

The University of Texas-Pan American
Master of Science in Nursing Program

This program prepares nurses for leadership roles in the promotion, restoration, and maintenance of health in a variety of settings. Cultural dynamics of the region receive special emphasis. Two tracks are available: (1) Adult Health with role options of Educator or Clinical Nurse Specialist; and (2) Nurse Practitioner with role options of Family or Pediatric nurse practitioner.

Application Information

Applicants must complete an application for the MSN Program and an application to the UTPA Graduate School. MSN applications are available in the department office or by calling 956-381-3491. Graduate School applications are available online at <http://www.utpa.edu/programs/gradprograms> or by contacting the Office of Graduate Studies at 956-381-3661

APPLICATION DEADLINES each year are as follows:

July 1 for Fall Semester admission consideration

October 1 for Spring Semester admission consideration

April 1 for Summer Session I admission consideration

Admission Requirements

In addition to meeting the general UTPA graduate admission requirements the MSN program has the following requirements:

Clear Admission

To qualify for clear admission, an applicant must have:

1. a bachelor's degree in nursing from an accredited program;
2. current licensure as a registered nurse in Texas;
3. grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale in upper-division nursing and in any graduate courses;
4. a basic statistics course;
5. three satisfactory academic and/or professional references;
6. approval of the M.S.N. Student Development Committee; and
7. immunization records showing freedom from active tuberculosis and immunity to hepatitis B (upon admission to the program).

Probationary Admission

An applicant with a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution may be granted probationary admission to the graduate school if the applicant does not meet clear admission

requirements, but has a 2.5 to 2.99 graduate admission GPA, and provides the graduate office with a letter from the program director or program chair, signed by the dean of the college, requesting a waiver of the clear admission graduate GPA. An applicant granted probationary admission may not enroll for more than 12 graduate hours total. The student must be accepted into a graduate degree program within this 12-hour time period or future registration will be put on hold. A student on probation who earns any graduate grade of less than a “B” will be denied further admission to the graduate school until such time that the requirements for clear admission are met. At the end of the semester in which a probationary student’s graduate GPA is 3.0 or better with no grade less than a “B,” the student’s admission classification will be changed to clear.

Transient Admission

The transient student category is designed for students who are enrolled and in good academic standing in a graduate nursing program other than the UTPA graduate nursing program. Students who obtain permission may enroll in selected courses at UTPA by:

1. meeting basic requirements for graduate admission as a transfer student,
2. submitting a letter of application to the Department of Nursing, and
3. obtaining consent of the instructor of the course being taught at UT Pan American.

Non-Degree Admission

The non-degree-seeking category is for those post baccalaureate students who want to take courses, but are not working toward a degree. Non-degree students may enroll in selected courses by:

1. submitting a Graduate Student Application for Admission Form to the Office of Records and Registration, meeting deadlines for admission;
2. submitting a letter of application to the Department of Nursing;
3. submitting official transcripts to the Office of Records and Registration verifying a bachelor’s degree in nursing;
4. obtaining acceptance by the Master of Science in Nursing Student Development Committee; and
5. presenting immunization records showing freedom from active tuberculosis and immunity to hepatitis B.

Students admitted under the non-degree status may write to the Master of Science in Nursing Student Development Committee and apply to the graduate program. At the time the application is reviewed, the student must have provided an official transcript, reference letters, evidence of current licensure as a registered nurse in Texas and evidence of meeting the statistics and physical assessment requirements. Furthermore, the application letter should include a petition that courses completed while under the non-degree status be credited toward the degree. A maximum of nine hours, with grades of “B” or better, may be proposed toward the master’s degree in nursing.

Transfer Admission

Transfer admission will follow university guidelines. A maximum of 12 graduate hours may be accepted following review by the M.S.N. Student Development Committee. International Student Admission In addition to the University and departmental requirements for admission, the following are required:

1. A minimum score of 550 on the TOEFL. This score should be no more than two years old, but can be evaluated on an individual basis.
2. A course-by-course transcript evaluation by Foreign Credentials Service of America
3. A license to practice nursing in the state of Texas obtained prior to admission according to Board of Nurse Examiners’ rules and regulations.

THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING CURRICULUM

MSN Adult Health Track (43 SCH with Thesis option, 43 SCH with Non-thesis option, and 540 clinical hours)	Family Nurse Practitioner Track (51 SCH with Thesis option, 48 SCH Non-thesis option, and 800 clinical hours)	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Track (51 SCH with Thesis option, 48 SCH Non-thesis option, and 800 clinical hours)
<p>Required Courses (31 SCH) NURS 6301 Theoretical Foundations in Nursing NURS 6302 Research in Nursing NURS 6303 Statistics in Nursing NURS 6304 Advanced Pathophysiology in Nursing NURS 6305 Advanced Health Assessment NURS 6306 Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice NURS 6208 Nursing Informatics NURS 6209 Professional Nursing Issues NURS 6321 Advanced Adult Health I or NURS 6310 Health Promotion NURS 6322 Advanced Adult Health II NURS 6323 Advanced Adult Health III</p> <p>Complete one of the following functional role sequences:</p> <p>Clinical Specialist (6 SCH) NURS 6341 Advanced Practice I NURS 6342 Advanced Practice II</p> <p>Educator (6 SCH) NURS 6343 Educator I NURS 6344 Educator II</p> <p>and either Thesis Option (6 SCH) NURS 7300 Thesis I (Proposal) NURS 7301 Thesis II</p> <p>or Non-Thesis Option (6 SCH) NURS 7302 Practice Intervention Project and an additional approved 3 SCH graduate course</p>	<p>Required Courses (45 SCH) NURS 6301 Theoretical Foundations in Nursing NURS 6302 Research in Nursing NURS 6303 Statistics in Nursing NURS 6304 Advanced Pathophysiology in Nursing NURS 6305 Advanced Health Assessment NURS 6306 Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice NURS 6307 Health Care Policy, Organization, and Financing NURS 6208 Nursing Informatics NURS 6209 Professional Nursing Issues NURS 6310 Health Promotion NURS 6311 Rural Health Nursing NURS 6612 Family Nurse Practitioner I NURS 6613 Family Nurse Practitioner II NURS 6247 Nurse Practitioner Role</p> <p>and either Thesis Option (6 SCH) NURS 7300 Thesis I (Proposal) NURS 7301 Thesis II</p> <p>or Non-Thesis Option (3 SCH) NURS 7302 Practice Intervention Project</p>	<p>Required Courses: NURS 6301 Theoretical Foundations in Nursing NURS 6302 Research in Nursing NURS 6303 Statistics in Nursing NURS 6304 Advanced Pathophysiology in Nursing NURS 6305 Advanced Health Assessment NURS 6306 Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice NURS 6307 Health Care Policy, Organization, and Financing NURS 6208 Nursing Informatics NURS 6209 Professional Nursing Issues NURS 6310 Health Promotion NURS 6311 Rural Health Nursing NURS 6614 Pediatric Nurse Practitioner I NURS 6615 Pediatric Nurse Practitioner II NURS 6247 Nurse Practitioner Role</p> <p>and either: Thesis Option (6 SCH) NURS 7300 Thesis I (Proposal) NURS 7301 Thesis II</p> <p>or Non-Thesis Option (3 SCH) NURS 7302 Practice Intervention Project</p>

Contact Information:

Dr. Janice A. Maville, MSN Program Coordinator

Department of Nursing

1201 West University Drive

Edinburg, Texas 78539

Phone : 956-381-3491