Family Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Graduate Certificate)

NUPMUPRCE

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Family Psychiatric and Mental Health 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 area who seek additional certification as a family psychiatric nurse practitioner or for nurses with a doctoral degree in nursing who seek to become a family psychiatric nurse practitioner.

The certificate program for Family Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner emphasizes the assessment, diagnosis and evidence-based management of common and complex mental health disorders across the lifespan. Valid and reliable tools for screening and identification of mental health disorders as well as early interventions for these problems are highlighted. Content for each disorder include epidemiology, incidence, early signs and symptoms, differential diagnosis, and sociocultural variations in evidence-based management and treatment. Management includes psychopharmacologic and therapeutic skills building that are based in Motivational Interviewing, Mindfulness, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Dialectical Behavior Therapy. Individual, group, and family therapy techniques are emphasized.

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

Focused clinical experiences are arranged with appropriate preceptors and administrators for students residing in Arizona. In-state 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 their program, the student is required to complete their clinical experience in the Phoenix area.
Students residing outside of Arizona are responsible for identifying one or more clinical sites in their area of residence. These sites must be approved by the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation before starting 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, it's recommend that students review the professional licensure information (https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure) to determine the requirements of individual state licensures or national certifications.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation](https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/authorizations/)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix campus](https://asuonline.asu.edu/about-us/authorizations/)

Degree Requirements

28 credit hours

This graduate certificate program (including 585 clinical hours) prepares nurses with a master's degree to become family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.

Required prerequisites (or equivalent courses taken while in master's degree program)

DNP 604 Advanced Human Pathophysiology Across Lifespan (4)
DNP 605 Advanced Health Assessment Across Lifespan (3)
DNP 608 Applied Pharmacotherapeutics Across Lifespan (3)
DNP 609 Advanced Practice Nursing Role (1)

Students have an individual review of their transcripts and an individualized plan of study designed to meet certification requirements. Depending on how many prerequisite courses are completed in the master's degree program, up to one year of additional study may need to be added to complete this specialty.
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 nationally recognized, regionally accredited academic 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. a current unencumbered RN license in the state in which the student plans to do clinical practicums
4. three professional letters of recommendation
5. resume
6. goal statement
7. admission essay
8. health and safety requirements: passing disposition on a background clearance and satisfactory completion of a substance screen
9. 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 per the Graduate College requirement and all requirements for the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools.

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.

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.

Applicants must be board certified in a different APRN specialty.

All applicants will have an interview with program faculty prior to admission to the program.
It is preferred that applicants have at least one year of clinical experience working within the student's specialty population.

Admission examinations are not required.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the family psychiatric nurse practitioner certificate program have the knowledge and training to provide healthcare for patients across the lifespan in a wide variety of settings.

Career examples include:

- business owner
- community advocate
- nurse practitioner
- professor

**Contact Information**

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