Lead the way to greater care

Chatham University's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program is a 27-credit online degree designed for experienced professional nurses who hold master’s degrees. The program can be completed in three to five terms and 500 practice experience hours. Each online course is 14 weeks in length, and only one brief residency is required.

The DNP emphasizes innovative, evidence-based practice with ongoing scientific inquiry and the application of credible research findings to promote safe, quality, patient-centered healthcare to a diverse population with complex needs. Graduates are able to skillfully promote and lead organizational change for the benefit of patient and system outcomes.

chatham.edu/dnp
The Doctor of Nursing Practice is a program within Chatham University’s **SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**. The School of Health Sciences has developed a strong reputation for its sought-after health professionals. From high first-time licensure rates to advanced clinical aptitude, our graduates enter their careers ready to meet the needs of patients and contribute to improving the quality of care their organizations deliver.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- The online structure allows you the flexibility to create your own schedule and accommodates your other work and life responsibilities as you pursue expertise in specialized advanced nursing practice.
- Taught with working nurses in mind, the DNP program provides you with high-level faculty expertise and support in an accelerated, seamless curriculum that is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
- You’ll enjoy a highly interactive experience that facilitates and encourages discussion among diverse students while also requiring clinical experiences that allow you to apply what you learn to your work.
- Learn to apply inter-professional collaboration concepts to improve patient and population health outcomes. Synthesize nursing research and best practices, and develop and evaluate new practice approaches based on nursing theory and theories borrowed from other disciplines.
- For your capstone project at the end of the program, you are free to determine a focus specific to your interests, pending faculty approval. Practice experience hours are typically completed in your geographical location, preferably your place of employment.
- Chatham University’s nursing programs earned a “Best Online Program” ranking by *U.S. News & World Reports* in 2015. Chatham’s graduate nursing program, consisting of the MSN and DNP online programs, was ranked in the top 100 of all programs.

**SAMPLE COURSES**

**NUR702 Developing Evidence-Based Practice**
This clinical course prepares students with skills and competencies needed to build and assimilate knowledge for establishing a scholarly trajectory at a high level of complexity. The course consists of 125 clinical hours and is the foundation for the culminating capstone project focusing on improving practice.

**NUR707 Information Technology and Data-Driven Decision Making**
This course provides students with an opportunity to examine the value of technology and information systems to support evidence-based practice, guidelines and policy across various health settings. Various methods for gathering, managing, and synthesizing data will be introduced in order to conduct analyses for quality improvement, financial and outcome evaluations.

**NUR799 Capstone Experience**
This course provides an opportunity for the student to implement and evaluate a planned evidence-based practice change project. This project lays the groundwork for future scholarship. This course culminates in a tangible and deliverable academic product derived from the practice immersion experience. A total of 250 practice experience hours is included in the course.

[www.chatham.edu/ccps/dnp/curriculum.cfm](http://www.chatham.edu/ccps/dnp/curriculum.cfm)
“It is very rewarding to teach the DNP students because they are eager to learn, committed to their patient outcomes, accomplished nurses, and developing scholars. They find the experience at Chatham rewarding as well and are genuinely appreciative of the faculty.”

— DIANE HUNKER, PH.D., MBA, RN, director of nursing programs, associate professor

OUTCOMES
Graduates of Chatham’s DNP program have held positions in clinical leadership, nursing education and practice, and government at organizations including:
• Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD
• Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia, PA
• USAID, Washington DC
• St. Jude Medical, Dallas, TX
• New York Presbyterian Hospital, Pearl River, NY
• Veterans Administration, Boston, MA
• Board Certified Nursing Informatics, Philadelphia, PA
• UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing, Pittsburgh, PA
• Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
• Prudent Medical Associates, Washington DC
• AtlantiCare, Philadelphia, PA
• Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, NC
• San Antonio Military Medical Center, TX
• BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Atlanta, GA

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
• Save big on your tuition bill. Chatham offers a 20% tuition reduction through its partnership with selected employers. Before you apply, visit chatham.edu/extendedbenefits to find out if you could qualify for this special offer.
• The AfterCollege/AACN Scholarships support students who are seeking a baccalaureate, masters or doctoral degree in nursing. Eight $2,500 scholarships will be awarded throughout the year. The application deadlines are January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31.
• A limited number of nursing scholarships may be available. A FAFSA form must be completed and on file to be considered for the scholarship. To fill out the FAFSA, please visit www.fafsa.ed.gov (school code: 003244).
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Official academic transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
- Applicant must have completed Master of Science in Nursing degree
- Overall graduate GPA of 3.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale
- Copy of Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- Copy of current RN license
- Documentation of Clinical Experience (500 academically supervised hours from MSN: see Doctor of Nursing Practice curriculum web page for more information)
- 500-word admissions essay
- Two letters of professional recommendation addressing the candidate’s strengths, and ability to succeed in the program

For more information about requirements, including essay instructions, please visit chatham.edu/dnp/admission.cfm

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Rolling Admission: application decisions are communicated on a monthly basis.

We recommend applications before these dates to guarantee admission to a specific cohort:
- Fall Deadline: April 15
- Spring Deadline: September 15

Apply online at chatham.edu/apply