Effective Date

These policies become effective immediately and shall remain in effect until revoked.

Purpose

Applicant policies are provided to inform prospective applicants regarding admission requirements. The most current policies are posted in the DNP application section of the Metropolitan State University web site and are subject to change.

Responsibility

Each applicant is responsible for knowing and adhering to the current applicant policies for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. The responsibility for the implementation of these policies is assigned to the Dean and faculty of the School of Nursing.

1. Application Requirements for Admission

The following are requirements for admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at Metropolitan State University. All application items must be uploaded or post-marked by the published application deadline.

1.1. A completed application for the DNP Graduate Program, which includes: the Metropolitan State University online Graduate Programs Application, official transcripts, references, a goal statement essay, RN license, a Computer Proficiency Form and application fee;

1.2. An official transcript indicating a BS/BA degree with a major in nursing. The applicant must be a graduate of a regionally accredited institution and the nursing program must be accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE);

1.2.1. Applicants with a graduate degree in nursing may also apply. Such applicants must also submit a transcript indicating completion of a MS/MA in nursing from a regionally accredited institution, also accredited by either...
the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE);

1.3. Official transcripts for all other undergraduate or graduate study completed at the time of the application;

   1.3.1. Graduates of foreign schools who apply to the DNP program are required to have transcripts evaluated by a credentials evaluation service. The evaluation report will serve as the basis for the transcript evaluation needed for admission to the University and to the graduate nursing program;

1.4. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for application for admission. The Grade Point Average (GPA) used for admission assessment is the cumulative GPA calculated from all post-secondary coursework and evaluation of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts;

   1.4.1. Applicants may petition to have a transcript older than seven years from the application deadline individually reviewed for exclusion from the cumulative GPA calculation. Transcripts for elimination must not include any nursing course requirements for the applicant’s ADN or BA/BSN, and credentials from an omitted transcript may not be used to satisfy program admission requirements;

   1.4.2. Individuals who completed a baccalaureate degree in nursing that did not assign grades or confer an official grade point average may still apply to the DNP program. Such applicants will be evaluated on the basis of the remaining admission criteria;

1.5. Evidence of current unencumbered registered nurse license in at least one state with eligibility of licensure in Minnesota;

1.6. Three references, one from each of the following: a faculty member, a supervisor/employer, and a professional peer or colleague;

   1.6.1. If an applicant has been out of school for ten years or more, and a reference can no longer be obtained from a faculty member, an applicant may petition to substitute an additional supervisor reference;

1.7. A goal statement essay. Guidelines for the goal statement essay are provided on the DNP application section of the Metropolitan State University website;

   1.7.1. Applicants are expected to use their own words and ideas when responding to essay questions. To clarify or strengthen a point, applicants may choose to include the thoughts and ideas of others when responding. In these cases, applicants are required to provide proper 6th edition APA
citation of the works in which the ideas originated. Applicant essays are subject to plagiarism review, including the use of plagiarism detecting software. The consequences for essay plagiarism will be decided by the Admission Retention Committee and could result in various consequences, including the full denial of an application;

1.8. Interviews with member(s) of the School of Nursing DNP or Admission and Retention Committee may be required.

2. **Admission Offer**

Successful applicants will receive a letter offering admission. An applicant who wishes to enroll in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program must respond affirmatively by the date indicated in the letter. Failure to respond to the offer of admission by the date indicated in the letter is considered a decline.

3. **Deferral**

An applicant who accepts a position within a cohort and then does not enroll in courses forfeits a position in that cohort. Such applicants may reapply for admission to a subsequent cohort.

4. **Review of Application Materials**

All submitted materials are reviewed and evaluated by the School of Nursing Admission and Retention Committee and nursing faculty. The admission process is competitive.