

PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER (POST MASTERS)

<https://chhs.unh.edu/nursing/program/graduate-certificate/psychiatric-mental-health>

Description

The Post-Master's Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program will prepare the APRN with the knowledge, skills, and competencies to assess, diagnose, and manage mental health care patients across the lifespan. The program is designed for the licensed APRN who has a master's degree and at least one year of advanced practice nursing experience*. Courses are competency based, founded on evidence-based approaches to care management and learning strategies with commitment to student success and continuous quality improvement embedded within the process.

Synchronous, asynchronous, low and high-fidelity simulation, on campus intensives, and clinical immersion will reinforce didactic content and afford the student the opportunity to transition to an active member of a collaborative mental health care team. Upon successful program completion, graduates will be eligible to sit for the ANCC board certification exam for Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Across the Lifespan (PMHNP-BC).

Admission Requirements

In addition to the standard Graduate School requirements, the Department of Nursing and PM-PMHNP program require:

1. Unencumbered, active RN license in the United States
2. At least a master's degree in nursing; current license to practice as an APRN.
3. Nurse practitioner certification and/or Advanced Practice Nurse specialty with one year of practice experience; prerequisite coursework in prior Nurse Practitioner academic program to fulfill the requirements of ANCC *
4. 3 professional letters of reference—academic and/or professional.
5. Personal statement. Prepare a brief but careful statement regarding:
 - a. This is a post-graduate program that requires a high cognitive load, explain in detail how you are going to prepare yourself for that and manage throughout the program?
 - b. Discuss the Post-Master's PMHNP program, what experiences have contributed to your interest and how do you visualize yourself in this role after graduation?
 - c. Where do you visualize yourself in 1 year, 3 years, and 5 years?
6. Resume

*Eligibility for the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Across the Lifespan) certification examination requires completion of the following three separate, comprehensive graduate-level courses:

- Advanced Physical/Health Assessment
- Advanced Pathophysiology (through the lifespan)
- Advanced Pharmacology

Prior coursework will be evaluated during the application process and any noted deficiencies will be disclosed at the time of admission.

Requirements

A customized plan of study will be created for admitted students and is based upon prior course work. Additional foundational coursework to meet ANCC certification requirements may be required.

Certificate Requirements

Clinical Hours: 750*

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
NURS 977	Neurobiology of Mental Disorders Across the Lifespan	2
NURS 983	Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Practice and Assessment	3
NURS 978	Psychopharmacology of Mental Health Disorders Across the Lifespan I	2
NURS 991	Diagnosis & Management of Mental Health Disorders Across the Lifespan I	3
NURS 979	Psychopharmacology of Mental Health Disorders Across the Lifespan II	2
NURS 992	Diagnosis & Management of Mental Health Disorders Across the Lifespan II	3
NURS 986	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum I (150 Clinical Hours)	2
NURS 990	Mental Health & Special Populations	3
NURS 987	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum II (200 Clinical Hours)	3
NURS 988	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum III (200 Clinical Hours)	3
NURS 989	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum IV (200 Clinical Hours)	3
Total Credits		29

* Clinical hours are completed through the following required courses: NURS 986, NURS 987, NURS 988, NURS 989.