score on the IELTS is 6.5. For more information on the IELTS test, go to [www.ielts.org/](http://www.ielts.org/). The Vanderbilt’s school code is 1871.

3. **MSN and Post-Master's Certificate.** Applicants whose native language is not English may be required to have a phone interview with the Program or Specialty Director and a member of the Admissions Committee. Interviews are scheduled after a preliminary review of a submitted application.

4. **Registered Nurses.** International student applicants who wish to enter the program as a registered nurse must successfully complete both the CGFNS (Commission on Graduate Foreign Nursing Schools) and the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Exam) examinations and earn licensure as a registered nurse in the state where they will be completing their clinical practicum and/or preceptorship. Information about CGFNS may be obtained at [www.cgfns.org](http://www.cgfns.org). Visit [www.ncsbn.org/index.htm](http://www.ncsbn.org/index.htm) for more information about NCLEX. Information about Tennessee licensure may be obtained by visiting the Tennessee Department of Health website at [www.state.tn.us/health](http://www.state.tn.us/health).

5. **Transcript Evaluation Required.** Applicants who have completed college or university coursework at an institution in a country other than the United States must obtain a complete course-by-course evaluation of native transcripts, degrees and other relevant documents. In all instances, the evaluating agency will require original, official documentation. If the agency does not provide copies of the documentation used to do the course-by-course evaluation, the student must submit the official documentation to Vanderbilt. Official transcripts and course-by-course evaluation reports should be sent to the following address: Office of the University Registrar, Vanderbilt University, ATTN: International Curriculum and Credentials Analyst, PMB 407701, Nashville, Tennessee 37240-7701. For further questions regarding prior degrees, please visit [registrar.vanderbilt.edu/academicrecords/international-degrees.php](http://registrar.vanderbilt.edu/academicrecords/international-degrees.php). Evaluating agencies include World Education Services at [www.wes.org/](http://www.wes.org/), Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. at [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org) and Josef Silny & Associates, Inc., International Education Consultants at [www.jsilny.com](http://www.jsilny.com).

6. Applicants for whom English is a second language who are accepted into the program may also be required to complete an intensive English language program at Vanderbilt University prior to beginning classes at the School of Nursing. Information about Vanderbilt’s English language program may be obtained at [www.vanderbilt.edu/international](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/international).

7. **Financial Resources.** To meet requirements for entry into the United States for study, international applicants must demonstrate that they have sufficient financial resources to meet expected costs of their entire educational program. Applicants must provide documentary evidence of their financial resources before visa documents can be issued.
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS, APPLICANTS FOR WHOM ENGLISH IS A SECOND LANGUAGE, GRADUATES FROM INTERNATIONAL NURSING PROGRAMS, AND APPLICANTS WITH DEGREES EARNED OUTSIDE THE U.S.

United States laws and regulations restrict the opportunity for international students to be employed. Students may be allowed to work off campus only under special circumstances. Many spouses and dependents of international students generally are not allowed to be employed while in the United States.

8. **Health and Accident Insurance.** International students, whether attending the university full-time or part-time, and their dependents residing in the United States are required to purchase the university’s international student health and accident insurance unless, in the judgment of the university, adequate coverage is provided from some other source. Information concerning the limits, exclusions, and benefits of this insurance coverage can be obtained from the Student Health Center or [www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health/insurance.html](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health/insurance.html).
FINANCIAL AID OVERVIEW

Financial aid can literally mean any financial resource. Types of financial aid range from savings, retirement funds, and family gifts to federal financial aid. Federal financial aid for a graduate nursing student at Vanderbilt University consists of Federal Stafford Loans, Federal Nursing Loans, Federal Grad PLUS Loans, private Loans, scholarships and other outside resources you would find based on your own research. Unfortunately, graduate level students do not qualify for federal grants, nor does the School of Nursing offer assistantships or stipends for the MSN program. Federal work-study funds and/or Federal Perkins Loans are not available to nursing students. However, each student enrolled full time will be considered for a partial nursing scholarship. Scholarships are limited, thus it is important to understand the terms and conditions of all types of financial aid.

According to federal guidelines, financial aid funds are allocated for “educational expenses” only. The following lists are “educational” and “non-educational” expenses. By applying financial aid funds to “non-educational expenses,” you are limiting money allocated for your living expenses.

**Educational expenses:** rent and utilities, meals, personal, medical/dental, transportation, fees, health insurance, activity/recreation fee, books/supplies and tuition.

**Non-educational expenses:** credit cards, temporary housing, unreasonable rent, furniture, relocation costs, prescriptions, restaurant meals, vacations, automobiles, entertainment, bank charges, uniforms, dry cleaning, financial support for your family.

