

Post Graduate Certificate Program – PNP Focus Progression Plan

This program prepares nurses who have already earned a master’s degree, or higher, in nursing to sit for the national certification examination offered by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB).

The post-graduate PNP certificate program requires a minimum of 16 credits that are earned in 4 courses. Two courses are clinical, affording the student the opportunity to complete the 600 hours of supervised clinical practice with child populations as required in order to sit for the national certification examination. Two courses are didactic and offered via webcast and the internet, affording the student the opportunity to take these courses off-campus.

Each student's program will be individualized based on educational and experiential background. Prerequisites to registration for the four required courses in the program are evidence of competence in the following three areas: advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, and advanced assessment.

	Fall		Spring		Summer	
Year 1	NSG 702 Adv. Patho.*	3	NSG 767 Adv. Assessment PNP Focus*	3	NSG 700 Adv. Pharm. Pediatric Focus*	3
			NSG 770 PNP Primary Care 1	3		
	Total Credits	3	Total Credits	6	Total Credits	3
Year 2	NSG 771 PNP Primary Care 2	3	NSG 773 Pediatric Practicum 2	5		
	NSG 772 Pediatric Practicum 1	5				
	Total Credits	8	Total Credits	5	Total Program Credits: 16-25	

*Pre-requisite courses, if needed.

All students in the program will complete a minimum of 600 supervised clinical hours.

Course Descriptions

NSG 700: Advanced Pharmacology Pediatric Focus: Prerequisite/Co-requisite – NSG 706. Examination of the relationship between pharmacologic principles and the selection of pharmacologic agents in altered health states across the lifespan, with a focus on pediatrics. This course lays the foundation for subsequent courses in diagnosis, management, and therapeutic interventions.

NSG 706: Advanced Pathophysiology. Prerequisite – None. Theoretical basis of pathophysiological changes in acute and chronic illnesses confronted in primary care across the lifespan is presented. The course serves as the foundation for clinical assessment, decision making, and management.

NSG 767: Advanced Lifespan Assessment: PNP Focus. Prerequisite – NSG 706; Co-requisite – NSG 770 – NSG 706. Advanced health assessment of individuals across the lifespan with focus on pediatric populations. Skilled interviewing and clinical reasoning are emphasized as students collect and analyze data from the patient history, physical examination and diagnostic procedures.

NSG 770: Pediatric Primary Care 1. Co-requisite – NSG 767. An introduction to the knowledge and skills basic to the health maintenance, diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and revision of care of children in the primary care setting.

NSG 771: Pediatric Primary Care 2. Prerequisite – NSG 770. Further acquisition of knowledge and skills basic to the health maintenance, diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and revision of care of pediatric populations in the primary care setting.

NSG 772: Pediatric Practicum 1. Prerequisite/Co-requisite – NSG 771. This supervised practicum is designed to facilitate the student's competency at the advanced practice level in the delivery of primary health care to pediatric populations.

NSG 773: Pediatric Practicum 2. Prerequisite – NSG 772. Supervised practicum that builds on NSG 772 and applies theory and evidence to the advanced practice of nursing. Further role and competency development at the advanced practice level for the delivery of primary health care to pediatric populations.