

DNP Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Kirkhof College of Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice. It is the only program of its type in West Michigan. Graduates of the program will be able to take the national certification exam in their area of specialty. GVSU's DNP Program offers emphasis in the following areas: The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track, the NEW Child/Adolescent Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and the NEW Dual Child/Adolescent Primary Care and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner tracks; the NEW Family Nurse Practitioner track, as well as the Adult/Older Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and the Child/Adolescent Primary Care Nurse Practitioner tracks. There is also a NEW Post-MSN to DNP Program option where the student can choose courses that help them meet their professional goals.

The Revised DNP graduate program was developed in response to the current nursing shortage due to the recent pandemic. This is a major health care crisis, and this program has been redesigned to fit into the busy schedule of today's working nurses. Courses are delivered in an executive-style format featuring online classes with meaningful on-campus experiences 1-2 times per semester. You will have access to a dedicated full-time placement coordinator who manages all of your clinical placements. The DNP program takes 8 semesters (2 ½ – 3 ½ years) to complete for nurses holding a Bachelor's degree depending on whether you participate as a full time or part time student. The Post-MSN DNP program takes approximately 5 semesters to complete.

Standard Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts demonstrating a 3.0 GPA, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the PTE Academic, TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Additional college admission requirements, program details and the online application can be found on the Kirkhof College of Nursing website, www.gvsu.edu/kcon, underneath the Graduate Programs tab.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates do not change based on residency status. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at

www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

GVSU's Doctor of Nursing practice program offers courses delivered in an executive-style format featuring online classes with meaningful experiential on-campus experiences 1-2 times per semester. You will have access to a dedicated full-time placement coordinator who manages all of your clinical placements, and academic advisors who create tailored program plans for each student.

The Kirkhof College of Nursing has a reputation for excellence and our graduates are highly sought after by employers. Our success has been due to the Kirkhof College of Nursing's efforts to develop a Doctor of Nursing Practice program that has been responsive to the changing dynamic of health care and our commitment to preparing the most sophisticated and skilled nursing professionals for today and the future. GVSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program is consistent with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's call to produce advanced clinicians who are able to address the complex care needs of this environment. In addition, the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is supported by the National Academy of Science, which has advocated for the development of professional practice doctorates as a route to advanced clinical work in nursing. Employers are quickly recognizing the unique contributions these expert nurses are making in the practice area, and the demand for doctorally-prepared nurses continues to grow.

That is just a snapshot of the Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Nursing Research, Dr. Katherine Moran, at morakath@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.