NURSING PRACTICE DNP

OVERVIEW
The following Doctor of Nursing Practice programs are being offered:

Direct Entry Program in Nursing (DEPN)
The Direct Entry Program in Nursing (DEPN) replaces the Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN). This accelerated, alternative-entry program is for those who have not graduated from a nursing program, and who hold a baccalaureate or higher degree in another field.

Application deadline: Dec. 1, 2014 for fall 2015

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program is planned to begin in the fall of 2015. There will be two entry options: one for registered nurses with a baccalaureate or higher degree (in nursing or another field), and another for post-master's applicants who want to pursue the DNP. Post-master's nurse practitioners wishing to complete the DNP program may begin part-time study in the spring of 2014.

Application deadline: April 3, 2015 for fall 2015

Post-Master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
The Post-Master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program began in the spring of 2014.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice
The following criteria must be met to be considered for admission into the program:

- Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing, OR, Bachelor’s Degree in another field for the Direct Entry into Professional Nursing Program (DEPN), OR, Associate Degree in Nursing with a Baccalaureate Degree in another field
- Eligibility for licensure as an RN in Vermont
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- College grade point average of 3.00 or higher
- Undergraduate statistics course
- Previous basic physical assessment course
- Three letters of recommendation
- Practice experience preferred

Minimum Degree Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice
The following criteria must be met to complete your minimum degree requirements:

- Core, track, and elective courses
- Comprehensive Examination
- Grade point average of 3.00 or higher
- DNP Project

Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Post Master’s DNP Nurse Practitioner and Post Master DNP Executive Nurse Leader
- Master’s Degree in Nursing
- Eligibility for licensure as an RN in Vermont
- College grade point average of 3.00 or higher
- Three letters of recommendation
- Practice experience preferred
- An interview may be requested by the faculty

Minimum Degree Requirements for the Degree of Post Master DNP Nurse Practitioner and Post Master DNP Executive Nurse Leader
- Core, track, and elective courses
- Grade point average of 3.00 or higher
- DNP Project

Comprehensive Examination
The Comprehensive Examination is conducted by the Graduate Program in the Department of Nursing. The examination is designed to allow the student to demonstrate analysis and synthesis of knowledge gained through the program. Students may take the examination any time after the core courses have been successfully completed, but must be completed prior to the final track courses and practicums. Students will be expected to respond orally to specific questions provided to the student two weeks prior to the exam date. Questions will be formulated by the student’s thesis/project committee or Graduate Faculty on the Comprehensive Exam Committee. The student can expect questions related to:

- Research and relationships to evidence-based practice; research utilization.
- Relationship of nursing theory to nursing research and practice.
- Role dimensions and core characteristics of advanced practice nurses.
- Health care policy and role of the APRN/Executive Nurse Leader.

The Comprehensive Examination is rated on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Satisfactory performance requires that in response to the questions, the student demonstrates analysis and synthesis of content addressed throughout the program of study. We then further detail grading criteria.
Requirements for Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice, Post Master DNP Nurse Practitioner, and Post Master DNP Executive Nurse Leader

Meet all of the above criteria.