How to apply for financial aid

The financial aid application process includes a series of simple steps. However, difficulties can arise if all steps are not completed in a timely manner. Please use the following checklist as you navigate through the process.

*PLEASE NOTE: You do not have to wait until you are admitted to apply for financial aid.*

1. Read the **2019-2020 Financial Aid Application Information & Summary of Financial Aid Programs** and **ALL other forms** in this packet. This will be sent to your email address.

2. Complete the **2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The FAFSA will ask for our school code which is 003535.

3. After you have completed the previous steps and after you have been admitted to the School of Nursing (for new students), you will receive a financial aid award notification by mail by the end of April. This award notification will have information about the aid in which you were awarded as well as instructions regarding how to complete your loan applications online. The award letter will also include a separate sheet that will list the new tuition and fee rates for 2019-2020.

4. If you need to make a change to the award or need to add any outside assistance, you can send an email to kristie.L.smith@vanderbilt.edu at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing Student Financial Services Office.

School of Nursing Student Financial Services

Kristie Smith, Director of Student Financial Services for the School of Nursing, assists all prospective and enrolled students with financial aid. She can assist you with your financial aid applications, award letters, scholarships, questions and concerns. She will be able to help you contact the correct people that relate to your financial aid and its processes. You can contact her at (615) 322-8986 or toll free (800) 211-2186 or by email at kristie.L.smith@vanderbilt.edu.
Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships is located at 2309 West End Avenue. All student loans are processed in this office. Occasionally, you will receive information from this office but any financial aid questions that you have should be directed to Kristie Smith, the Director of Student Financial Services for the School of Nursing. She will handle all of your financial aid needs directly.
SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT RESOURCES

The student applicant is responsible for contacting these potential scholarship and loan repayment resources. This information is subject to change at the discretion of each company/organization listed.

**Affordable Colleges Online** - [www.affordablecollegesonline.org/financial-aid-for-minorities/](www.affordablecollegesonline.org/financial-aid-for-minorities/)
Financial aid scholarships for minority students. This link mentions different scholarships for women and minorities.

**Alaska Tribal Health Facility** - [anthc.org/scholarship-opportunities/](anthc.org/scholarship-opportunities/)
The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) recruits for all the Alaska Tribal Health System facilities in Alaska associated with the Indian Health Service. (800) 528-6680 or (907)729-1900

**American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)** - [www.aanp.org](www.aanp.org)
Applicants must be members; applicants may join at time of application. In Virginia (703) 740-2529 or in Texas (512) 442-4262 or admin@aanp.org

**American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)** - [www.aacn.nche.edu/students/scholarships](www.aacn.nche.edu/students/scholarships)
This website lists different types of scholarships, financial aid resources, and loan repayment programs. Some of the sites listed on this site are included on this form. (202) 463-6930

**American Cancer Society** – [www.cancer.org](www.cancer.org)
The American Cancer Society is awarding master’s degree Scholarships in Cancer Nursing. These are awarded to graduate students pursuing degrees in cancer nursing. Awards are made for up to two years with stipend of $10,000 a year. Annual application deadline is February 1. For info, including applications, instructions, and policies contact.

**American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)** – [www.midwife.org](www.midwife.org)
Scholarship awarded to candidates who have completed at least one semester in an ACNM-accredited education program, obtained two faculty recommendations, been approved by the program director, demonstrated financial need and the potential to be a future leader and be a member of the ACNM. (240)485-1800

**American Indian Graduate Center** – [www.aigcs.org/scholarships-fellowships](www.aigcs.org/scholarships-fellowships)
Fellowships offered based on American Indian heritage and financial need. (800) 628-1920 or (505) 881-4584

**Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN)** – [www.aorn.org](www.aorn.org)
Applicants must be RNs and members of AORN. (800)755-2676 or (303)755-6304

Bridging the Dream Scholarship Program for Graduate Students supports our mission of helping aspiring students create the life they imagine. Four current and future graduate students will be awarded $20,000 for their graduate or professional degree.
SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT RESOURCES (CONTINUED)

Campus RN-AACN Nursing Scholarship Fund – [www.campusrn.com/network/scholarship_program](http://www.campusrn.com/network/scholarship_program)
CampusRN, the leading employment website for nursing/allied health care students and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) have partnered to offer this new scholarship program for students pursuing professional nursing education programs. They will award six $2,500 scholarships to a needy and deserving student in each region.

Community Foundation of Middle TN – [www.cfmt.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/](http://www.cfmt.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/)
There is a list of scholarships for students in all types of degree programs. (888) 540-5200 or (615) 321-4939

Here you’ll find everything you need to start or continue your nursing career, including information on nursing programs, scholarships, and schools.

