Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
(Graduate Certificate)

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (certificate)

Nurse practitioners are prepared to practice at the most advanced level of nursing. This nurse practitioner certificate program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, provides a foundation for the specialty in acute care pediatric care. Courses focus on the development of a framework for developmentally supportive, family-centered, culturally appropriate advanced nursing practice for infants, children with unstable chronic, complex acute, and life-threatening illnesses.

This program is offered in a hybrid in-person and iCourse format that requires students to travel to campus for up to a week for orientation at the beginning of the program and then two or three times per semester.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Nursing and Health Innovation
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Degree Requirements

23 credit hours

**Required Core (23 credit hours)**
DNP 606 Principles of Pediatric Acute Care I (3)
DNP 607 Advanced Pediatric Acute Care Practicum I (7)
DNP 612 Pediatric Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care: Research, Theory and Clinical Implications (3)
DNP 619 Principles of Pediatric Acute Care II (3)
DNP 620 Advanced Pediatric Acute Care Practicum II (7)

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Every certificate student must complete 600 hours of direct patient care with a nurse practitioner or physician preceptor in the clinical setting. Documented clinical experiences are required by the certification organization (PNCB) in order for the graduate to be eligible to take the national PNP-AC certification examination. Focused clinical experiences are arranged with appropriate preceptors and administrators. Every attempt will be made to arrange this in the student's geographical area. In the event that clinical sites are unavailable in that area or if the faculty determine the student needs additional faculty supervision of skills, the student will be required to complete the clinical experience in the Phoenix area. Experiences with disadvantaged and multicultural populations are encouraged as are experiences in rural areas, and sites are available for these experiences.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's and master's degree in nursing from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three professional letters of recommendation.
4. professional resume
5. goal statement
6. admission essay
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.
International students who need an F1 or J1 visa will first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the USA on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission be considered for admission to this certificate program.

A current unencumbered RN license in the state in which the student plans to do clinical practicums is required. All students are also required to have an unencumbered Arizona RN license or an unencumbered compact state RN license as mandated by the Arizona State Board of Nursing. The RN license must remain unencumbered throughout enrollment in any nursing program.

Must be nationally certified as a primary care pediatric nurse practitioner. Nationally certified family nurse practitioners working as a nurse practitioner in a pediatric setting will be considered.

The goal statement should indicate the applicant's understanding of the role of the advance practice nurse with the population of interest and any experience the applicant may have working with the patient population of interest.

The admission essay should briefly describe how meeting "The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice" (2006) will further their career goals.

An interview with program faculty is required.

One year of clinical experience working in the pediatric acute care setting is preferred

Health and safety requirements include passing disposition on a background clearance and satisfactory completion of a substance screen.

No admission examination is required.

Contact Information

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Admission Deadlines