

DNP Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kelsey and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. GVSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program offers two emphasis areas: Advanced Practice Nursing or Health Systems Leadership. The Advanced Practice Nursing emphasis prepares you to be a nurse practitioner and to focus on primary care for either children and adolescents or adults. The other emphasis in this program prepares students to become systems leaders in administrative practice. This program takes 3-4 years to complete for nurses holding a Bachelor's degree depending on whether you participate as a full time or part time student. This program is completed in a hybrid-online format. For prospective students that already hold a Master's degree, a custom program plan is developed based on their Master's degree and educational goals.

The Kirkhof College of Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice program prepares nurses to function at the highest level as either nurse practitioners in clinical practice or systems leaders in administrative practice. Graduates of the program will be able to influence policy and practice standards; becoming leaders in designing systems and delivering care to meet the needs of diverse populations.

Standard Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Additional college admission requirements, program details and the online application can be found on the Kirkhof College of Nursing website, www.gvsu.edu/kcon, under the Programs tab.

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

GVSU's Doctor of Nursing practice program is offered in a web-enhanced format. Generally, the nursing courses will meet five times per semester in a classroom setting, with classes clustered on Thursdays and Fridays. Courses will entail extensive use of the internet and other electronic software such as Powerpoint, Skype, and Blackboard. Access to a computer with a high-speed connection will be needed. Some required courses, such as statistics, may not lend themselves to an online format and will require attendance one evening per week.

The Kirkhof College of Nursing has a reputation for excellence and our graduates are highly sought after by employers. Our success has been due to the Kirkhof College of Nursing's efforts to

develop a Doctor of Nursing Practice program that has been responsive to the changing dynamic of health care and our commitment to preparing the most sophisticated and skilled nursing professionals for today and the future. GVSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program is consistent with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's call to produce advanced clinicians who are able to address the complex care needs of this environment. In addition, the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is supported by the National Academy of Science, which has advocated for the development of professional practice doctorates as a route to advanced clinical work in nursing. Employers are quickly recognizing the unique contributions these expert nurses are making in the practice area, and the demand for -prepared nurses continues to grow.

That is just a snapshot of the Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to Linda Buck, Senior Academic Advisor, at 616-331-7160 or buckli@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.