

# DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)



*"The Millersville University DNP program helped me to understand the reason we constantly need to be asking "why?" We need to remain curious. Always keep asking why. Why do we do what we do? Why don't we do it this way or that way? As DNPs, we are the change agents for the nursing profession. Each of us can make a difference to not just the nursing profession, but to the world. Is it a hard program? Yes. Is it a doable program? Yes. It's meant to be difficult; otherwise, everyone would be doing it. This program has taught me to always remind myself to remain curious and keep asking why. After all, curiosity didn't kill the cat; curiosity gave it nine lives."*

– Tiffany Boyd '22, DNP, RN, CSN



The DNP program at Millersville University builds upon students' previous experiences in nursing education and practice to provide students with a strong foundation in nursing science and enhance their professional development and personal growth. We believe our students bring a wealth of clinical expertise to our programs, and we embrace the opportunity to guide our students to higher-level thinking and functioning in the healthcare environment.

## OVERVIEW

The Wehrheim School of Nursing's DNP program is designed for busy registered nurses who already have a master's degree in a related area (MSN, MPH and others). The MU DNP builds upon one's previous graduate education and healthcare experiences. The program was developed and based on the ANA Scope and Standards of Professional Practice and the essential skills of being a DNP. The program prepares individuals to lead healthcare change and translate evidence into practice, collaborate intra-professionally to improve patient care outcomes, as well as advocate and provide leadership for healthy policy.

## DEGREES/CERTIFICATIONS

### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a practice-focused doctorate designed to prepare experts in advanced nursing practice. The DNP program at Millersville is a postmaster's degree program. It is specifically designed for busy working adults. Online, blended and classroom learning opportunities provide students with opportunities for success.

In addition to building upon their previous graduate education and healthcare experience, students in the DNP program will be prepared to lead healthcare change; translate evidence into practice; collaborate intra-professionally to improve patient outcomes; and advocate and provide leadership for health policy.

We are developing the next generation of nursing practice leaders who will have a positive impact on healthcare!

**Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; however, full consideration is given to applications received by March 1.**



## ACCREDITATION

The nursing programs at Millersville University are designed based on national standards and the *American Nurses Association Scope and Standards of Professional Nursing Practice*. Our programs are also designed to meet the unique needs of nurses returning to school while also working.



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## PROGRAM GOALS

The program goals are as follows:

- To prepare nurse leaders to use advanced levels of clinical judgment and systems thinking to design evidence-based care to improve the health of our communities.
- To position students to provide leadership in developing healthcare policy, which will influence access and delivery of services for improvement of care quality and patient outcomes.

Recent national and regional data collected by the well-respected Education Advisory Board (EAB) shows strong demand for nurses educated at the DNP level. In some of the most populous states (California, Texas, Florida, Illinois and Pennsylvania in the top five, and specifically in some of the Mid-Atlantic states, including New York. As EAB reports, "Employer demand for DNP-skilled nurses [has] increased over the last three years, both nationally and regionally."

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Current RN license
- Professional goal statement
- Writing sample defining a specific issue or problem in nursing practice (APA 7th edition with references)
- Current resume/CV
- Letter of verification of graduate-level clinical hours from degree-granting institution
- Completed MSN, MPH or other related graduate degree with a GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Successful interview

### About the program:

- Flexible plans allow for 2–4-year completion
- Designed for part-time study
- Cohort model
- Fully remote program, mix of synchronous (via Zoom) and asynchronous learning; students participate in the on-campus Scholarship Symposium in late April annually.
- 36 credits

## SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING

<b>Year 1</b>	Summer	N 700 Transformational Leadership Theories (3) N 708: Informatics and Data Mgmt. (3)
	Fall	N 702 EBP Models and Applied Research (3) N 703 Epidemiology (3)
	Spring	N 704 Complex Healthcare (3) N 705 EPB Process (3)
<b>Year 2</b>	Summer	N 706 Statistical Methods (3) N 707 Scholarly Design Seminar (3)
	Fall	N 701 Health Policy and Economics (3) N 709 Scholarly Implementation Seminar (3)
	Spring	N 710 Transforming Healthcare (3) N 711 Scholarly (3)



## ABOUT OUR GRADUATES

The Millersville University DNP graduate is uniquely prepared to advocate for patients and the profession. Our graduates frequently report that their experiences are encouraging and that they are leading change initiatives in their work environments, based on their education in our program. Our graduates are the healthcare leaders of the future, working in management, education or other advanced healthcare roles.