



**Master of Science in Nursing  
MSN  
NE & NA: Hybrid/Online  
APN & FNP: Face-to-Face/Blended  
PNP: Hybrid**

**Program Coordinator: Amber Roaché**

The Master of Science in Nursing degree (MSN) at King is designed to prepare professional nurses for specialty roles in advanced professional nursing.

Specialty concentrations currently available at King are: Master of Science in Nursing Administration, Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), and Nurse Educator (NE).

The graduate nursing curriculum consists of courses in three areas of study:

1. The advanced practice nursing core (required of all students)
2. The advanced practice direct patient care core
3. The advanced practice functional area content: clinical and didactic experiences.

Although there are 15 semester hours (s.h.) of “core” courses required of all MSN students, each MSN specialty concentration has different course requirements, clinical/practicum requirements, and curricular variations. To meet the requirements for a desired concentration, students and their advisors will formulate a concentration-specific plan of study. All clinical hours require direct supervision by a clinical preceptor with faculty oversight, approved by the course instructor.

The Master of Science in Nursing curriculum in all concentrations is inclusive of theoretical concepts from sciences and humanities, organizational and leadership theories, quality improvement frameworks, informatics, and advanced-level nursing skills development.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

These outcomes address what students should know or be able to do upon completion of the academic program:

1. Students will be able to utilize information technology to drive health care decisions and evaluate outcomes.
2. Students will be able to evaluate health care policy and will be able to advocate/influence changes for improvement.
3. Students will be able to analyze and utilize best practices and evidence-based research to optimize knowledge development for outcomes achievements.
4. The Nurse Administrator MSN graduate will demonstrate competency in performing an organization assessment for outcomes improvement.
5. The Nurse Educator MSN graduate will demonstrate competency in the process of curriculum assessment for program outcomes improvement.
6. The Advanced Practice Nursing graduate will pass the national certification examination for licensing as an advanced practice nurse in the relevant population focus.

The mission of King University, to build meaningful lives of achievement and cultural transformation in Christ, is upheld in the Master of Science in Nursing Program, as the

program is based on Judeo-Christian principles and seeks to instill in every student, respect for integrity, valuing of each person, and developing a commitment of service to others.

### **MSN Application Packet Criteria**

1. Submit a completed application
2. Submit evidence of graduation from an accredited baccalaureate nursing program with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale prior to enrolling.
3. Submit evidence of satisfactory completion of the following undergraduate courses: Statistics, Nursing Research, and Health Assessment (as separate courses or integrated concept) with a course grade of C or better. Pathophysiology is highly recommended for the family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, and nurse educator concentrations.
4. Submit official transcripts from all prior colleges/universities.
5. Submit a copy of current unencumbered license as a Registered Nurse from the Tennessee Board of Nursing or a compact Multi-State license. Applicant should not be on probation and must report any past or current disciplinary action taken by a State Board.
6. Submit a current American Heart Association CPR or BLS certification (Adult, child and infant).
7. Submit a research-based writing sample in current APA format (topic provided).
8. Complete an interview with the MSN Admissions Committee, if applicable.
9. Submit a current curriculum vitae demonstrating professional endeavors and accomplishments, education, career, experience, professional memberships, community service/volunteer/military experience. FNP and PNP applicants must demonstrate a minimum of one (1) year of professional work experience as a practicing Registered Nurse.

All students should be computer literate with ability to send and download attachments, conduct database searches, and possess competence in word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software with voice-over and/or screencasting ability.

An applicant who lacks one or more of the admission criteria will be reviewed by the MSN Admissions Committee on an individual basis, and may be considered for admission with conditional status.

The selection process for those applying to the family nurse practitioner (FNP), the pediatric nurse practitioner (PNP), and the nurse educator concentrations is a two-step process. The MSN Admissions committee will select the eligible applicants from file review of applications. Selected eligible applicants will be invited for a face-to-face interview with the Committee and will complete an impromptu writing sample at the time of the interview. Final selection of family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, and nurse educator applicants is based on competitiveness of the application file and quality of the face-to-face interview and writing sample.

### **Conditional Acceptance**

Students who do not meet the minimum GPA requirements, but who appear to be capable of performing well in the program, may be conditionally accepted at the discretion of the MSN Graduate Admissions Committee.

### **Graduate Transfer Credit**

MSN students may transfer up to **6 credits** of graduate study from another program to be credited toward requirements at King, but only if the courses are applicable to the requirements, and are approved by the specialty area faculty and the Dean of the School of Nursing.

