Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (Graduate Certificate)

Program Description

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

This certificate program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, is designed for nurses who are board certified in a different APRN specialty who seek additional certification as an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner, for nurses with a doctoral degree in nursing who seek to become an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner, and as a pathway to obtain a DNP degree.

The acute care pediatric nurse practitioner program prepares pediatric nurses to meet the physical, psychological and social needs of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. Core courses including pharmacology, advanced pathophysiology, advanced health assessment, and others determined by the student's unique gap analysis must be completed in the past five years to be eligible for credit. Specialty courses focus on assessment and management of a supportive, family-centered, culturally appropriate plan of care for pediatric patients with unstable chronic, complex acute and life-threatening illnesses.

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

Focused clinical experiences are arranged with appropriate preceptors for students residing in Arizona. Students who live in Maricopa County are assigned clinical experiences in that geographic area. In-state students who live outside of Maricopa County may be assigned clinical placements in other areas of Arizona based on the college's ability to secure clinical agreements with those sites. In the event that clinical sites are unavailable in the student's geographical area or if the faculty determines the student needs additional faculty supervision for clinical progress in the program, the student is required to complete the clinical experience in the Phoenix area.

Students residing outside of Arizona are responsible for securing one or more clinical sites in their area of residence. These sites must be approved by Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation and a contract established with the site before students start any clinical experience.

Experiences with disadvantaged and multicultural populations are encouraged as are experiences in rural areas when sites are available for these experiences.
As a participating National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements member since May 5, 2015, Arizona State University is authorized to offer distance education to persons located in individual states in accordance with the council's established policies and standards; program exceptions are noted on the ASU Authorizations website (https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/authorizations/). A program exception means that the listed programs are not available to students located within the state.

The Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation prepares graduates for excellence upon entering the workplace. Since certification and licensure requirements vary by profession and from state-to-state, students should review professional licensure information (https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/licensure/) to determine the requirements of individual state licensures or national certifications.

### At a Glance

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

### Degree Requirements

20 credit hours

**Required Core (20 credit hours)**
- DNP 606 Principles of Pediatric Acute Care I (3)
- DNP 607 Advanced Pediatric Acute Care Practicum I (7)
- 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 Pediatric Nursing Certification Board in order for the graduate to be eligible to take the national pediatric nurse practitioner acute care certification examination. Focused clinical experiences are arranged with appropriate preceptors and administrators. Every attempt is 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 is 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 Edson 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 cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (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 must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa 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.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Career Opportunities**

The acute care pediatric nurse practitioner role has grown exponentially in the past decade and the demand for board certified advanced practice acute care providers has never been higher. Graduates of the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation advanced practice nursing DNP program are prepared to provide health care for newborns, children, adolescents and young adults. Careers include:

- acute care home services
- critical care
- education and training of future health care providers
- emergency care
- inpatient hospitalist service
- specialty service provider
- transport teams

**Contact Information**

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Admission Deadlines