



Columbia University School of Nursing

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Introducing the Post-RN Doctor of Nursing Practice (Post-RN DNP)

Columbia University School of Nursing now offers Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) education at the doctoral level via the Post-RN Doctor of Nursing Practice (Post-RN DNP) program. This program has entirely replaced our MS in Nursing programs for all specialties except Nurse Anesthesia, which can still be completed as a MS. This program is available to RNs with a Bachelor's or Master's degree. Take a look at the following chart to see how the new post-RN DNP program differs from the retired MS in Nursing program:

	Retired MS in Nursing program	New Post-RN DNP program
<i>Length of Study</i>	1.5 - 2 years	3 years
<i>Academic Degree Earned</i>	Master of Science in Nursing	Doctor of Nursing Practice
<i>Nursing License Earned</i>	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) / Certified Nurse Midwife
<i>Specialties Available</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult Gerontology Acute Care (NP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family (NP) ▪ Midwifery (CNM) ▪ Pediatric (NP) ▪ Psychiatric/Mental Health (NP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult Gerontology Acute Care (NP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family (NP) ▪ Midwifery (CNM) ▪ Pediatric (NP) ▪ Psychiatric/Mental Health (NP)
<i>Residency Experience</i>	None	You will complete a 2 semester clinical residency at the end of your program. This residency is included in the 3 years of study.
<i>Who Can Apply</i>	Registered Nurses with at least a bachelor's degree	Registered Nurses with at least a bachelor's degree

Why are we offering a DNP instead of an MS in Nursing?

At Columbia Nursing, we strive to offer programs that best prepare our students for rewarding, successful, and flexible careers. As such, we revisit our programs frequently and consult with hiring managers, nurse leaders, and alumni to ensure that we are offering curriculum that best satisfies our goals and best serves our students.

As many of you may know, the field of nursing is changing, and there is now an increasing demand for nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and other APRN nurses to be educated at the doctoral level. As such, it was vital to us to offer our own APRN education at the doctoral level. This not only falls in accordance with the changes in the field, but allows our students to be trained as expert clinicians and providers with the highest clinical degree available in the profession.

As DNPs, our students are able to provide comprehensive and continuous care to patients across sites and over time. With this *clinical* DNP, graduates are able to have fully autonomous private practices, while also serving as leaders, educators, and innovators in the profession.