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		Approved Date:	05/09/2024
		Effective Date:	09/11/2020
		Review Date:	2027

POLICY TITLE: DNP STUDENT ADMISSION

Policy

Each applicant is evaluated for admission using admission criteria established by the faculty. The purpose is to assess individual potential to succeed at the DNP level. It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit all necessary documentation to NursingCAS by the published deadline for admission consideration to the DNP program. Categories of admission are determined by the degree of criteria met.

The University of Houston general admission requirements for [doctoral programs](#) include application for admission, official transcripts from each college or university previously attended, officially reported standardized test scores, letters of recommendation, resume or curriculum vita, personal statement and demonstration of English proficiency if not a graduate of an English-speaking institution. Other admission requirements are program specific.

The number of DNP students admitted each year is determined by availability of appropriate qualified faculty and/or clinical resources.

Criteria for Admission

Applicants to the Gessner College of Nursing Post Masters DNP program will be reviewed holistically on an individual basis using the following criteria:

1. Earned baccalaureate degree in nursing from a professionally accredited program.
2. Earned master's degree in an advanced nursing specialty from a professionally accredited nursing program.
3. Evidence of current, unencumbered, valid licensure as a registered nurse in the state of Texas or recognized compact if Texas is not the primary state of residence.
4. Certificate as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) in the state of Texas (if applicable).
5. Certified, or eligible for certification, in American Organization of Nurse Leaders (AONL), American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Nurse Executive (NE-BC), or ANCC Nurse Executive, Advanced (NEA-BC) is recommended, if applicable.
6. Minimum of one year's experience as a nurse practitioner, or one year's experience in a healthcare leadership position. May be waived with approval of program director.
7. Grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0-point scale in upper division nursing and/or graduate courses. Official score of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for applicants with a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. A GRE score will be required for applicants with a GPA between 2.75 – 2.99 for conditional admission. Scores may not be more than 5 years old.
8. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): www.toefl.org score required is 79 for the internet-based test. The minimum TOEFL score for the paper-based exam is 550. TOEFL scores

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must be received directly from Educational Testing Service (ETS). The University of Houston's ETS Institutional Code is 6870.

9. Written statement to include current area of practice, interest for future practice, career goals, scholarship interest, and reason(s) for pursuing doctoral study (500-word limit).
10. Resume or CV.
11. Two satisfactory letters of recommendation from a doctoral-prepared registered nurse from academia, employment, or professional organization.
12. If admission criteria is met, candidate will participate in an interview with Gessner College of Nursing Graduate Faculty coordinated by the Graduate Academic Advisor.
13. Satisfactory completion and review of security screening prior to enrollment.
14. All clinical readiness requirements, including immunization requirements, must be met prior to enrollment as outlined in [Policy S101](#): Student Clinical Requirements.

Approved by Gessner College of Nursing Faculty: 04/05/2024

Approved by Dean Kathryn Tart: 05/09/2024