Diversity Nursing – [www.diversitynursing.com](http://www.diversitynursing.com)
A company that lists various scholarship and employment resources. Pat Magrath (781) 248-3446

East Tennessee Foundation Scholarships – [www.easttennesseefoundation.org/scholarships-grants/scholarships](http://www.easttennesseefoundation.org/scholarships-grants/scholarships)
Must be pursuing a career in public health or be pursuing continuing nursing education. TN residents only. Must reside in certain counties in TN. Must be either a currently employed public health nurse or a public health nursing student. Deadline: March 1 (877) 524-1223 or (865) 524-1223

Fast WEB (financial aid search via the web) – [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
Search for scholarships, fellowships, grants and loans. You can also download the Fastweb app for Android and IOS devices.

College scholarship program for Hispanic students. (310) 975-3700

Indian Health Service (I.H.S.) – [www.ihs.gov](http://www.ihs.gov)
The Indian Health Service offers financial alternatives to RNs who provide direct patient care, such as, Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse-Midwives. They offer scholarships, loan repayment options and nurse recruitment.

International Student Scholarships – [www.internationalscholarships.com](http://www.internationalscholarships.com)
The International Scholarship Search is the premier financial aid, college scholarship and international scholarship resource for students wishing to study abroad.

March of Dimes Nursing Scholarships – [www.marchofdimes.com/nursing](http://www.marchofdimes.com/nursing)
To recognize and promote excellence in nursing care of mothers and babies, the March of Dimes offers several $5,000 scholarships annually to registered nurses enrolled in graduate programs of maternal-child nursing.

The Mary Free Bed Guild, established in 1891, is a non-profit organization that owns Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital. In 2002, the Mary Free Bed Guild created the Minority Scholarship Program for minority students pursuing degrees in nursing or rehabilitation therapy programs. (616) 840-8802
SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT RESOURCES (CONTINUED)

Minority Nurse.Com – minoritynurse.com/nursing-scholarships/
   This website offers a list of funding from many different resources – most of them being available only to minority students. All awards have various criteria for recipients, which may include financial need, academic achievement and involvement in community service. In addition, some awards require the recipient to work in a specific location – often a medically underserved area – after graduation. Contact the sponsoring organizations listed on the website for more detailed information.

MinuteClinic – www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/resources/jj-together-we-care
   For MSN and DNP. Applicants must be legal U.S. residents enrolled in nationally accredited nurse practitioner master’s or doctoral programs. To be eligible, students must be in programs leading to licensure as an APRN with a Family Nurse Practitioner specialty or other special interest in community or public health. High academic performance and strong community involvement will be taken into account.

National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) – nahnnet.org/
   Open to Hispanic students. U.S. citizens or legal residents. Open to students enrolled in nursing school and must be a member of NAHN. (919) 537-5443

National Black Student Nurses Association, Inc. (NBNA) – www.nbna.org/
   The NBNA offers various scholarships each year ranging from $500-$2,000. (301) 589-3200

National Health Service Corp (NHSC) – Loan repayment and Scholarship – nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment and nhsc.hrsa.gov/scholarships/index.html
   The National Health Service Corp offers financial alternatives to students who are majoring in Family Nurse Practitioner or Nurse-Midwifery programs. The NHSC offers a scholarship program that pays tuition, books, and fees and includes a monthly stipend. Student contacts the NHSC for a scholarship application. The NHSC also offers a loan repayment program (NELRP) to which you apply right before the completion of your program. Both programs require at least a two-year working commitment in one of the Eligible Health Facilities. The NHSC is looking for students that have experienced or want to work with underserved populations in the United States. You must be a citizen or national of the United States. (800) 221-9393

The National League for Nursing (NLN) – www.nln.org/professional-development-programs/grants-and-scholarships
   NLN has scholarships based on a student’s commitment to become faculty upon graduation from a masters program or doctoral program.

