

For more than 40 years, the School of Nursing at George Mason University has been setting the standard for nursing in the National Capital Region. Throughout the mid-Atlantic and around the world, a Mason nursing graduate is known for being well prepared to work in the rapidly evolving health care environment. Our students are sought after for leadership roles in hospitals, nonprofits, and government organizations. Since we are located just 15 miles from the heart of the nation's capital, our students are trained in world-class hospital settings and innovative community clinics to serve a diverse patient population.

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

This program prepares nurses for a variety of leadership roles in the health care delivery system. MSN concentrations include **nurse practitioner**, **nurse educator**, and **nursing administration**.

The MSN program offers two nurse practitioner concentrations: **adult-gerontology nurse practitioner in primary care** and **family nurse practitioner in primary care**. Graduates provide primary care in a variety of settings, including health maintenance organizations, specialty clinics, public health clinics, hospital emergency departments, nursing homes and home care settings, family practice settings, and neighborhood and community clinics for the medically underserved. Both concentrations include a curriculum that can be completed in two years of full-time study. Part-time options are available. Please note that a summer session is included. Students must complete a substantial number of clinical hours.

The School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, and the Virginia State Board of Nursing has approved the nurse practitioner concentrations. Graduates of these programs are eligible to take the examinations for certification as an adult gerontological or family nurse practitioner.

The **nurse educator** concentration prepares students to meet established nurse educator competencies. Students develop skills to teach as faculty members in pre-licensure programs and continuing education settings for clinical staff and patient education. The program develops teaching/learning principles, curriculum/program development and evaluation, methods to evaluate learning, and implementation of the educator role.

The concentration in **nursing administration** prepares nurses for advanced management roles, helping them develop the skills to effectively utilize technology and the capacity to guide and lead other nurses in any healthcare setting. Graduates will lead and mentor the next generation of nurses, working with top-level administration at hospitals to achieve efficiency in health care provision. This concentration offers students the opportunity to have tremendous influence on the future of nursing and to distinguish themselves as highly qualified candidates for management positions such as Chief Nursing Officer (CNO), Nurse Administrator, Nurse Executive or Director of Administration.

Graduate Certificates

The school offers three graduate certificates: **Nursing Education**, **Nursing Administration**, and **Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**. Students applying to a certificate program must hold a graduate degree or be currently enrolled in a graduate program. Please visit us online at <http://chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/index.cfm> for detailed information about these certificates.

Application Requirements

Admission to each program is competitive, and a variety of criteria are evaluated in the admissions process, including the strength of the undergraduate record and any post-baccalaureate coursework, career goals,

letters of recommendation, professional and/or volunteer experience, evidence of the ability to write and conduct research at the graduate level, a 3-minute video, and any additional evidence of potential success in the program.

Information regarding application guidelines and requirements can be found at the Graduate Admissions website: <https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/how-apply/graduate>. For additional program details, visit CHHS Admissions at <http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate/index.cfm>. Meeting the minimum application criteria does not guarantee admission. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis. The application for graduate study is available at admissions.gmu.edu.

Applications are considered for the **fall semester only**. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in Nursing from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 credits of undergraduate coursework, hold an active U.S. RN license, and have completed an undergraduate statistics course earning a C or better within the last 5 years to be considered. Applicants must apply to one of the concentration areas, and offers of admission are made only for the concentration area selected. Students may apply to switch concentration areas after enrollment; however, approval for such requests is not guaranteed. Applicants are strongly encouraged to select the concentration that is best suited to their career goals.

Special Requirements

All nursing students must maintain a current nursing license. Nursing students must meet certain mandatory requirements, including a certified criminal background check, proof of health insurance coverage, immunizations, and other university requirements. Specific information will be provided once the offer of admission to the nursing program has been accepted.

Non-Degree Study

Students interested in enrolling in graduate-level nursing courses prior to applying to a program may have the option to do so through non-degree study. Please note that non-degree enrollment requires a formal application to the university, and no more than nine credits of non-degree coursework may be applied to a degree. For more information, please visit the CHHS Non-Degree website at: <http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/non-degree.cfm>

Contact Information

School of Nursing

College of Health and Human Services
Robinson Hall A359
George Mason University
4400 University Drive, MS 3C4
Fairfax, VA 22030

Phone: 703-993-1947

Email: chhsgrad@gmu.edu

Web: <http://chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/msn/index.cfm>

CHHS Graduate Admissions

College of Health and Human Services
Robinson Hall B402
George Mason University
4400 University Drive, MS 5A8
Fairfax, VA 22030

Phone: 703-993-1736

Fax: 703-993-3606

Web: <http://admissions.gmu.edu/grad/>

The above information is based on the 2016–2017 University Catalog and is subject to change without notice or obligation. It is not to be regarded as a contract. Please refer to the catalog for full course descriptions, department information, and university policy governing graduate degree programs at catalog.gmu.edu.