What graduate academic programs does UNC offer for 2016?

GRADUATE: MSN, Post-MSN, DNP, PhD, & Post-Doctoral Fellowships

- **MSN (includes RN-MSN)**
  - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner – Oncology
  - Family Nurse Practitioner
  - Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care
  - Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
  - Health Care Systems – Clinical Nurse Leader
  - Health Care Systems – Nurse Educator
  - Health Care Systems – Informatics
  - Health Care Systems – Outcomes Management
  - Health Care Systems – Administration

- **Post-MSN Certificate**
  - Health Care Systems – Nursing Leadership
  - Health Care Systems – Informatics
  - Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

- **BSN to DNP**
  - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner – Oncology
  - Family Nurse Practitioner
  - Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
  - Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
  - Health Care Systems – Administration
  - Health Care Systems – Outcomes Management
  - Health Care Systems – Informatics

- **MSN to DNP**
  - APRN
  - Health Care Systems

- **PhD and Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program**
  - Interventions for Preventing & Managing Chronic Illness
  - Health Care Quality and Patient Outcomes
Can I apply to more than one program option at UNC?
No, applicants must select and apply to one program only.

What should I do if I have already started or submitted an application and want to apply to a different program?
Please contact the Office of Student Affairs at son_gradnursing@unc.edu or 919-966-4260.

How can I get more information?
Email: son_gradnursing@unc.edu
Call: 919-966-4260
Live Chat: The live chat link can be found at the bottom of the chat page: http://nursing.unc.edu/admissions/chat/
Come to an Information Session: http://nursing.unc.edu/admissions/information-sessions/

Master of Science in Nursing Program

What are the MSN specialty options?
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner – Oncology
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
- Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Health Care Systems – Clinical Nurse Leader
- Health Care Systems – Nurse Educator
- Health Care Systems – Informatics
- Health Care Systems – Outcomes Management
- Health Care Systems – Administration

Read more on the MSN Page: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/master-of-science-in-nursing/

Who can apply to the MSN program?
There are two options for pursuit of the MSN:
1) BSN to MSN
2) RN to MSN

Nurses with an earned Associate’s Degree, Diploma or BSN degree may apply. One year of work experience is required by the start of the MSN program.

How long does it take to earn the MSN degree if you have a BSN?
The program length varies by specialty and ranges from 35 – 46 credits. Full-time students can complete the program in 1.5 – 2 years.

Can an MSN student attend part-time?
Yes, students may enroll part-time or full-time.
RN-MSN Option

What is the RN-MSN option?
Registered Nurses with an earned Associate’s Degree or Diploma are eligible to apply directly to the Master’s program in this pathway.

Read more on the RN to MSN Page: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/options-for-rns/rn-to-msn/

What programs can an RN study?
RN-MSN students can study any of the MSN options:
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner – Oncology
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
- Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Health Care Systems – Clinical Nurse Leader
- Health Care Systems – Nurse Educator
- Health Care Systems – Informatics
- Health Care Systems – Outcomes Management
- Health Care Systems – Administration

Read more on the MSN page: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/master-of-science-in-nursing/

How long does it take to earn the MSN degree if you have a Diploma or Associate’s Degree in Nursing?
Nurses must complete general education prerequisites first. Once admitted to the program, RN-MSN students complete three undergraduate level nursing courses in addition to the MSN coursework. The program length varies by specialty and ranges from 47 – 58 credits. Full-time students can complete the program in 3 years.

Post-Master of Science in Nursing Certificate Program

What is the Post-MSN Certificate program?
The Post-Master’s Certificate Program is designed for nurses who have earned a Master’s degree in Nursing and desire to expand their advanced nursing knowledge and skills.

Read More on the PMSN Page: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/post-masters-programs/

What are the Post-MSN options?
- Health Care Systems – Nursing Leadership
- Health Care Systems – Informatics
- Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Who can apply to the Post-MSN certificate program?
Nurses with an earned MSN degree may apply to the Nursing Leadership and Informatics options. Certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurses with an earned MSN may apply to the Psych-Mental Health NP program.
How long does it take to earn the Post-MSN certificate?
The program length varies by specialty and by the applicability of previously earned Master’s credits. Please see more information and program plans here: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/post-masters-programs/

Can a Post-MSN student attend part-time?
Yes, students may enroll part-time or full-time in the Post-MSN program. All Post-MSN students must complete the program of study in two calendar years.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

What is the DNP?
The DNP program prepares nurses for direct clinical practice (specifically Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, or Certified Nurse Midwives) and for executive roles in areas that support clinical practice such as administration, organizational leadership, and health policy. Parallel with other health care professions (pharmacy, physical therapy, psychology, medicine, and audiology), the nursing discipline is adopting a practice-focused doctorate as the appropriate graduate education for advanced practice in a highly complex, fast-paced, health care environment.