National Society of the Colonial Dames of America – www.nscda.org
   American Indian Nurse Scholarship Awards (202)337-2288
   nscda.org/student-resources/scholarship-opportunities/

   Applicants must obtain a letter of sponsorship from their local DAR Chapter. (202) 628-1776

   Scholarships and awards are for graduate nurse practitioner students (Masters, Doctor of Nursing, PhD) and/or practicing nurse practitioners. (425) 861-0911

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SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT RESOURCES (CONTINUED)

NURSE Corps Scholarship Program – bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nursecorps/scholarship
Enables students accepted or enrolled in a diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs, including RN to BSN, RN to MSN-NP and Direct Entry MSN-NP program, to receive funding for tuition, fees and other educational costs in exchange for working at an eligible NURSE Corps site upon graduation. (800)221-9393

Nurses Educational Funds, Inc. – www.n-e-f.org/
Applicants must be RNs seeking an advanced degree and belong to a national nursing organization. (917) 524-8051 Email: info@n-e-f.org

Scholarship America – www.scholarshipamerica.org/
By involving communities, corporations, organizations, and individuals in the support of students through its three major programs: Dollars for Scholars, Scholarship Management Services and ScholarShop, Scholarship America strives to strengthen the world, one student at a time. (800) 537-4180 or (800) 279-2083

Scholly – myscholly.com
This is an app to help students find scholarships. The app fee is $2.99 a month.

Student Scholarship Search – www.scholarships.com/
Search for scholarships here, and submit links to ones you’ve found on your own.

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) – Graduate Nursing Loan Forgiveness Program – www.tn.gov/collegepaysmoney-for-collegeloan-forgiveness-programs/graduate-nursing-loan-forgiveness-program.html
This program is designed to encourage Tennessee residents who are nurses to become teachers and administrators in Tennessee nursing education programs. Applicants must be enrolled in an eligible master’s degree or a post master’s degree in a nursing educational program at an eligible institution. Awards are based on funding. Participants of this program incur an obligation to enter a faculty or administrative position in a nursing education program, in Tennessee, immediately upon completion of the education program. (800) 342-1663 or (615) 741-1346

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps – www.usphs.gov/student/
(888) 225-3302

Washington Student Achievement Council Loan Repayment for Health Professionals – www.wsac.wa.gov/health-professionals
The Health Professional Loan Repayment Program encourages licensed primary care health professionals to serve in Washington’s critical shortage areas. (360) 753-7800

The Washboard.org – www.washboard.org
We connect Washington students of all types with Washington scholarship providers ... for FREE. Whether you’ll be attending in state or out, you save time by entering your profile once and letting us find the scholarship opportunities that fit. The WashBoard.org is spam-free and will never sell your information. (888) 535-0747 Option #3
VU HUMAN RESOURCES TUITION DISCOUNT

Refer to hr.mc.vanderbilt.edu/benefits/tuition.php.
Contact Employee Service Center 615-343-7000.

See Education Assistance Programs policy update – changes went into effect 9/1/2012.

Vanderbilt provides tuition discounts for spouses and eligible dependent children of faculty and staff. Applicable waiting periods must be met prior to registration.

• Staff. After three months of employment, full-time staff may audit one Vanderbilt course of up to three hours per semester. Tuition will be waived as long as you have the instructor’s permission to attend. Staff may receive a 70% discount at Vanderbilt or other accredited institutions for courses taken for credit. A maximum of one three-hour course each semester and three courses each school year may be taken.

• Spouses of staff. After three months of employment, spouses of full-time staff may receive a 47% discount at Vanderbilt of one non-degree course per semester.

• Children of staff. See the Tuition Benefit for My Child website.

VUMC Nursing Tuition Assistance Benefit

The Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) Nursing Tuition Assistance benefit is based on the need to continuously attract and retain qualified registered nursing personnel and nursing faculty. The program is subject to change or discontinuation by VUMC in the event that the market no longer dictates the need or the Medical Center elects to eliminate the program.

The Nursing Tuition Assistance Benefit* is only available to regular full-time employees employed at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

For questions related to Nursing Tuition Benefit, please email nursingtuition@vanderbilt.edu. Because this email account is checked on all business days, your inquiry will get a quicker response than if you leave a voice mail for an individual who may or may not be in the office on a given day. If you need to talk to someone in person, leave your contact information in your email and someone will follow up with you.

Questions? Contact us at nursingtuition@vanderbilt.edu.
**Graduate & Professional Students Housing**

Vanderbilt University does not offer on-campus university housing for graduate or professional students. To support the housing needs of new and continuing graduate and professional students, the Office of Housing and Residential Education provides a web-based Off Campus Referral Service. The Referral Service lists information on housing accommodations for students who plan to live off campus. The website includes advertisements by landlords looking specifically for Vanderbilt-affiliated tenants, as well as by Vanderbilt students looking for roommates. Listings are searchable by cost, distance from campus, number of bedrooms, and other parameters. Students may also post “wanted” ads seeking roommate or housemate situations. In mid-April, the School of Nursing will set up a Facebook page for nursing students looking for a roommate.

