POST MASTER'S (PM) TO DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP) ENTRY OPTION 1

Course Delivery

The PM-DNP program is designed for the working APRN. The program is completed in 10 sessions and students may need to reduce work hours to accommodate completion of the DNP Project (510 residency hours).

The Musco School of Nursing and Health Professions program blends three instructional strategies to produce an engaged learning curriculum. The first strategy is Immersion: our programs include a blend of virtual, hybrid, and/or face-to-face meetings in 1-4 day sessions. Immersion sessions are conducted 2 times during the program. During these Immersion sessions, students may receive orientation instruction, work as teams with peers and mentors and participate in demonstrations, simulation exercises, assessments and/or evaluations. The second strategy is practicum experience: our programs include clinical and DNP Project residencies conducted where the student lives or works. The third strategy is self-directed study: courses include online lectures, discussions, social networking, demonstrations, tutorials, readings, and/ or other homework. Most courses include additional real-time instruction via web conferencing, phone conferencing, and/or live chat sessions. Students may need to reduce work hours to accommodate completion of the clinical scholarly project (510 residency hours).

Attendance: Students may be dismissed from the program at the Dean's discretion due to absence from required meetings.

Admission to the Program

Admission into the PM-DNP is twice a year in August (Fall 1) and January (Spring 1).

2023-2024 Application Deadlines

- Final application deadline for Fall 1, 2023 admission is June 15, 2023.

- Final application deadline for the Spring 1, 2024 admission is October 15, 2023.

2024-2025 Application Deadlines

- Final application deadline for Fall 1, 2024 admission is June 15, 2024.
- Final application deadline for the Spring 1, 2025 admission is October 15, 2024.

Admission Requirements

1. Complete a Musco School of Nursing and Health Professions application available online at https://www.umassglobal.edu/nursing-health-professions (https://www.umassglobal.edu/nursing-health-professions/).
2. Master of Science Degree in Nursing from a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or a National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC) accredited program with Advanced Practice Specialty (Nurse Practitioner [NP] or Clinical Nurse Specialist [CNS]).

3. National certification as an APRN or CNS.
4. Official transcripts from _**all**_ regionally accredited institutions where post-baccalaureate coursework was completed or attempted.
5. Current and detailed resume or curriculum vita.
6. Unencumbered RN license in the state where the student plans to do their clinical hours.
7. Unencumbered APRN license in the state where the student plans to do their clinical hours.
8. Unencumbered APRN license is not required of CNS or other APRN if license is not required by their state to practice, or if in the process of taking national certification exam in specialty.
9. Personal interview with PM-DNP Program Director.

CastleBranch Requirements

All requirements are due by the end of the first session and are required to stay in compliance (current and updated) throughout their program. Students who do not start their DNP Project residency hours due to incomplete CastleBranch requirements will require a modified education plan, which may result in a program completion delay.

Immunization and Health Screening Requirements:

- Proof of annual negative Tuberculosis (TB) screening:
    - TB blood test (IGRA) **OR**
    - Negative chest x-ray **AND** a provider signed negative symptom checklist.
- Proof of completion of Hepatitis A and B immunization series or titer demonstrating immunity.
- Proof of two doses of Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) immunization or titer demonstrating immunity.
- Proof of one Tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap) immunization (after 19 years of age) and boosters per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's adult vaccination schedule.
- Proof of Chicken Pox (Varicella) immunization or titer demonstrating immunity.
- Proof of annual influenza immunization.
- Additional laboratory tests, immunizations, and/or documentation may be required for specific practicum sites.

Additional Requirements:

- Annual Background Check.
- Annual negative 10-Panel Drug Screen.
- Annual CastleBranch Elearning (HIPAA/OSHA trainings)
- Copy of current CPR "Level C" Certification (Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider) that will not be expiring in the next 12 months.
    - Certification **MUST** be an American Heart Association approved course.
    - Approved courses must have a didactic component **AND** skills verification component.
        - Online only courses, where skills are not validated by an instructor, will not be approved. Skills must be validated by an instructor using a feedback device that measures and provides real-time audio feedback or visual feedback (or both) on compression rate and depth.
- Proof of unencumbered RN license
- Proof of **STUDENT** NP Malpractice Insurance ($1 million per occurance/$3 million in aggregate)

- Any additional laboratory tests, immunizations, and/or documentation required by specific clinical practicum or DNP Project residency sites (e.g., proof of physical examination, proof of health insurance, etc.).

Catalog Year

Students admitted to the Musco School of Nursing and Health Professions are admitted to the catalog year that is in effect on the date when they begin the program (either Fall I, Spring I).

Transfer of Coursework

University of Massachusetts Global awards a maximum of 40 semester credits as a block transfer from a regionally accredited MSN program toward the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. Credits transferred as a block credit from an MSN may be transferred regardless of the year the courses for the degree were taken, which supersedes the University's seven-year rule limitation.

Degree Requirements for the Post-Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice Entry Option 1

To be awarded the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree, students may transfer 500 clinical hours and a maximum of 40 credit hours from the MSN degree. Students must take all 33 credit hours of their Core Courses, which includes 510 clinical residency hours for the DNP Project, at University of Massachusetts Global. This program is designed to follow the guidelines and DNP essentials as set forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2006) and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (2013; 2014). All courses must be passed with a grade of "B-" or higher.   Clinical practicum and residency courses are graded on a Pass/No Pass basis; a Pass is equivalent to a "B-" grade.

PM-DNP Core Courses

DNPU 700	Healthcare Policy, Organization and Delivery	3
DNPU 701	Biostatistics for Clinical Practice [*]	3
DNPU 702	Innovations in Technology and Information Access	3
DNPU 703	Leading through Innovation	3
DNPU 704	Evidence-Based Thinking for DNP-Prepared APRN Scholarship and Practice [*]	3
DNPU 705	Health Communication	3
DNPU 706	Transforming Health Care through Outcomes Management	3
DNPU 707	Clinical Residency I for PM-DNP Clinical Project (255 hours)	3
DNPU 708	Application of DNP Clinical Project [**]	3
DNPU 709	Clinical Residency II for PM-DNP Clinical Project (255 hours)	3
DNPU 710	Seminar in Evidence-Based Thinking for Scholarship and Practice	3
PM-DNP Core Course Subtotal		33
Transfer from Master of Science Degree in Nursing		
Transfer credits		40
Transfer from Master of Science Degree in Nursing Subtotal		40
Total Credits		**73**

 * Students in these courses are required to attend a virtual Immersion.

**If a student does not complete their DNP Project during the core course sessions, they will be enrolled in a DNPU 799 Independent Practicum for DNP Project Completion for DNP Project Completion (0 credits) and required to pay a Continuing Candidacy fee per session until the DNP Project student receives a "P" in DNPU 708 Application of DNP Clinical Project or until the student's seven year program completion timeline has expired.