Read more on the DNP page: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/doctor-of-nursing-practice-program/

What are the DNP options?
• BSN to DNP
  Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
  Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner – Oncology – Primary Care
  Family Nurse Practitioner
  Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
  Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
  Health Care Systems – Administration
  Health Care Systems – Outcomes Management
  Health Care Systems – Informatics
• MSN to DNP
  APRN
  Health Care Systems

Who can apply to the DNP program?
BSN-prepared nurses can apply for the BSN to DNP track. MSN prepared nurses can apply to the MSN to DNP track. Master’s prepared nurses seeking a new area of specialization in which to certify can apply to the BSN to DNP track. Transfer credit can be evaluated upon admission and applicable credit may be applied towards the degree.

How long does it take to complete the DNP program?
The BSN to DNP program is only offered on a full-time basis, and takes three years to complete. The program length varies by specialty and ranges from 67-78 credits. The MSN to DNP program takes two years to complete on a full-time basis. The program length varies by specialty and ranges from 37-41 credits, and
may be pursued on a full-time or part-time basis.

**Can a DNP student attend part-time?**

BSN to DNP applicants must attend full-time. MSN to DNP applicants may enroll either part-time or full-time.

---

**Doctor of Philosophy Program**

**What is the PhD program?**

This program prepares nursing scholars for nursing science. The School of Nursing is part of a cutting-edge research-intensive university and provides a wonderfully rich and diverse environment within which to conduct research. We are excited to offer a fresh program of study that will shorten time to degree, increase flexibility in course selection, and improve course content on developing research competencies.

Read more on the PhD page: [http://nursing.unc.edu/doctoral-program/](http://nursing.unc.edu/doctoral-program/)

**What are the program options?**

In the PhD program, students are linked to a mentor based on area of research interest. The School’s programs of research are concentrated in five areas:

- Preventing and Managing Chronic Illness and Other Major Health Threats
- Reducing Health Disparities
- Improving Healthcare Quality and Patient Outcomes
- Understanding Biobehavioral and Genetic Bases of Health and Illness
- Developing Innovative Approaches to Enhance Science and its Translation to Practice

**Who can apply?**

Applicants with an earned BSN, MSN or DNP are eligible to apply.

**How long is the program?**

Students can complete the PhD program in 3 to 3.5 years.

**Can a PhD student attend part-time?**

Yes, students may enroll part-time in the PhD program; however, full-time enrollment is strongly encouraged.

---

**Pre- & Post-Doctoral Fellowship (T32)**

**What is the T32 Program?**

The goal of this federally funded research training program is to prepare fellows to engage in intensive research. The program is multidisciplinary and provides individualized mentoring from outstanding faculty. Fellows will participate in weekly seminars and receive comprehensive support from the Office of Research Support and Consultation. There is methodological and statistical support, grant development assistance and editorial review of publications along with instructional technology assistance including graphic design and web-based design support.

Read more on the Pre- & Post-Doctoral Fellowships page: [http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/pre-postdoctoral-fellowships/](http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/pre-postdoctoral-fellowships/)
**What are the program options?**

- Interventions for Preventing & Managing Chronic Illness
- Health Care Quality and Patient Outcomes

**Who can apply?**

The pre-doctoral fellowship is open to students accepted or enrolled in the PhD program. The post-doctoral fellowship is open to persons with an earned doctorate interested in developing more comprehensive knowledge and skills in the research arena. No application is needed for the pre-doctoral fellowships; the PhD program application materials are used. To apply for the post-doctoral fellowship, please see the Pre- & Post-Doctoral Fellowships page: [http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/pre-postdoctoral-fellowships/](http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/pre-postdoctoral-fellowships/)

**How long is the program?**

The pre-doctoral fellowship programs vary in length from two to three years, depending on focus. The post-doctoral fellowship program is two years long.