Courses being transferred must have been assigned a grade of B or higher and must have covered content which is required for a particular core course or specialty program concentration. Students will be required to submit a course syllabus from the course being transferred to allow for comparability of expected outcomes.

### **Mandatory Fees**

#### **Health Assessment Course Materials Fee**

A course materials fee of \$300 is charged to Family Nurse Practitioner students for the NURS 5004 Advanced Health Assessment course.

The Nurse Educator and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are charged an equipment fee of \$200 for the NURS 5004 Advanced Health Assessment course.

#### **Background Check**

Prior to clinical experience, a criminal background check is required. All fees for criminal background checks and drug screening (if required by clinical facility) are charged to the MSN student. A \$65 fee is charged to each student enrolled in the MSN to complete initial fingerprinting and background check.

#### **Liability Insurance for Nursing Students**

King University has a professional liability insurance policy that covers all nursing students while they are enrolled in a King University nursing program. The cost to the student is as follows: \$65 for Nurse Practitioner Students (FNP and PNP) and \$40 for Nurse Educator and Nurse Administrator Students. These fees are charged upon enrollment into the program. The insurance covers the student only for activities directly related to King University. It does not cover an accidental injury to the student that may occur before, during, or after classroom activities. The policy also does not cover the registered nurse or the nursing student while working at his/her employment setting. Students may carry additional liability insurance at their own expense, but this will not replace the coverage provided through the University.

### **Technology Requirements**

Laptop computer, with minimum of Microsoft Office 2010 or later, wireless capability, and a webcam

NOTE: Chromebooks and many tablets will NOT meet the minimum requirements for the SON programs. These include iPads, Android tablets, Windows RT tablets (Surface, although Surface Pro is fine), and all Chromebooks. Students should choose a laptop that runs either the full version of Windows 7 or later (excluding Windows RT), or Macintosh OSX (Yosemite recommended).

### **Grade Requirements**

All graduate students are required to maintain a 3.0 average or better. A grade of B- or higher is required in all MSN clinical nursing courses and a grade of C+ or higher is required in all MSN non-clinical nursing courses.

If more than two grades of 2.3 (C+) or lower are earned, despite the student maintaining a 3.0 GPA, the student will be dismissed from the program. A grade of C+ or lower is a failing

grade for MSN clinical/practicum courses. Failed courses must be repeated prior to progression; students are only allowed to repeat ONE course during the MSN program.

### **Clinical Requirements**

Clinical hours consistent with certification specialty are required for the education and administrative roles. The minimum clinical requirement for the Family Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner roles is 600 hours. These clinical experiences are accomplished under the guidance of a faculty member and a preceptor in field study and practicum courses. All preceptors MUST hold a minimum preparation at the master's level, and hold national certification in an APN role, with one year of practice experience for the PNP/FNP students. Students will be responsible for locating and securing their own preceptors throughout the program. Whereas faculty are available to assist and guide in the process, the student ultimately must make contact with practice professionals in the specialty area and provide the appropriate documentation to nursing faculty prior to beginning clinical practicum. The minimum clinical requirement for Nurse Educator is 420 hours, and it is 395 hours for Nursing Administration.

### **Graduation Requirements**

1. Completion of all required courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
2. Complete clinical practica with a minimum number of hours as determined for the specialty.
3. Complete NURS 5990 Final Comprehensive Competency Demonstration

### **Comprehensive Assessment**

#### **NURS 5990: Final Comprehensive Competency Demonstration**

All candidates for a degree from King University are required to demonstrate competency in their major field of study. Final comprehensive competency demonstration in the MSN program consists of the graduating student's ability to meet the expected outcomes as set forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Masters Education in Nursing. Completion of a final competency portfolio, which encompasses the core knowledge and skills outlined in the AACN Essentials document, serves as demonstration of the MSN student's mastery of the required competencies. The final competency portfolio is begun during the first semester of study in the program and is continued throughout the program of study. The final competency portfolio is faculty directed and rubric guided. The final competency portfolio is submitted during the last semester of study prior to graduation to the student's academic adviser. Students are required to pass according to the minimum requirement of the School of Nursing. Any student who does not meet the requirement (pass) of the comprehensive assessment of the major field will not graduate until the requirement is met.

### **MSN Student Handbook**

MSN students are required to follow policies set forth in the MSN Student Handbook, posted on the Blackboard Resource site at the start of each Fall semester. All MSN students are required to read and follow university policies relative to appeals and grievances listed in the Student Handbook.