Web Address:
https://offcampushousing.vanderbilt.edu

Contact Information:

Housing and Residential Experience
Box 1677 Station B
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN 37235
Phone: 615.322.2591 fax: 615.322.2020 email: ohare@vanderbilt.edu

**Hotel Information**

If you will be a distance student that comes to Vanderbilt campus for short periods of time, you should visit the Vanderbilt University visitor travel portal for a list of hotels and bed and breakfasts at:

https://finance.vanderbilt.edu/purchasingandpaymentservices/travel/hotels.php

Each academic year several area hotels have special rates for Vanderbilt School of Nursing students. The list will be updated in early June.

The list includes:

- Embassy Suites at Vanderbilt
- Hampton Inn & Suites Vanderbilt Elliston Place
- Hampton Inn Vanderbilt West End
- Home 2 Suites by Hilton
- Homewood Suites Nashville Vanderbilt
- Hilton Garden Inn Nashville Vanderbilt
- Holiday Inn
EVALUATION OF OPEN HOUSE

1. Was the parking and travel information clear on the website? _____YES _____NO

2. Indicate which morning session you attended:
   _____ASN/ADN Entry   _____BA/BS Entry   _____BSN/PMC Entry   _____Doctoral

3. The morning session was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful
   Please explain ______________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________________

4. Presentation on Financial Aid was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful

5. The student panel was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful

6. The Open House booklet was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful

7. The MSN afternoon specialty sessions were:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful   _____did not attend

8. The DNP afternoon session was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful   _____did not attend

9. The family and friends session was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful   _____did not attend

10. The tour of the Simulation Lab was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful   _____did not attend

11. The Global Health session was:
   _____very helpful   _____helpful   _____not helpful   _____did not attend

12. Please indicate:
    I have already applied for fall:
        _____2020   _____2021   _____2022
    I am interested in applying for:
        _____2021   _____2022   _____2023
    I am undecided about whether I will apply because _________________________________________________
    I am not going to apply because (give reason) _____________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________________________________

13. Overall Open House
    _____exceeded my expectations   _____met my expectations   _____did not provide the information I needed

14. Please use back of sheet for further comments and suggestions.

RETURN TO MARKED BOX ON THE TABLE WHERE YOU CHECKED IN
MSN AND PMC ADVANCED PRACTICE SPECIALTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Nursing and Health Care Leadership (RNs only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics (RNs only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Nurse Practitioner (PMC for FNP only)</td>
<td>Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (RNs only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)</td>
<td>Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Nurse Practitioner/Emergency Nurse Practitioner Dual Focus (RNs only)</td>
<td>Psychiatric &amp; Mental Health Nurse Practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN/MDiv or MSN/MTS Dual Degree (on campus only)</td>
<td>Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (RNs only)</td>
<td>Women’s Health/Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Dual Focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse-Midwifery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse-Midwifery/FNP Dual Focus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Offered in modified learning (block) format for RNs who live at a distance.
* Offered in modified learning (block) format for RNs who live at a distance. Students entering as non-RNs must complete entire program in Nashville.
+ Offered in modified learning (block) format for students who live at a distance. Non-RNs must spend first 3 semesters (one calendar year) in Nashville for PreSpecialty year.
^ Offered in hybrid format combining semesters in Nashville with semesters at a distance.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

- Entry with a MSN in advanced practice (CNM, CNS, CRNA, or NP), nursing informatics or health care systems and earn your DNP degree in 5 or 6 semesters.
- Entry with a MSN may add an advanced practice certification to the DNP course of study (Post-Master’s Certificate plus DNP).
- Entry with Master’s in Nursing Education or Clinical Nurse Leader first earn a Post-Master’s Certificate in an advanced practice specialty and then proceed to the DNP.
- Entry with a BSN: apply to the MSN program and progress into the DNP program after completion of MSN requirements.
- Entry with BSN and MBA, MPH, MHA or other health care related master’s degree: earn the DNP in advanced systems or executive leadership track.
- Entry with BSN-DNP Program in either the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner or Family/Emergency Nurse Practitioner Specialty.
- Learning built upon Vanderbilt’s 100-year history of leadership and excellence in nursing, teaching, practice and research.
- Clinical integration tailored to each student’s scholarly interests, with clinical partners in health care agencies/organizations who support and facilitate the application of knowledge and skills from coursework to their clinical settings.
- A combination of on-campus study and online/distance learning methodologies for both real-time and virtual scholarly interaction and faculty mentoring – so that DNP students do not have to relocate or give up employment.

PhD IN NURSING SCIENCE

- Two tracks: Clinical Research or Health Services Research
- Program prepares nurse scholars for research and academic careers in public or private sectors of health care
- Collegial and supportive environment with close faculty interaction