

Which Columbia Nursing program is right for me?

Masters Direct Entry (MDE) vs. Masters Direct Entry / Doctor of Nursing Practice (MDE / DNP)

The MDE and MDE/DNP programs are both for students with non-nursing bachelor's degrees who would like to enter the nursing profession. The programs have the same application requirements, application deadlines, and start dates. Given all that, however, the programs are actually quite different!

	MDE	MDE / DNP
<i>Length of Study</i>	15 months	4 years (the first 15 months are the MDE program and the remaining 3 years are the DNP program)
<i>Academic Degree Earned</i>	Master of Science in Nursing	Master of Science in Nursing AND Doctor of Nursing Practice
<i>Nursing License Earned</i>	Registered Nurse	Registered Nurse AND Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
<i>Specialties Available</i>	None. MDE students are trained as RNs/Nurse Generalists.	Choose one of the following specialties at the time you apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult Gerontology Acute Care (NP) ▪ Family (NP) ▪ Midwifery (CNM) ▪ Pediatric (NP) ▪ Psychiatric/Mental Health (NP)
<i>Working during the program</i>	Work is not recommended during the program.	Work is not recommended during the program (the first 15 months), but once you enter the DNP portion of the program, you may work as a nurse, a TA, etc.

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Please contact our office with any questions!